

LYNBERG & WATKINS

NORMAN J. WATKINS

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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

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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.