

LYNBERG & WATKINS

S. FRANK HARRELL

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PRACTICE AREAS:

Appellate Practice
Civil Rights
Labor and Employment
General Torts
Police Liability Defense
Premises Liability
Public Entity Defense

EDUCATION:

The University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (B.A., 1982)
Duke University and the University of North Carolina (J.D., 1985)

HONOR SOCIETIES:

The University of North Carolina, Phi Beta Kappa

BAR ADMISSIONS:

Supreme Court of California, 1988
Supreme Court of Virginia, 1986
The U.S. Supreme Court, 2006
U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, 1988
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit, 1986
U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, 1990
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California, 1990
U.S. District Court, Central District of California, 1988
U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, 1990
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia, 1988
U.S. District Court, Western District of Virginia, 1988

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

American Board of Trial Advocates
The Virginia Bar Association
The California Bar Association
Association of Southern California
The American Bar Association

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Managing attorney of Orange County office – 2005 to present
Staff Assistant, Virginia Senator Wyatt B. Durrette, Richmond, Virginia (1985 – 1986)



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Extern, N. Carolina Congressman Walter B. Jones, Washington, D.C. (1979)

Extern, C-SPAN Congressional Cable Television Network, Washington, D.C. (1979)

EXPERIENCE:

Mr. Harrell has litigated over 25 cases to verdict in state and federal courts. All of Mr. Harrell's trials have been in defense of governmental clients, regarding a wide variety of allegations, including general torts, civil rights, police liability, employment, and dangerous condition of public property. He has also successfully litigated scores of case dispositive motions which resulted in the dismissal of the case.

Mr. Harrell has worked on over 50 appeals in state and federal courts on behalf of public entities. He has obtained many published opinions favorable to governmental interests. For example, Mr. Harrell was the successful appellate advocate on behalf of the Orange County Sheriff's Department in *Susag v. City of Lake Forest, et al.*, 94 Cal. App. 4th 1401 (2002). The *Susag* Court was the first California decision to restrict criminal convicts from suing their arresting officers under tort law principles. *Id.* at 1412. Mr. Harrell was also the successful appellate advocate in *McCown v. City of Fontana*, 565 F.3d 1097 (9th Cir. 2009). In *McCown*, the Ninth Circuit limited the plaintiff's counsel's ability to recover attorneys' fees in high multiples of what they recover on behalf of their client. *Id.*

Apart from the foregoing, in the past three years, Mr. Harrell has served as counsel on many noteworthy "civil rights" matters, including *Solorzano v. City of Fontana* (a police "excessive force" / "false arrest" matter involving a large public melee which was defended at trial in 2015), *Sharpless v. County of Orange* (a female plaintiff claimed she was "assaulted" in her home by law enforcement; Case defense at trial in 2015) and *Gordon v. County of Orange*, (a jail death matter against deputies seeking millions which were dismissed by motion in 2016).

When not working, Mr. Harrell enjoys boating, waterskiing, and swimming.