

Robert H. Bunzel



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Education

University of California, Hastings College of the Law, J.D., 1981

Harvard College, B.A. *Cum Laude* (English and American Literature and Language), 1978

Professional Affiliations

Bar Association of San Francisco
American Bar Association, Committee on Environmental Litigation

San Francisco Lawyers' Club, American Inn of Court, President 2003-2004

Association of Business Trial Lawyers, Northern California (ABTL), Board of Directors, President (2011)

United States Supreme Court Historical Society
The Fellows of The American Bar Foundation

Bar Admissions

State Bar of California

Honors

Named as a "Super Lawyer" by Thomson Reuters

Recognized in the Wall Street Journal as Best Lawyers In Northern California

Practice Areas

Business Litigation
Class Action Litigation
Environmental Law Litigation
Financial Institution Litigation
Intellectual Property Litigation
Labor & Employment Litigation
Privacy and Security Breach Litigation
Professional Malpractice Litigation
Real Estate Litigation
Shareholder & Securities Disputes
Trust and Estate Litigation
White Collar Criminal Defense

Experience

Robert Bunzel is a Principal of the firm. He represents both plaintiffs and defendants in civil, criminal and regulatory matters such as venture finance, business and shareholder disputes, environmental and employment law, class actions, data breach and professional malpractice.

His practice has involved significant international discovery and foreign court appearances, including examinations in Zurich and Lugano through pioneering requests for civil judicial assistance to Switzerland, as well as appearing as an expert witness in the U.K. High Court on the subject of breach of fiduciary duty under California law. He has traveled to Japan, China and Taiwan to obtain evidence for American civil and criminal proceedings and has represented foreign officials in U.S. legal matters.

Mr. Bunzel has represented both for-profit and nonprofit entities and their directors, officers and shareholders in state and federal litigation and governmental investigations concerning, among other things, antitrust, finance, sports, philanthropic, real estate, technology and medical issues, including matters involving the Securities and Exchange Commission. He also has achieved recoveries for defrauded parties in Ponzi schemes.

Mr. Bunzel represents landowners, businesses and agencies in regulatory challenges and has represented clients in professional malpractice claims and fee disputes as well as in litigation involving the severance of officers, partners and shareholders. He has handled matters involving the evolving area of privacy and security breaches. One of his trials was nationally televised.

Mr. Bunzel has testified as an expert witness regarding the standard of care in business litigation and has represented many entrepreneurs in business and intellectual property disputes.

Representative Cases

In 2015, on behalf of one of San Francisco's leading antitrust lawyers, Mr. Bunzel successfully caused dismissal of a lawsuit seeking a multi-million dollar fee split after successfully challenging out-of-state arbitration over the claim.

Speaking Engagements

Mr. Bunzel has lectured for the Practicing Law Institute and the Association of Business Trial Lawyers on the subject of internal corporate investigations and international discovery.

Publications

Sometimes It Pays to Opt for a Jury in Business Disputes, *Litigation Magazine*, Vol. 45, No. 4 (Summer 2019), at 12

How to Win the “Bet Your Company” Antitrust Trial (September 2010)

Defending “The Last Man Standing”:

Representative Cases [Continued]

In July 2014, Mr. Bunzel obtained an extraordinary writ from the State Court of Appeal, dismissing with prejudice a suit with \$4 billion exposure in a data breach case in the healthcare industry. *Sutter Health v. Superior Court* (2014) 227 Cal.App.4th 1546, review denied Oct. 16, 2014.

In 2014, Mr. Bunzel finalized a settlement with six counties and the California District Attorneys Association concluding a 5-year investigation into his client’s biomass (wood to energy) waste streams at three California facilities.

In 2011, Mr. Bunzel secured an \$18 million judgment for a major bank’s former investment advisors and in 2015 he obtained a \$7.4 million award for financial advisors suing a different bank.

In 2010, Mr. Bunzel won a \$2 million plaintiff’s verdict in a municipal bond financing case

Also in 2010, Mr. Bunzel achieved a defense verdict in a civil antitrust monopolization trial where the plaintiffs asked the jury for \$34 million.

In 2008, Mr. Bunzel mounted a successful defense of a U.S. executive in a criminal antitrust trial where the government had obtained 17 guilty pleas for international price-fixing from other defendants. *Defending “The Last Man Standing”*: Trench Lessons from the 2008 Criminal Antitrust Trial, *United States v. Swanson* (June 2008), www.antitrustsource.com.

In 2007, Mr. Bunzel won a \$4.85 million verdict in a breach of contract case.

Mr. Bunzel successfully represented engineers employed by the nation’s largest hazardous waste facility and obtained a landmark ruling regarding recoverable costs in superfund litigation, which ruling was affirmed by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Mr. Bunzel represented the San Francisco 49ers in their 1999-2001 ownership dispute and in other player and team matters.