

CRISTINA L. TALLEY

SENIOR OF COUNSEL

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Los Angeles

LANGUAGES:
English



Cristina Talley, Senior Of Counsel in Meyers Nave's statewide Trial & Litigation Practice Group, is a tenacious and versatile litigator with over 35 years of experience in constitutional, environmental, and land use law at the state and federal levels.

Cristina's extensive background in public service and government counsel has shaped a distinguished career handling complex and high-profile litigation across California.

Her practice covers inverse condemnation, civil rights, First Amendment issues, and a broad range of other public sector matters and complex disputes that shape policy and governance. Recognized by clients for her meticulous trial preparation, relentless advocacy, and appellate skills, she leaves no stone unturned and no avenue unpursued. Clients value her strategic approach, keen attention to detail, and ability to navigate the most challenging legal battles.

Formerly serving as City Attorney for several large local municipalities, Cristina has led legal teams of nearly a dozen attorneys on many high-profile matters, bringing a rare dual perspective to litigation and problem-solving from both sides of the courtroom.

Cristina earned her B.S. in Communication Arts from Cal Poly Pomona, graduating cum laude. She is licensed in California and admitted to the U.S. District Court (Central and Eastern Districts), the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and the U.S. Supreme Court. Her federal and state court admissions reflect her ability to advocate for clients in jurisdictions ranging from local trial courts to the highest court in the nation.

EDUCATION

University of Southern California
Gould School of Law, JD

California State Polytechnic
University, Pomona, BS, *cum laude*

ADMISSIONS

California, 1982 – Bar No. 107298

U.S. District Court, Northern District
of California

U.S. District Court, Central District
of California

PRACTICE AREAS

Trial & Litigation

Land Use & Environmental

HONORS & AWARDS

- *The Best Lawyers in America*, Land Use and Zoning Law (2027)

PROFESSIONAL & COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

- The State Bar of California, Public Law Section, Member (1982–Present)
- Orange County Bar Association
- Orange County Hispanic Bar Association
- Orange County City Attorney's Association
- Harbor Point Church, San Juan Capistrano, CA

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Constitutional law issues, including First Amendment, Equal Protection, and Due Process
- Real property disputes, including land use and zoning
- General counsel matters, including drafting agreements, ordinances, and resolutions, and attending city council and planning commission meetings
- Land Use/Zoning
- Public Records Act/Brown Act
- Election issues
- Administrative hearings and appeals
- Voting Rights
- Breach of Contract
- Civil Rights

PUBLISHED DECISIONS

- *Machowski, et al. v. Bird Rides, Inc., et al.*, United States District Court, Central District of California, Case No. 2:10-cv-01014-JAK-MRW (2020) [Scooter Liability Class Action]
- *Capistrano Shores, Inc. v. City of San Clemente*, Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2014-00709987 CU-EI-CXC [Takings Claim – Open Space Designation]
- *Emergency Shelter Coalition v. City of San Clemente*, Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2014-00758880-CU-WM-CJC [Challenge to Homeless Shelter Zoning]
- *Vallely, Trustee of the John Stephen Vallely Trust v. City of Newport Beach*, Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2013-00677168-CU-PT-CJC [Writ of Mandate Action Challenging Harbor Permit Denial]

