



C. Athena Roussos, Esq.

9281 Office Park Circle, Suite 140, Elk Grove, CA 95758

Phone: (916) 670-7901 Fax (916) 670-7921

Email: athena@athenaroussoslaw.com

Website: www.athenaroussoslaw.com

Certified Specialist in Appellate Law
The State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization

Admissions:

Supreme Court of California (December 1997)
United States Supreme Court
U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
All U.S. District Courts in California

Education:

Syracuse University College of Law, Syracuse, New York
J.D., 1997
Graduated *summa cum laude* (ranked 4th out of 252)
Highest first-year grade point average
Associate Editor, *Syracuse Law Review*
Judicial Extern, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York
Tutored first-year law students in legal research and writing

California State University, Long Beach, California
B.A., Political Science, 1994
Graduated *cum laude*

Prior Legal Experience:

University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, Sacramento, California
Full-Time Lecturer in Law, May 2008 to June 2010

Taught in the Global Lawyering Skills program, an intensive two-year legal research, writing, and advocacy program with a focus on international law. Duties included giving lectures, creating class exercises and assignments, grading and providing feedback on written and oral assignments, and judging students' oral arguments. Also coached several moot court teams for national and international moot court competitions. Pacific McGeorge was ranked #5 nationally in 2010 for its advocacy programs.

Jay-Allen Eisen Law Corporation, Sacramento, California
Senior Associate, November 2002 to February 2008

Practice focused on civil appeals, writs, and law and motion in a wide variety of cases. Handled all aspects of civil appeals and writs in state and federal courts, including reviewing records, evaluating legal issues, preparing briefs, and presenting oral arguments. Also provided litigation support to trial attorneys by preparing and arguing pre-trial and post-trial motions.

Downey, Brand, Seymour & Rohwer LLP, Sacramento, California
Environmental Law Associate, January 2001 to November 2002

Practice focused on environmental litigation and regulatory compliance. Litigated environmental cases in state and federal court. Also counseled clients on environmental due diligence in real estate transactions, assisted clients with environmental audits of their facilities, and advised clients on environmental compliance.

Snell & Wilmer LLP, Irvine, California
Litigation Associate, September 1997 to January 2001

Practice focused on state and federal court litigation in a variety of civil cases, including appeals and writs, labor and employment cases, trademark infringement matters, franchise disputes, construction defect and contractor disputes, real property litigation, products liability litigation, and other general commercial litigation.

Awards and recognition:

Member, California Academy of Appellate Lawyers, January 2016 to present

Selected as one of the Top Lawyers for Appellate Law in Sacramento by *Sacramento Magazine* 2015 to 2017.

Selected as one of the “Best of the Bar” by the *Sacramento Business Journal* in 2015.

Selected to the following “Top” lists by *Northern California Super Lawyers*: Top 100 Lawyers in Northern California in 2012 and 2014, Top 50 Women Lawyers in Northern California from 2012 to 2016, and Top 25 Sacramento Lawyers in 2013 to 2016

Selected as a Super Lawyer from 2011 to 2017 by *Northern California Super Lawyers*

Certified as a Specialist in Appellate Law, The State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization

Awarded Order of the Coif, Syracuse University College of Law Chapter

Member of the Justinian Honor Society, Syracuse University College of Law

Community and professional activities:

Vice Chair, Sacramento County Bar Association, Appellate Law Section, 2017
Also served as a Board Member from 2007 to 2010

Member, Third District Court of Appeal Appellate Mediation Committee,
2013 to present

Commissioner, California State Bar Appellate Law Advisory Commission,
2010 to 2013

Adjunct Professor, Pacific McGeorge School of Law, 2006 to 2008, and 2012 to 2015

Member, Elk Grove Chamber of Commerce

Member, Sacramento Slavic-American Chamber of Commerce

Certified Mediator, Court of Appeal for the Third Appellate District, Mediation Program

Board member, Women Lawyers of Sacramento, 2002 to 2005, and 2009 to 2010

Presentations and articles:

Pincus Professional Education, “Exam Preparation: Appellate Law Specialization Exam,” presented on various appellate law topics with Wendy Coats Maguire, Esq., Jack Russo, Esq., and Michael Colantuano, Esq. (August 2017)

Legal Services of Northern California, “Appellate Skills Clinic,” co-presented with Jay-Allen Eisen, Esq. (June 2017)

Sacramento County Bar Association Family Law Section: “An Appealing Way to Practice Law” co-presented with Jay-Allen Eisen, Esq. (March 2016)

San Joaquin County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division, “Appeals: When It All Goes Wrong” co-presented with William Parrish, Esq. (September 2015)

“An Overview of Civil Causes of Action for Elder Abuse in California,” published in the *Riverside Lawyer* (September 2015)

Women Lawyers of Sacramento, “Writing Better Appellate Briefs and Other Tips For Success on Appeal” co-presented with Peg Toledo, Esq. and Justice Ronald Robie of the Third District Court of Appeal (August 2014)

Third District Court of Appeal, Appellate Mediation Program, “Mediating the Family Law Appeal” co-presented with Elizabeth Niemi, Esq. (January 2014)

Co-author of the monthly *Appellate Insight* column in the *Daily Recorder* (2008 to 2013)

Reported decisions (a partial list):

People v. Steele, 246 Cal.App.4th 1110 (2016)

Stuard v. Stuard, 244 Cal. App. 4th 768 (2016)

Mendoza v. Western Med. Center, 222 Cal.App.4th 1334 (2014)

Escobar v. Flores, 183 Cal.App.4th 737 (2010)

Asvesta v. Petroutsas, 580 F.3d 1000 (9th Cir. 2009)

In re Guardianship of Ann S., 45 Cal.4th 1110 (2009)

In re Marriage of Sareen, 153 Cal.App.4th 371 (2007)

Jones v. Catholic Healthcare West, 147 Cal.App.4th 300 (2007)

Slayton v. Superior Court, 146 Cal.App.4th 55 (2006)

Hawkins v. Wilton, 144 Cal.App.4th 936 (2006)

In re Adoption of Hannah S., 142 Cal.App.4th 988 (2006)

Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch v. Dep't of Forestry & Fire Protection,
123 Cal.App.4th 1331 (2004)

Auburn Woods I Homeowners Ass'n v. Fair Employment & Housing Comm'n,
121 Cal.App.4th 1578 (2004)

San Diego Watercrafts, Inc. v. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., 102 Cal.App.4th 308 (2002)

Pagter v. Massanari, 250 F.3d 1255 (9th Cir. 2001)