



## Timothy T. Coates

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Timothy Coates is one of the country's leading appellate attorneys representing public entities and their employees. Over the past thirty-eight years, Tim has briefed and argued over 250 appeals in the state and federal appellate courts, including seven victories in the United States Supreme Court. Tim has been recognized as the "go-to" lawyer for governmental entities in civil appeals and related law and motion proceedings in major cases in the areas of civil rights, environmental regulation, employment, and general tort liability.

Tim has also represented managed care organizations and other healthcare providers in medical malpractice actions, breach of contract and bad faith claims, and regulatory matters under the Medicare and Medicaid Acts.

In media, Tim is regularly acknowledged for his success and impact on the law. Reuters named Tim one of the "Top Petitioners" in the United States Supreme Court based on his success in having review granted in that Court, and the Los Angeles Daily Journal recognized Tim as one of the top 100 attorneys in California based on his success in the Supreme Court. In addition, Tim has received the prestigious California Lawyer of the Year award for his United States Supreme Court work. He has been named a Southern California Super Lawyer in the area of appellate practice and has also been named in *The Best Lawyers In America*® (Appellate Law).

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## Education

J.D., UCLA School of Law (1983). UCLA-Alaska Law Review.

A.B., University of Southern California (1979). Phi Beta Kappa.

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## Honors

*California Lawyer Magazine: A Lawyer of the Year (Appellate Law) (2010)*

*Daily Journal's Annual Top 100 California Lawyers (2009, 2011, 2012, 2013)*

Southern California Super Lawyers, Appellate (2007 – Present)

Named in *The Best Lawyers in America*® (Appellate Law) (2014 – Present)

International Municipal Lawyers Association (IMLA): Amicus Service Award (2017, 2018, 2021, 2022)

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# Bar Admissions

California

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Courts of Appeals: Ninth Circuit

U.S. District Courts: Northern, Southern, Eastern, & Central Districts of California

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## **Speaking and Involvement**

**Presenter, "Success on Appeal in Section 1983 Cases," International Municipal Lawyers Association  
2022**

**Presenter, "Municipal Tort and Civil Rights Liability Update," League of California Cities Annual Conference  
2021**

**Presenter, "Coming Attractions: Open Issues in Civil Rights Litigation Ripe for Supreme Court Review,"  
International Municipal Lawyers Association Webinar  
2021**

**Panelist, "Qualified Immunity Under Attack –Analysis of Current Attitudes, Application and Attempts at  
Abolishment," National League of Cities Risk Information Sharing Consortium  
2020**

**Presenter, "Municipal Tort and Civil Rights Liability Update," League of California Cities Annual Conference  
2020**

**Presenter, "Is It Worth The Time And Expense? Knowing When And Whether To Appeal," International  
Municipal Lawyers Association's 85th Annual Conference  
2020**

**Presenter, "Covering The Bases — Tips For Successfully Litigating Qualified Immunity On Summary  
Judgment," International Municipal Lawyers Association's 2019 Mid-Year Seminar  
2019**

**Municipal Tort and Civil Rights Litigation Update, League of California Cities Annual Conference  
2019**

**The Appeal Killers – Avoiding Reptile Tactics And Other Traps That Can Doom Your Appeal Before It  
Begins, County Counsels' Association Civil Law & Litigation Conference  
2019**

**Presenter, "Issues With Video Evidence On Appeal"and "Totality Of Circumstances Under Graham v.  
Connor: How Far Back Do You Go?" International Municipal Lawyers Association's 83rd Annual Conference  
2018**

**Presenter, "Open Issues in Section 1983 Litigation," International Municipal Lawyers Association's 2018  
Mid-Year Seminar  
2018**

**Presenter, "Municipal Tort and Civil Rights Litigation Update," League of California Cities® 2018 Spring  
Conference  
2018**

**Presenter, "When & Whether To Appeal: A Guide To Appeals in Section 1983 Cases," DRI's Civil Rights &  
Governmental Tort Liability Seminar  
2018**

