

ROBERT C. HARMALA, Partner

Mr. Harmala is a chair of the firm's Government Relations Practice and partner in the Native American Law Practice. He focuses on Native American issues, international relations, tax, energy, intellectual property, and defense/homeland security. He has represented clients before legislative and administrative bodies at the federal, state and local levels.

Mr. Harmala has counseled Native American tribal governments, international organizations, the cosmetics industry and defense contractors in their relationships with the US federal and California state governments.

Before joining Jenner & Block in 2020, Mr. Harmala was a partner at a Washington, DC law firm for 12 years. Prior to that, he was of counsel to another law firm, where he helped establish their government relations practice. During this time, Mr. Harmala used his extensive knowledge and network of contacts in lobbying the US Congress, the California Legislature and Attorney General's Office, as well as the cities of Washington, DC, Los Angeles and Oakland, CA. Mr. Harmala has also represented foreign governments, including Taiwan, Turkmenistan, the Netherlands Antilles, Ukraine and India, before the US Congress and the Executive Branch.

From 1995 until 2001, Mr. Harmala maintained a successful solo legal and lobbying practice splitting time between Washington, DC, Sacramento, Oakland, CA, and the Netherlands. During this time, he lobbied on behalf of the State of California on tax issues, Indian tribes, agribusiness, financial institutions, tobacco and outdoor advertising interests.

Mr. Harmala began his Washington career as a staff member on the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Operations where he was responsible for issues including the State Department Authorization legislation, oversight of US international relations with international organizations, human rights and specific country focus on Israel and India.

Speaking Engagements

- “Congressional Earmarks Are Back: Everything You Need to Know about ‘Community Project Funding’ and How to Get Your Project Funded,” Webinar, March 25, 2021
- Speaker, “The United States of Beauty: An Analysis of Proposed Federal Legislation and Regulation Impacting the Cosmetics Industry,” ACI’s Legal, Regulatory, and Compliance Forum, March 23, 2021
- Co-Presenter, “Native American Law in the Biden-Harris Administration,” Transition Time, Jenner & Block Webinar Series, November 20, 2020



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PRACTICE GROUPS

Congressional Investigations
Government Relations
Human Rights and Global Strategy
Litigation
Lobbying Law and Government Ethics
Native American Law
State Enforcement and Regulation

EDUCATION

University of Southern California Gould
School of Law, JD, 1994

University of California, AB, 1991

ADMISSIONS

California, 1995

District of Columbia, 1996

COURT ADMISSIONS

US Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, 2002

US District Court, Central District of
California, 2011

US District Court, District of Columbia,
2019

