

Public Agencies

We advise a variety of local government organizations throughout California, ranging from water and wastewater agencies, to healthcare districts, to joint powers authorities which operate self-insurance pools of municipalities and special districts, to school districts. Our municipal law practice includes work as general counsel, bond counsel and special counsel.

Representing municipal corporations which provide a variety of services to the public requires a cross-disciplinary approach, as well as an in-depth understanding of public agency law. Our work as general counsel requires us to know open meeting and public records laws, as well as conflict of interest rules (State, Federal and corporate), governmental immunities and liabilities and the political environment in which they operate. Our work as bond counsel requires us to understand limits on the uses and investment of public funds, tax-exemption regulations, the powers of general law and charter cities. As special counsel, we advise on formation of joint powers agencies, Proposition 218 challenges, LAFCO proceedings, conflicts of interest and campaign regulation, among other matters.

We strive to understand the industry in which our clients operate. Which means knowing how a sewage treatment plant works, the land development and subdivision process; how drought restrictions are determined and enforced; what a hospital's obligations are to indigent patients who seek emergency care; and how different privacy laws affect schools, healthcare providers and water utilities.

Our Services

- Board counsel (for elected and appointed bodies)
- Public finance (bond, disclosure, issuer and underwriter's counsel)
- Utility regulation and rate setting (including per Propositions 218 and 26)
- Nonprofit corporation and limited liability company counsel
- Insurance and self-insurance regulation and coverage
- Local Agency Formation Commission proceedings
- Writs, validation actions and administrative hearings
- Legislative advocacy
- Election law

Resources

- [The Ralph M. Brown Act and Related Statutes](#)
- [2014 Ethics and AB 1234 Training for Tri-City Healthcare District](#), presented by Greg Moser and Greta Proctor
- [San Elijo Joint Powers Authority: Public Agency Ethics Laws, and Organizational Structure](#), presented by Greg Moser
- [Brown Act & Public Records Act Training: Transparency is a Piece of Cake!](#) Presented by Greta Proctor and Merrick Wadsworth