



Eric S. Casher
Principal

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Practice Groups

Municipal and Special District Law

Public Contracts

Construction and Facilities

Crisis Management

Workplace Investigations

Trial and Litigation

California Bar Number

248875

Education

University of California, Hastings College of
the Law, JD, 2006

University of California at Berkeley, BA,
Sociology, 2000

Practicing Since: 2007

Eric Casher is Chair of the Municipal and Special District Law Practice Group, overseeing the work of Meyers Nave attorneys who serve as City Attorney for municipalities of all sizes and General Counsel for Special Districts of all types throughout California. He has been assisting public and private clients with legal and regulatory matters throughout California for over 10 years. His comprehensive experience ranges from public law and public contracting to construction litigation, workplace investigations and public-private partnerships. Eric's leadership at Meyers Nave includes currently serving as Chair of the firm's Diversity Committee.

Eric has a particular focus on the broad range of challenges that government agencies, cities, counties and special districts face as they implement their mandates and missions. He currently serves as City Attorney for the City of Pinole, a city of approximately 19,000 residents located in the San Francisco Bay Area, and General Counsel of the East Bay Dischargers Authority, a joint powers agency consisting of five local agencies that manages wastewater treatment and disposal for a population of approximately 900,000. Eric advises these clients on all legal matters affecting governance, decision-making, daily operations and long-term policy.

Eric has specialty expertise in public contracting and advises clients at all stages of project development and implementation, from the drafting of front-end bid specifications and the handling of bid protests to complex litigation of construction disputes, breach of contract claims, and bid protests. He has extensive experience representing public and private clients on public contract procurement issues, and has litigated disputes involving complex indemnity issues, construction project delay claims, stop notice claims, prevailing wage disputes, and ADA matters. Eric successfully represented a municipality in a published California Court of Appeals decision that remains a leading case in California public contract law as it affirms the

discretion of a City to waive an error in a bid for a public works project.

Eric's focus on public law reflects his commitment to public service. In 2013, Eric was appointed by then Attorney General Kamala Harris to serve a four-year term as Commissioner on the California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC). The FPPC enforces political campaign, lobbying and conflict of interest laws. Eric's FPPC experience contributes to the expertise he provides to clients in matters relating to governance, statutory powers, Political Reform Act, California Public Records Acts, Brown Act and other conflict of interest laws. Eric was recently appointed an Ex-Officio Committee member of the League of California Cities' FPPC Committee and is the East Bay Division Representative for the League of California Cities' Legal Advocacy Committee.

Eric is an active member of the community for which he received an "Outstanding Volunteer in Public Service" award from the Bar Association of San Francisco. He currently serves as Immediate Past President of the Charles Houston Bar Association and President of the California ChangeLawyers, formerly California Bar Foundation. The Black Law Students Association of the University of California Hastings College of the Law has honored Eric with a Distinguished Alumni Award (2015) and Alumni of the Year Award (2010-2011). He also received the "President's Award" from the Charles Houston Bar Association (2014) and "Unity Award" from the Minority Bar Coalition (2016).

Representative Experience

- City Attorney, City of Pinole (2017-Present)
- General Counsel, East Bay Dischargers Authority (2016-Present)
- Advise private company Harvest Power on Public Contract Code and local contract procurement requirements related to construction of digester to convert green waste to compressed natural gas
- Advise the University of California on general matters related to conflicts of interest involving the Political Reform Act
- Prepare design-build construction contract and advise on issues related to federal funding for the City of Modesto's North Valley Regional Recycled Water Program (\$41,000,000 project budget)
- *Bay Cities Paving & Grading, Inc. v. City of San Leandro*, Successfully defended City from bid protest and successfully litigated writ petition before the Superior Court, and appeal to the California Court of Appeals resulting in published Court of Appeals opinion
- Advise Alameda County and Alameda County Redevelopment Agency regarding design-build construction of the Ashland Youth Center (\$14,000,000 project budget)
- *City of Dublin v. AA Label*. Prosecuted the City's claim for injunctive relief to enforce Municipal Code requirements related to construction of an illegal structure
- *KZC Construction, Inc. v. City of La Puente, et al.* Negotiated a very favorable settlement for the City on a dispute involving defective construction of a sewer improvement project

