



Catherine Meulemans

Partner

cmeulemans@fbtgibbons.com | 415.655.2099

235 Pine Street
Suite 2300
San Francisco, CA 94104

Industries

Energy

Utilities

Practice Areas

Business & Commercial
Litigation

Data Security & Privacy

Data, Digital Assets &
Technology

Labor & Employment

Bar Memberships

California

Catherine helps her clients resolve commercial and business disputes and co-leads the firm's Utilities Industry Team. She has expertise assisting financial institution clients faced with a variety of lawsuits, including contractual disputes, lender liability claims, fraud, and financial instrument litigation, as well as assisting public utility clients with commercial contract disputes and complex tort and business claims.

Catherine also works with various other corporate entities – franchises, real estate companies, insurance companies, municipalities and governmental agencies, start-ups, Fortune 500 corporations, and more – to investigate and resolve multi-party commercial, contract and tort disputes, employment claims, partnership disputes, unfair competition and trade secret claims, and a broad range of real property claims, including foreclosure, receivership, quiet title, and mortgage fraud actions. She has litigated, tried and settled disputes in both state and federal courts.

A skilled courtroom advocate, Catherine understands the financial and strategic costs that lawsuits can inflict on all parties involved in a dispute. That's why she helps her clients avoid litigation, when possible, by investigating potential claims before they become lawsuits, by providing training seminars as a preventive measure to avoid lawsuits, and by recommending early settlement of claims when that is in her clients' best interest.

Other Info About Catherine

Experience

Helped a major international banking client succeed at both trial and appeal in a lawsuit that ultimately allowed a bad faith waste “exception” to California’s anti-deficiency statutes, establishing new case law that was widely praised and embraced by the California banking community. *See Nippon Credit Bank, Ltd. v. 1333 North California Boulevard et al. (2001) 86 Cal.App.4th 486.*

Conducted a high profile investigation in Las Vegas, involving numerous City departmental heads, the Mayor and the City Council members, on behalf of the Office of the Nevada Attorney General relating to the Las Vegas City Council’s decision to allow a developer with close ties to the Mayor to build residential housing on land adjacent to a sewage treatment facility. The highly public investigation culminated in the release of a comprehensive 165 page report that was widely praised in the Las Vegas press.

Defended a publicly traded international gaming manufacturer in a federal employment litigation matter brought by a former associate general counsel turned whistle-blower who alleged that he was wrongfully terminated after revealing an alleged Sarbanes-Oxley violation.

Managed the litigation portfolio for a \$4 billion privately held international real estate brokerage franchise, including real estate and franchise disputes and vicarious liability actions brought before various courts within California. Worked with client to develop effective strategies for case resolution that enabled client to settle 100% of litigation in advance of trial.

Education

Georgetown Law, J.D.

Southern Oregon University, B.S., *magna cum laude*

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Professional Affiliations

San Francisco Bar Association, Member

California Real Estate Women (CREW), Member

San Francisco Bar Association's Early Settlement Program, Mediator

Firm Committees

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Committee, former Member

Featured Articles

[No Conviction Bar Here: SCOTUS Says Prior Ordinance Conviction Does Not Block Prospective Section 1983 Relief](#)

[The Changing Landscape of Personal Health Data – Washington State's My Health My Data Act](#)

[No Delay to Enforcement of the California Consumer Privacy Act \(CCPA\) Despite COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

[Preparing for California Consumer Privacy Act \(CCPA\) compliance: A Q&A for Businesses](#)

[The California Consumer Privacy Act \(CCPA\): Regulating the Data Gold Rush](#)

© 2026 FBT Gibbons LLP. May be considered attorney advertising in some jurisdictions.