

Whether your situation is simple or complex, you should consider hiring an attorney who specializes in Appellate Law and who is committed through certification to maintaining her or his proficiency through continual practice and continuing education.



THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA
OFFICE OF CERTIFICATION

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THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

WHAT CAN A
Certified Appellate Law Specialist
DO FOR YOU?

BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION



Why does the State Bar certify legal specialists?

- To help the public identify attorneys who have demonstrated proficiency in specialized fields of law;
- To encourage the maintenance and improvement of attorney competence in specialized fields of law.

The more important your case, the more important it is to consult a Certified Specialist.

What does it mean when an attorney is a Certified Specialist?

A Certified Specialist is more than just an attorney who specializes in a particular area of law. A California attorney who is certified by the State Bar as an Appellate Law specialist must have:

- Taken and passed a written examination in Appellate Law;
- Demonstrated a high level of experience in Appellate Law;
- Fulfilled ongoing education requirements;
- Been favorably evaluated by other attorneys and judges familiar with her or his work.



What can a certified Appellate Law specialist do for your client?

- Strategize, draft pleadings, handle law and motions and prepare jury instructions:

Appeals are won and lost in the trial court. Making an effective appellate record ensures an ultimate victory.
- Evaluate writ petitions and appeals:

Knowing when there's a good chance of getting a better result and when there isn't preserves resources and credibility.
- Handle post-trial motions and stays:

After a verdict or intended decision, it's necessary to move fast.
- Write briefs and petitions:

Selecting issues and telling the story in writing takes different skills than making a jury presentation.
- Follow up decisions.

In what other fields of law are attorneys certified by the State Bar?

- Bankruptcy Law
- Criminal Law
- Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law
- Family Law
- Immigration and Nationality Law
- Taxation Law
- Workers' Compensation Law

Appellate courts are your last chance to overturn a bad result or defend a righteous victory.

How can I find a Certified Specialist?

- For an alphabetical list by county of certified Appellate Law specialists, contact:

The State Bar of California
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180 Howard Street
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