Honors and Awards

- Northern California Super Lawyers list: State, Local & Municipal Law, Government Contracts and Construction Litigation, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2019
- “Gamechanger,” UC Hastings College of the Law alumni profiles, April 2019
- Unity Award, Minority Bar Coalition, 2016
- Northern California Rising Stars list: State, Local & Municipal Law, Government Contracts and Construction Litigation, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2012-2018
- Distinguished Alumni Award, UC Hastings College of the Law – Black Law Students Association, 2015
- President's Award, Charles Houston Bar Association, 2014
- “Hot List,” Lawyers of Color, 2014
- “Nation’s Best Advocates: 40 Lawyers Under 40,” National Bar Association, 2011
- “2010-2011 Alumni of the Year,” UC Hastings College of the Law – Black Law Students Association
- “Outstanding Volunteer in Public Service Award,” Bar Association of San Francisco, 2010

Professional Affiliations and Community Service

- Immediate Past President, Charles Houston Bar Association (2019)
- President, ChangeLawyers formerly the California Bar Foundation (2019)
- Member, Legal Advocacy Committee, City Attorneys’ Department, League of California Cities (2018-2019)
- Chair, Diversity Committee, Meyers Nave (2018-current)
- President, Charles Houston Bar Association (2018)
- Co-sponsor, Bar Association of San Francisco’s African American Partners and Associates Summer Reception (2018)
- Life Member, California Association of Black Lawyers (ongoing)
- Member, Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights (ongoing)
- Member, Filipino Bar Association of Northern California (ongoing)
- Member, American Bar Association (ongoing)
- Member, The State Bar of California (ongoing)
- Board Member, California Association of Black Lawyers (2018)

- Co-Chair, Diversity Committee, Meyers Nave (2017)
- Vice President, ChangeLawyers formerly the California Bar Foundation (2016-2018)
- Commissioner, California Fair Political Practices Commission (2013-2017)
- Ex-Officio Committee member, League of California Cities' Fair Political Practices Commission Committee (2017)
- Vice President, Charles Houston Bar Association (2014, 2016-2017)
- Special Assistant to the President, Charles Houston Bar Association (2015)
- General Counsel, Charles Houston Bar Association (2013)
- Member and Vice Chair, Bar Association of San Francisco - Construction Barrister's Group (2009-2011)

Presentations and Publications

- Author, "Conflict of Interest Law Update: FPPC Fines School Director \$12K and Sends Case to DA's Office," Meyers Nave Client Alert, August 2019
- Presenter, Diversity Networking Mixer, hosted by Contra Costa County Bar Association Diversity Committee, 2019
- Interview, "Gamechanger: Maximum Impact at the Forefront for Eric Casher," UC Hastings College of the Law alumni profiles, April 2019
- Presenter, "Conflicts of Interest - 1090 Liability and New Materiality Standard for Financial Interests in Real Property," County Counsels' Association Land Use Conference, 2019
- Author, "Public Contracting Update: How to Spot Conflicts of Interest with Independent Contractors and Avoid Violating Government Code 1090," California Special Districts Magazine, November/December 2018
- Podcast, "Swim, Bike, Run, Repeat," *iMatterNow's Attorney Heart* podcast series #061 on wellness and well-being in the legal profession, 2018
- Presenter, "Legal Update for Public Works Professionals," 22nd Annual American Public Works Association (APWA) Conference, 2018
- Opening Remarks, "Championing Civil Rights: The Role of Social Media, Artificial Intelligence and the Internet of Things," National Bar Association Wiley Branton Symposium, 2018
- Presenter, "The Past, Present and Future of Civil Rights in the United States," Bar Association of San Francisco's Annual Citywide Diversity and Inclusion Program, 2018
- Presenter, Minority Bar Coalition panel discussion, UC Hastings College of the Law, Legal Education Opportunity Program orientation, 2018

