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CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

The California

Department of Justice

works to protect the people of

California by investigating and

prosecuting violations, while

advancing policies to ensure

fairness and opportunity.



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DIVISION OF
CIVIL LAW





OUR MISSION

DIVISION OF CIVIL LAW

Provide skilled legal services to state agencies and officials in trial and appellate litigation, which includes prosecuting and defending matters in state and federal courts and before various administrative tribunals.

Our Division is organized into the following nine sections:

Business and Tax

primarily handles civil defense litigation for state taxing agencies and the major business regulatory agencies in state and federal trial and appellate courts, including bankruptcy courts.

Cannabis Control

provides representation to state regulatory and law enforcement agencies in administrative and court proceedings related to commercial cannabis activity, including cultivation, manufacturing, testing, transporting, distributing, retail sales, and events.

Correctional Law

serves as litigation counsel, handling cases from the initial responsive pleading through discovery, trial, and appeal, for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and other related state agencies, in individual and class-action civil-rights actions filed by state prisoners, primarily concerning alleged violations of the United States Constitution, and generally filed in Federal Court.

Employment and Administrative Mandate

defends state agencies and individual managers and supervisors in major employment litigation and conducts employment related investigations. It also represents state regulatory and law enforcement agencies in matters such as the revocation and suspension of driver's and liquor licenses, discipline of law enforcement officers and other state employees, and horse racing issues.

Government Law

represents the state's elected constitutional officers in civil matters; defends state statutes against constitutional challenges; and handles matters regarding bond issuance, public records, open meeting laws, conflicts of interest, contracts and procurement, and the Attorney General's duties regarding ballot initiatives and elections.

Health, Education, and Welfare

represents public agencies charged with administering state and local welfare, health, and educational programs.

Health Quality Enforcement

brings disciplinary actions against state-licensed physicians and other health-related licensees, which involve both administrative and trial court proceedings.

Licensing

represents licensing boards, bureaus, and commissions in administrative, trial court, and appellate proceedings to deny or revoke licenses in cases brought against state-licensed professionals such as accountants, contractors, dentists, nurses, and teachers.

Tort and Condemnation

is a civil litigation section that provides legal representation and serves and defends the interests of California State agencies, government officials, law enforcement officers, and employees. Deputies litigate and try difficult and sensitive cases including government tort liability, and personal injury or property damage involving wrongful death, civil rights, medical malpractice, dangerous condition of public property, eminent domain, inverse condemnation, mass flood, and fires.

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