



## Representation of Professionals

### Description

For decades, a cornerstone of Dunn DeSantis Walt & Kendrick's practice has been the representation of licensed professionals. This includes, when necessary, defending professional liability claims. We have litigated a great number of claims involving prominent local, regional, and national law firms. Our clients also include accountants and accounting firms, design professionals, real estate professionals, insurance agents and brokers, directors and officers, and financial advisors. In the real estate development industry, we have represented architects, engineers (structural, mechanical, civil and electrical), environmental consultants, land surveyors, contractors, and construction management firms.

A significant aspect of Dunn DeSantis Walt & Kendrick's practice involves representing insurance professionals, ranging from local and regional brokers and agents to large national insurance brokerages. We assist insurance professionals and their clients on an as-needed, on-call advisory basis. We litigate errors and omission claims of all sorts, including claims by third parties arising out of the underwriting, procurement and interpretation of all types of insurance.

Understanding your individual goals and priorities is central to developing a litigation strategy. This requires close contact with our clients throughout every phase of the litigation process. We are veteran trial attorneys with a long history of litigating professional liability claims.

We handle professional reputation matters with the utmost discretion and confidentiality, and you can be certain that regardless of the size and complexity of your matter, Dunn DeSantis Walt & Kendrick's attorneys will always provide custom solutions and counsel tailored to your particular needs. We are committed to keeping you informed and involved as we work ardently to protect and insulate you and your hard-earned reputation.

We have a strong, long-standing reputation for litigating professional liability disputes. We earned that reputation based on years of experience in risk management counseling, and in negotiating and drafting of fair and clear contract documents. We prioritize early resolution. We actively pursue strategies to expedite the conclusion of litigation "on your terms" utilizing aggressive and creative motion practice. We are advocates of alternative dispute resolution, including early mediation. But

where a jury trial is the most strategic method for resolution, we have the skills needed to represent you effectively and efficiently.

### **Highlights - Law Firms**

- Defended a San Diego law firm in connection with fraud claims brought by one of the nation's largest insurance carriers.
- Defended an Orange County law firm in connection with a professional liability action brought by a design professional. Claimant alleged that the law firm failed to adequately represent his interests at a binding arbitration resulting in a judgment that greatly exceeded available insurance.
- Represented a national law firm in a professional liability matter where plaintiffs sought over \$30 million in damages. Case settled favorably mid-way through arbitration.
- Defended an international law firm in a professional negligence action arising from the firm's prior representation of plaintiffs in a multi-million dollar real estate deal.
- Defended an international law firm in a professional negligence action alleging eight-figure damages arising from purported transactional malpractice. The matter ultimately settled for a fraction of what the plaintiff originally sought.
- Prevailed on a motion to dismiss a federal lawsuit alleging, among other causes of action, RICO claims against a prominent San Diego law firm.

### **Highlights - Design Professionals**

- Defended one of San Diego's largest architectural firms in connection with claims by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for failure to comply with the requirements of the Federal Fair Housing Act in the design and construction of a high-rise condominium project.
- Represented a structural engineering firm based in the Pacific Northwest in a case involving significant personal injuries sustained by a construction worker and delay claims arising from the design and construction of a reservoir dam in North San Diego County.
- Represented a geotechnical firm in connection with claims involving failures to detect and advise of ancient landslides in the design and construction of a large commercial project in North San Diego County.