

James Raza Lawrence

Counsel – Los Angeles

James Raza Lawrence has substantial experience representing clients in all phases of litigation, including in pretrial motions, jury trials, and writs and appeals, in state and federal courts, including in many cases involving claims of product liability, breach of contract, unjust enrichment, fraud, and negligence. He has successfully defended numerous companies in a variety of class action cases.

In addition to his litigation practice, Mr. Lawrence commonly advises businesses in highly regulated industries on navigating local, state, and federal financial laws and regulations and internal and governmental (including FTC, SEC, and DOJ) investigations, and administrative proceedings relating to alleged malfeasance.

Mr. Lawrence has deep experience relating to the legalized cannabis and psychedelics industries. Mr. Lawrence is widely recognized as a leading voice in plant medicine law. He has many years of experience advising plant medicine businesses on navigating local, state, and federal laws and regulations, employment matters, internal and governmental investigations, and succeeding in our dynamic global economy.

Mr. Lawrence has taught continuing legal education courses and published articles on a wide variety of litigation regulatory topics. Before entering private practice, Mr. Lawrence received a bachelor's degree with majors in physics and philosophy and a minor in business from Washington University in St. Louis, graduated with honors from Harvard Law School, and completed a judicial clerkship with the Honorable Morris Sheppard Arnold of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

Notable Representations

- **Represented** publicly traded electronics hardware manufacturer in consumer class action alleging violation of California's Unfair Competition Law, breach of warranty, breach of contract, and false advertising.
- **Represented** publicly traded software company in consumer class action alleging violation of California's Unfair Competition, false advertising, breach of implied covenant and fair dealing, and negligent misrepresentation.



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Education

Harvard Law School
J.D., cum laude

Washington University in St. Louis
B.A., summa cum laude

Bar Admission

California

Court Admission

U.S. Court of Appeals – Ninth Circuit
U.S. District Court – Central District of CA
U.S. District Court – Eastern District of CA
U.S. District Court – Northern District of CA

- **Represented** publicly traded tobacco company in cases alleging violation of advertising and marketing laws, product liability laws, and California's Unfair Competition Law.
- **Represented** founder and co-owner of retail business in connection with claims alleging violation of California's Unfair Competition law, breach of contract, conversion, and civil conspiracy.
- **Represented** co-owner of California medical business in claims alleging violation of California's Unfair Competition law, interference with prospective economic advantage, tortious interference with contractual relations, trademark infringement, conspiracy, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, and conversion.
- **Represented** owner of medical practice management company in claims alleging money laundering, tax evasion, unfair competition, and unlawful corporate practice of medicine.
- **Represented** major law firm in connection with claims of negligence and professional malpractice arising out of asbestos liabilities.
- **Represented** medical retail business and its principals in connection with claims of violating California's Unfair Competition Law and state and local regulations.
- **Represented** investor in regulated business in connection with claims of breach of contract, fraud, unjust enrichment, conversion, and breach of the covenant of good faith and fair dealing.
- **Represented** co-owner of regulated manufacturing business in connection with claims of breach of contract and breach of fiduciary duties.
- **Represented** attorney in connection with claims alleging professional negligence and securities fraud.
- **Represented** property owner in connection with claims of conspiracy, money laundering, and tax evasion, relating to activities of tenants.
- **Represented** publicly traded vaping hardware company in connection with claims alleging breach of contract.