**Presenter, "Special Issues for Public Entities in Appellate Practice," International Municipal Lawyers  
Association's 82nd Annual Conference  
2017**

**Presenter, "Municipal Tort and Civil Rights Litigation Update," League of California Cities® 2017 Annual**

**Conference**

2017

**Presenter, "A Moving Target: Evolving Standards On The Establishment Clause," California County Counsel Association Civil Law and Litigation Spring 2017 Conference**

2017

**Presenter, "United States Supreme Court Search & Seizure cases as applied to SWAT teams," National Tactical Officer Association Legal Summit, Chandler, Arizona, June 2016**

2016

**Presenter, "What Trial Lawyers Need To Know About Appeals," Federal Bar Association, Northern District of California Chapter**

2012

**Presenter, "Qualified Immunity and Municipal Liability," La Verne University of Law Section 1983 Symposium**

2012

**Panelist, "California Government Tort Liability: Claims, Litigation and Recent Developments," California Continuing Education of the Bar (CEB)**

2007

**Presenter, "Success on Appeal: Advice From Appellate Counsel, Questions an Appellate Lawyer Would Ask and You Should Ask When Taking or Defending an Appeal," County Counsels' Association of California Annual Conference**

2006

**Presenter, "The Bread and Butter Defenses: A Short Overview of the Claims Statute and Immunities," Los Angeles County Counsel Seminar**

2005

**Presenter, "Litigating and Settling Section 1983 Fee Claims," Lorman Educational Services, San Diego, California**

2002

**Recent Developments in Police Civil Liability Litigation**

1999

**The Human Rights Act: The Practical Implications for British Policing – Learning from the U.S. Experience, London, England**

1999

**Presenter, "Civil Writs in the California Courts of Appeal," California State Bar Convention**

1999

**Presenter, "Appellate Practice for Public Entities," County Counsels' Association of California Annual Conference**

1994

## Professional Associations

**International Municipal Lawyers Association (IMLA), Co-Chair California State Region and Litigation Section**

**Defense Research Institute (DRI), Seminar Planning and Governmental Liability Committees**

**Los Angeles County Bar Association, Appellate Courts Committee**

**League of California Cities, Public Records Act Publication Committee (2007-2008)**

**Federal Bar Association, Appellate Practice Section**

**Settlement Officer, California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, Division Two**

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## High Impact Wins

**Dondlinger v. Los Angeles County Regional Park & Open Space Dist. (2019) 31 Cal.App.5th 994**  
Jan 31, 2019

**Williams v. Moulton Niguel Water District (2018) 22 Cal.App.5th 1198**  
May 04, 2018

**Los Angeles County Flood Control Dist. v. Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. (2013) 568 U.S. 78**  
Jan 06, 2013

**Messerschmidt v. Millender (2012) 565 U.S. 535**  
Feb 22, 2012

**Los Angeles County v. Humphries (2010) 562 U.S. 29**  
Dec 03, 2010

**Van de Kamp v. Goldstein (2009) 555 U.S. 335**  
Jan 26, 2009

**County of Riverside v. McLaughlin (1991) 500 U.S. 44**  
May 13, 1991

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## **Publications**

**GMSR's Timothy Coates discusses litigating qualified immunity on summary judgment in IMLA Municipal Lawyer**

May 01, 2019

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 02, 2018

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2017

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2016

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 02, 2015

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2014

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2013

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 03, 2012

**Argument preview: Of secrecy and sandwiches (Oct. 27, 2011) SCOTUSblog**

Oct 27, 2011

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2011

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2010

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 02, 2009

**Trial: ARM Yourself with Exhibits (July 2008) Appellate Tips for Trial Lawyers (a newsletter of the Los Angeles County Bar Association) Vol. 1, No. 8.**

Aug 01, 2008

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2008

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2007

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2006

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Apr 23, 2005

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2004

**I Couldn't Wait to Argue (Spring 2003) 5 The Journal of Appellate Practice and Process 81**

Mar 22, 2003

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2003

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 02, 2002

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2001

**Federal Civil Rights Act, California Governmental Tort Liability Practice (CEB)**

Feb 23, 2000