Richard Lee

ASSOCIATE

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AREAS OF FOCUS

Class Action Defense

Complex Commercial Litigation and Arbitration

With significant experience at the cutting edge of numerous areas of the law, Richard is a thoughtful and dedicated litigator who is adept at navigating the most challenging, high stakes matters.

Richard has litigated a wide range of complex cases, including multidistrict litigation and class actions, in both federal and state courts. He has handled matters focused on data privacy, products liability, commercial contracts and business torts, antitrust, and insurance-coverage disputes. Richard's unflagging attention to detail and focus on the unique dynamics of each matter ensure that clients receive the diligent and individualized care they require. He enjoys pursuing creative and efficient resolutions of disputes but remains committed to aggressively litigating through trial and appeals.

At his prior firm, Richard was a key member of a team representing one of the world's largest technology companies in thousands of cases brought by individual and governmental plaintiffs. He has also handled numerous cases on behalf of businesses affected by the Covid-19 pandemic at the trial- and appellate-court levels, preparing briefs in multiple state supreme courts. He has also contributed to far-reaching litigation focused on the scope of California's economic loss rule, which has proceeded through the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and the California Supreme Court. Richard also maintains a robust pro bono practice, which has entailed successful challenges to a state's legislative redistricting efforts before that state's highest court and obtaining humanitarian parole for Central American emigrants.

Prior to law school, Richard earned a doctorate in English literature. In his free time, he still enjoys reading and, in particular, spending time with his family in the Bay Area.

Experience

- On behalf of a leading global technology company, obtaining dismissal of numerous claims brought by individuals, local government entities, and state attorneys general at the pleading stage. These efforts significantly narrowed the scope of coordinated proceedings involving thousands of plaintiffs in federal and state courts.*

- On behalf of large and small businesses seeking insurance coverage for losses suffered during the Covid-19 pandemic, obtaining favorable rulings from trial and appellate courts, and facilitating settlement negotiations.*

- In tandem with a prominent civil rights organization, obtaining numerous victories before a state supreme court in opposition to the state's attempts to redistrict legislative districts for partisan ends.*

*prior firm

Credentials

Education

- Stanford Law School, J.D.
- University of California, Berkeley, Ph. D, English
- University of Pennsylvania, B.A., English

Prior Affiliations

- Covington & Burling LLP, 2021 – 2024

Admissions

- Admitted in California

Federal Courts

- U.S. District Court for the Central, Northern, Southern, and Eastern Districts of California

Clerkships

- Hon. Edward M. Chen
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, 2020 – 2021