- Presenter, “AB 626: What It Means and How to Comply,” East Bay Municipal Engineers, 2018
- Presenter, “AB 626: New Compliance Requirements for Public Agencies,” League of California Cities Public Works Officers Institute, 2018
- Presenter, “AB 626: What It Means and How to Comply,” 21st Annual American Public Works Association (APWA) Conference, 2017
- Presenter, “Networking 201: Beyond the Pitches and Intro,” California Minority Counsel Program Annual Conference, 2017
- Author, “New Law Subjects Public Agencies to Penalties Relating to Prevailing Wage Projects,” Meyers Nave Client Alert, 2017
- Presenter, “AB 626: Impact on Public Works Projects and New Compliance Requirements,” County Counsel Association Public Works and Contracts Conference, 2017
- Presenter, “AB 626: What It Means for Public Works Projects and What Public Agencies Need to Do to Comply,” Meyers Nave webinar, 2017
- Presenter, “Legalized Recreational Marijuana: Local vs. State Regulation and the Trump Administration's Potential Impact,” Meyers Nave webinar, 2017
- Author, “New Law Requires New Claim Resolution Process for Public Works Projects,” Meyers Nave Client Alert, 2016
- Presenter, "Prevailing Wage Briefing: Fundamentals and Practical Project Tips," 20th Annual American Public Works Association (APWA) Conference, 2016
- Presenter, “Required Ethics AB 1234 Compliance Training, Parts I and II,” California Special Districts Association (CSDA) 46th Annual Conference, 2015
- Presenter, “Public Contracts Overview and Update On Recent Legislation,” 19th Annual American Public Works Association Conference, 2015
- Presenter, “Law Firms and Diversity,” Oakland Centro Legal de la Raza: Diversity Legal Pipeline Program, 2015
- Presenter, “SB 854: Contractor Registration Requirements for Public Works,” Meyers Nave webinar, 2015
- Author, “New Legislation Revamps Design Build Procurement Requirements For All Public Projects Throughout The State,” Meyers Nave Client Alert, 2014
- Author, “Court of Appeal Affirms the Discretion of a City in Waiving an Error in a Bid for a Public Works Project,” Meyers Nave Client Alert, 2014
- Presenter, “I’m A Lawyer, I Don’t Need a Brand, Or Do I,” California Minority Counsel Program 25th Anniversary Conference, 2014
- Presenter, “Bid Protests and the Impact of Recent Legislation,” 18th Annual APWA Conference, 2014

- Presenter, “Navigating Your Way Through Bid Protests,” CSDA Annual Conference, 2013
- Presenter, “Bid Protests and the Impact of Legislation,” APWA Annual Conference, 2012
- Author, “Local Agencies Now Required to Provide Electronic Copies of Project Documents to Contractor Plan Rooms,” Meyers Nave Client Alert, 2011
- Keynote Presenter, UC Hastings College of the Law - Black Law Students Association Graduation, 2011
- Author, “We Are All Going Green! A New Green Contract Addendum is Released,” *Kluwer Law International - Construction Law Blog*, 2010
- Author, “Bad Faith Settlement Claims by Contractors Against Two Sureties Illustrate When Conduct May Be Improper,” *ConstructionWebLinks Industry Reports Newsletter*, 2010
- Presenter, “Lessons Learned From the Obama Campaign and Grassroots Constituency Group Organizing,” U.S. Speaker and Specialist Program (Sweden), U.S. Department of State, 2010
- Presenter, “Grassroots Political Organizing and the Obama Campaign,” U.S. Speaker and Specialist Program (Digital Video Conference, Suriname), U.S. Department of State, 2010
- Presenter, “African American Political Progress and the Importance of Youth Participation in Electoral Politics,” U.S. Speaker and Specialist Program (Namibia and Zambia), U.S. Department of State, 2009
- Author, “Contractual Agreement to Submit Construction Disputes to Referee is Enforceable, California Court Holds,” *ConstructionWebLinks Industry Reports Newsletter*, 2008