

## Edward J. Casey

Partner

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Ed Casey represents a variety of residential, retail, and commercial developers in land use matters, including those arising under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). His practice encompasses every facet of the entitlement process, from pre-acquisition due diligence to permitting, and he has prosecuted and defended CEQA and other land use lawsuits for a number of major development projects. Ed has been recognized by Chambers USA, was selected to the 2015–2020 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America*®, including being named “Lawyer of the Year” in Litigation – Land Use and Zoning in 2020, and named a “Top Litigator” by the *Los Angeles Business Journal* in 2018. In 2013, Ed was listed as a “Top Rated Lawyer in Energy, Environmental, and Land Use Law” by *The Recorder*. He was also featured in the *Daily Journal* as one of the “Top 100 Lawyers in California” in 2012. In addition, he received the AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rating™ and the AV Judicial Edition Preeminent Rating™, a recognition based on the opinions of members of the bar and judiciary, from Martindale-Hubbell®; both recognitions are the highest possible ratings for both legal ability and ethical standards.

Ed is a member of the board of governors of the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation and chairs the Land Use Committee of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

### **Representative Experience**

- Representing a nationwide real estate developer in various projects throughout Southern California, including the largest mixed-use project on a 12-acre site in Los Angeles (handled entitlements and defense in court).
- Representing the developer of the largest mixed-use project in the Westside of Los Angeles (Playa Vista), which is composed of 2,600 residential units, 150,000 square feet of retail, and other commercial uses, including securing favorable appellate and trial court decisions upholding the environmental impact report (EIR).
- Representing Westfield, an international shopping center developer, in various land use matters and lawsuits throughout California, including Los Angeles, Arcadia, San Diego, and Sacramento.
- Representing a mixed-use developer for a transit-oriented project, including defending CEQA lawsuits.
- Representing a major private utility in Southern California on CEQA and other environmental matters for a variety of projects, including a nuclear power facility.
- Represented the developer of the “Grand Avenue Project,” a large residential, hotel, and commercial project in downtown Los Angeles, including securing CEQA clearance from multiple Los Angeles agencies.
- Representing developers of new and redeveloped studio projects in Los Angeles, both at entitlement and in court.
- Representing a national movie theater chain in development projects throughout California.

- Representing a variety of residential and mixed-use developers throughout the city of Los Angeles, including downtown and Hollywood.
- Represented the developer of the new Broad Art Museum in downtown Los Angeles in securing CEQA clearance and other land use approvals.
- Represented museums (including the Autry Museum) and hospitals in obtaining entitlements and CEQA approvals.

## ***Publications & Presentations***

### ***News Items***

- *Los Angeles Business Journal* | Vet Attorney Sees Different CEQA Environment | February 29, 2016  
Ed Casey is profiled in a report focusing on his track record in defending CEQA lawsuits and the increasing hit on businesses from the growing abuse of CEQA.

### ***Publications***

- *Land Use Matters*: Alston & Bird LLP, August 2019
- *Land Use Matters*: Alston & Bird LLP, April 2019
- *Land Use Matters*: Alston & Bird LLP, November 2018
- *Land Use Matters*: Alston & Bird LLP, September 2018
- *Land Use Matters*: Alston & Bird LLP, March/April 2018
- "Ballot Blues," *Los Angeles Lawyer*, February 2017.
- "Foreign Development Projects Must Contend with CEQA," *Daily Journal Asia Supplement*, October 22, 2014.

### ***Education***

- The University of Chicago (J.D., 1985)
- Hofstra University (B.A., 1982)

### ***Admitted to Practice***

- California

### ***Related Services***

Environmental Litigation | Litigation | Environment, Land Use & Natural Resources | Water Resources | Land Use | Environmental Appellate Litigation | Coastal Land Use | Real Estate Litigation