

Sacks Glazier Franklin & Lodise

Litigation for Substantial Trusts and Estates

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Matthew W. McMurtrey



Managing Partner

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Matthew W. McMurtrey focuses his practice exclusively on probate litigation, with a particular emphasis on trusts and estates. His practice includes litigation at all levels of California's judicial system. He has successfully tried matters before the Probate Department of the Superior Court and has appeared as appellate counsel throughout California. He has also handled several matters before the California Court of Appeal, resulting in multiple published appellate decisions.

Mr. McMurtrey serves as an advocate for a spectrum of clients, from high-net-worth institutions and individuals to modest-income clients seeking to defend their claims and enforce their rights. His result-

oriented approach offers each client an honest, unbiased, and realistic assessment of his or her case.

Some representative examples of Mr. McMurtrey's practice include prosecuting and defending will and trust contests, pursuing creditor's claims in decedents' estates, seeking interpretation of wills and trusts, and prosecuting and defending surcharge claims against trustees. Most recently, Mr. McMurtrey successfully represented a trustee petitioner at trial, and respondent on appeal, in an action to determine that her efforts to reform a trust to correct a drafting error would not be a contest. In another case, he successfully defended a trustee against a surcharge petition and obtained court approval of the trustee's voluminous accounting (approximately 5,000 pages) based on the Uniform Prudent Investor Act.

An active member of the legal community, Mr. McMurtrey is the Chair of the Executive Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Trusts and Estates Law Section, as well as a member of the executive committee of the State Bar of California Trust and Estates Law Section. He has been named to the lists of Southern California Super Lawyers "Rising Stars", Southern California Super Lawyers and Best Lawyers and has served as a panelist for the California Continuing Education of the Bar and has lectured at the National Business Institute and the San Fernando Valley Bar, Probate and Estate Planning Section.

Mr. McMurtrey obtained his J.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, and his B.A. from the University of California, Riverside, where he graduated cum laude. Before joining Sacks, Glazier, Franklin & Lodise, Mr. McMurtrey handled cases involving employment law, securities, intellectual property and business litigation, all of which he draws upon in his practice today.

Areas of Practice

Trust and Estate Litigation

Conservatorship Litigation

Estate and Trust Appeals

Bar Admissions

California, 1996

Education

University of California at Los Angeles School of Law, Los Angeles, California

J.D. - 1996

University of California, Riverside, California, USA

B.A. *cum laude* - 1993

Honors: Phi Beta Kappa

Classes/Seminars

"Pre-Mortem Probate Disputes in the Context of Conservatorship", San Fernando Valley Bar, Probate and Estate Planning Section, Lecturer

"Death, Debts and Taxes: Creditors' Claims Against a Decedent", California Continuing Education of the Bar, Lecturer

"Common Issues to Be Prepared for in Litigation and Probate", National Business Institute, Lecturer

Honors and Awards

Southern California Super Lawyers "Rising Stars", 2008 - 2009

Southern California Super Lawyers, 2015 - present

Best Lawyers in America

Professional Associations and Memberships

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Trusts and Estates Section, Member, Executive Committee

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Trusts and Estates Section, Chairperson of Symposium Sub-Committee, Executive Committee, 2007 - 2010

American Bar Association, Member

Moot Court Honors Program, UCLA, Member

State Bar of California, Trusts and Estates Section, Member, Executive Committee

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Chair, Executive Committee

California State Bar, Trusts & Estates section, Managing Editor of California Trust and Estates Quarterly



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Super Lawyers



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