

ALEXANDER M. SMITH, Associate

Alex Smith's practice focuses on defending consumer product manufacturers and law firms in civil litigation. He has extensive experience litigating complex disputes in federal and state courts and has been a member of several trial teams.

As a member of the firm's Consumer Law and Class Action Practices, Mr. Smith defends clients against consumer class actions. He has represented many of America's leading manufacturers of food, beverage, personal care and cleaning products in lawsuits filed around the country challenging the labeling and advertising of iconic household goods, including lawsuits challenging the labeling of these products as "healthy" and "natural." He has extensive experience navigating consumer class actions through all stages of litigation—including motions to dismiss, discovery, class certification and settlement.

As a member of the firm's Professional Responsibility Practice, Mr. Smith represents large law firms in wide range of contexts, including malpractice litigation, disqualification motions and internal investigations.

Mr. Smith also has significant experience in a variety of other areas, including complex business litigation, media and entertainment litigation, and government investigations. He served as the lead associate on a team that successfully challenged the unlawful diversion of \$331 million from a trust fund intended to benefit California homeowners and obtained a writ of mandate requiring the return of these funds. Mr. Smith also maintains an active pro bono practice, in which he has tried a Section 1983 case in federal court, obtained a favorable settlement in another Section 1983 case on the eve of trial and argued an appeal on behalf of a foreclosed homeowner.

Mr. Smith earned a JD *cum laude* from Harvard Law School in 2013 and a BA with highest honors from the University of California, Berkeley in 2008. Before joining the firm, Mr. Smith clerked for the Honorable William B. Shubb on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of California.

Publications

- Co-Author, "Dating Your Co-Workers? Considering the Effect of Rule of Professional Conduct 1.8.10 for In-House Counsel," Los Angeles County Bar Association's *Update*, April 2019
- Co-Author, "Are Communications With A Law Firm's In-House Counsel Privileged?" ABTL Report, Summer 2017
- Co-Author, "Managing the Publicity of Defamation Litigation," *Law360*, August 4, 2017
- Co-Author, "Class Certification Will be More Difficult, For Now," *Daily Journal*, May 24, 2016



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PRACTICE GROUPS

Class Action
Consumer Law
Litigation
Professional Responsibility

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, J.D., 2013; *cum laude*;
Best Appellee Brief, First-Year Ames Moot
Court; Harvard Law School Exemplary
Clinical Student Award; Executive Article
Editor, *Harvard Law and Policy Review*

University of California, Berkeley, B.A., 2008;
Highest Distinction in General Scholarship;
Departmental Honors in History; Phi Beta
Kappa

ADMISSIONS

California, 2013

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIP

Hon. William B. Shubb, U.S. District Court,
Eastern District of California 2013 - 2014
(Clerkship)

