

# LYNBERG & WATKINS

## **NORMAN J. WATKINS**

Partner | [nwatkins@lynberg.com](mailto:nwatkins@lynberg.com) | 714.937.1010

### **PRACTICE AREAS:**

Appellate Practice  
Civil Rights  
Labor and Employment  
General Torts  
Police Liability Defense  
Premises Liability  
Product Liability Defense  
Public Entity Defense  
Toxic Substance Exposure Defense  
Transportation and Trucking

### **EDUCATION:**

Texas Christian University and Lycoming College (B.A. 1967)  
The University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh (J.D., 1971)

### **BAR ADMISSIONS:**

State Bar of California  
State Bar of Pennsylvania  
The United States Supreme Court  
United States Court of Appeal for the Third Circuit  
United States Court of Appeal for the Ninth Circuit  
United States District Court for the District of California

### **PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

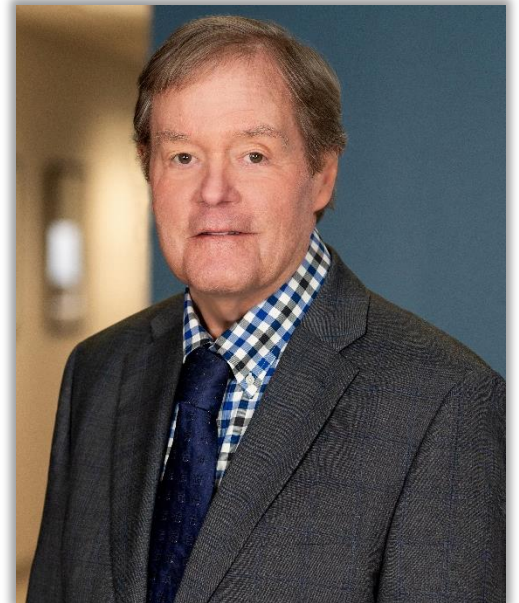
The Pennsylvania Bar Association

### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

NITA Trial Academy – Judge  
ABOTA Trial Academy – Judge

### **AWARDS:**

Super Lawyer, 2011  
Individually AV Preeminent-rated by Martindale-Hubbell





**EXPERIENCE:**

Mr. Watkins has tried over 125 cases to jury verdict in California, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Texas and Arizona. These trials have involved a wide variety of claims, including general torts, civil rights, police liability, trucking, insurance Bad Faith Litigation, and a variety of employment harassment and discrimination suits.

Mr. Watkins' trial experience includes many high-profile matters such as, *Cohen v. Masry*; *Foley v. City of Coronado*; *Anderson, et al. v. County of Orange*; and has taken several cases to the U.S. Supreme Court. In addition, Mr. Watkins successfully defended the Orange County District Attorney in a series of high-profile whistleblower cases. See, *Jacobs v. County of Orange*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 02CC01476; *Jacobs v. County of Orange*, United States District Court, Case No. SACV 01-677 GLT; *OCAA v. County of Orange*, Los Angeles County Superior Court, Case No. 02CC05089; and, *Smith v. County of Orange*. Most recently, Mr. Watkins successfully obtained a defense verdict for the Sheriff of Orange County following a lengthy bench trial in the matter of *Anderson v. County of Orange*, Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2010-00376368. The Anderson matter involved claims by top officials in the Sheriff's Department that they were wrongfully terminated under the Public Safety Officers Bill of Rights (POBRA).

Mr. Watkins has argued on over 50 appeals in state and federal courts on behalf of public entities. He has obtained many published opinions concerning important principles of law, including five appearances before the United States Supreme Court. See, *Pennhurst State School and Hospital v. Halderman*, 451 U.S. 1 (1981); *O'Bannon v. Town Court Nursing Center*, 447 U.S. 773 (1980); *Secretary of Public Welfare*, 442 U.S. 640 (1979); *Beal v. Doe*, 432 U.S. 439 (1977); *Kremens v. Bartley*, 431 U.S. 119 (1977).

When not working, Mr. Watkins enjoys fitness, watching football, golf, and studying American History.