SpencerFane®

Stephen Pahl

Partner

Contact

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Overview

Stephen Pahl's practice concentrates in the areas of real property transactions and litigation, employment matters representing exclusively management, commercial litigation, and financial institutions law. A business owner with personal experience managing apartment buildings, banks, restaurants, and hotels, Stephen truly understands and shares the entrepreneurial spirit of his clients.

Stephen has successfully prosecuted scores of jury trials, in both state and federal courts, involving all aspects of real estate, brokerage, landlord-tenant, employment law, banking, and commercial matters.

Since 2001, Stephen has served as General Counsel to the California Apartment Association, the largest statewide organization of rental property owners and managers in the nation and participates as General Counsel for several clients in the banking and real estate industry. Involvement in real property development led to his selection to serve for a term on a local Planning Commission, providing better insight into local planning and zoning issues.

Stephen has been selected by the Northern District of California to serve as one of its Special Masters and Early Neutral Evaluators. An avid instrument-rated private pilot, he is also a member of the Lawyer-Pilot Bar Association.

Stephen is a 1977 graduate of the University of California at Santa Barbara and received his Juris Doctorate from the University of Santa Clara, where he was a published editor of the Law Review.

Education

- Santa Clara University School of Law, 1980 (J.D.)
- University of California, Santa Barbara, 1977 (B.A.)

Bar Admissions

- California

Court Admissions

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Central District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California

Community Involvement

- California Apartment Association, General Counsel
- Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club, President
- Town of Los Altos Hills, Planning Commission

Distinctions

- *California Super Lawyers*

Memberships

- Ninth Circuit, Lawyer Representative Coordinating Committee, Chair
- Ninth Circuit, Conference Executive Committee, Chair
- Commission on Federal Courts and the Administration of Justice, California State Bar Member, State Bar of California Committees and Commissions:
  - Federal Courts
  - Administration of Justice
- Federal Bar Association (N. CA), Vice President
- Lawyer-Pilot Bar Association

Presentations and Publications

- "The Chairman's Panel," California Community Bank Network Directors Roundtable, June 2025
- "A Court Divided; An Analysis of Polarization on the U.S. Supreme Court," 19 *Santa Clara L. Rev.* 985, 1979