



## JIM HEFFNER

PARTNER



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Jim Heffner is a litigation partner based out of Hahn Loeser's San Diego office. Jim regularly represents companies, officers, directors, and individuals in a range of commercial litigation matters throughout California.

Jim's practice is varied, but primarily involves class-action defense, the litigation of disputes arising from the movement of employees or confidential/trade secret information between competitors, litigation over breaches of duty, and counseling at the intersection of technology and the law. Jim also has experience handling trademark litigation, real estate disputes, bad faith insurance claims, and wage and hour claims.

To each of his matters, Jim brings creativity, an unsurpassed passion for the law, a business background, and sound judgment that considers legal options in light of his clients' objectives. Jim's unique background combined with his extensive legal expertise enhances his ability to prepare advanced, rational, inventive, and winning strategies for each case. His emphasis on case-specific legal strategy results in efficient and effective tactics often unanticipated by the opposition.

Jim also has a long-standing interest in technology and the cutting-edge intersection of technology, business and the law. He applies his deep understanding of electronically stored information and communications to gain effective litigation advantages. He understands the contours of data preservation and production obligations in a variety of contexts and jurisdictions, giving his clients considerable advantages. He is knowledgeable of the most recent innovations related to decentralized technology and business models, such as blockchains, cryptocurrencies, smart contracts, ICOs and how the related legal frameworks are developing.

### *Representative Experience*

- Complete defense of trial on behalf of a real estate developer in a commercial dispute.
- Representation of a Fortune 500 company through appeal defending a breach of fiduciary duty class action resulting in success and a judgment awarding defense fees in excess of \$1 million.
- Successful defense at trial of the chairman of the board of a Fortune 500 company against a multi-million dollar claim for interference with contract.
- Successful defense of a Fortune 500 retailer company against a class action arising out of the sale of a diet drug.
- Favorable resolution of multiple trade secret matters representing both plaintiffs and defendants.
- Successful defense of a major pharmaceutical company against a product liability claim seeking \$20 million in damages.



### Professional History

- Partner, Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP, 2016-present; Associate, 2012-15.
- Associate, Morris Polich and Purdy, 2009-12.
- Associate, Reed Smith, 2006-09; Summer Associate, 2005.
- USF Law Clinic, Investor Justice Center, 2005-06.
- In-House Counsel Internship, Panalpina Group, 2004.

### Admissions

- State of California.
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; U.S. District Courts for the Central, Eastern, Northern, and Southern Districts of California.

### Education

- University of San Francisco School of Law, J.D., Top 5%, *magna cum laude*, 2006.
  - Honors & Activities: Merit Scholarship Recipient; *Law Review* Senior Staff, Member; 2nd Place Moot Court National Environmental Negotiations Competition; Moot Court Best Oral Argument; CALI Award for Excellence in Corporations, Property, Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure; Business Law Association, President and Founder; Dean's Honor Society; Student Senate, Member.
- Arizona State University, W.P. Carey School of Business, B.S., Business Management, 2002.

### Memberships & Affiliations

- Welsh Inn of Court, Active Alumni Member.
- La Jolla Bar Association, Board President 2021- present, Board Member, 2019-20.
- San Diego County Bar Association, Member.
- Association of Business Trial Lawyers, Member.

### Awards & Distinctions

- *SD Metro*, San Diego's Top Attorneys, 2021.
- Top 40 Under 40 honoree, *San Diego Daily Transcript*, 2018.
- "Top Lawyer," *San Diego Magazine*, Complex Commercial Litigation, 2018-20.
- Rising Star, *San Diego Super Lawyers*®, 2015-16, 2018.
- AV Preeminent®, Martindale-Hubbell.
- Welsh Inn Presentation Award, 2014-15.

### Publications

- Co-Author, "The Expert Ethicist and Product Liability Litigation," *ABA Products Liability Newsletter*, Vol. 19 Issue 2, Summer 2008.
- Author, "An Undue Burden on an Otherwise Feasible Defense: California Courts' Burden on the Defendant Moving for Summary Judgment Based on Federal Preemption in Certain Medical Device Cases," *40 U.S.F.L. Rev.* 515 (2006).
- Co-Author, "Judge Must Specify Reason Why New Trial Was Granted," *Daily Journal*, (July 26, 2005).