

Law Offices of
Lauren M. Terk

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Attorney Profile

Lauren M. Terk has represented manufacturers and distributors of products, real estate professionals and investors, corporations and business owners, equine professionals and members of the horse community in both litigated and non-litigated matters since 1988.



She brings to her corporate clients extensive experience in complex litigation, class actions, consolidated actions, coordinated actions and multi-district litigation.

Understanding that small business owners and individuals require the same attention as Fortune 500 companies, Ms. Terk offers her experience, knowledge and personal touch to those smaller clients as well, always focusing on meeting the specific needs and objectives of each client.

Ms. Terk also conducts mediations and other alternative dispute resolution hearings and has served as a court appointed discovery master. In addition to her litigation skills, Ms. Terk is experienced in the development of claims avoidance programs.

Admitted to all courts of the State of California, all U.S. District Courts for the Districts of California and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit, Ms. Terk has also been admitted *pro hac vice* to several state bar associations in her role as National Coordinating Counsel.

Ms. Terk serves as judge *pro tem* for the Marin County Superior Courts, for which she also serves as a discovery master and court assigned mediator.

Ms. Terk graduated from the University of Washington in 1985 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration/Accounting. She earned her *Juris Doctorate* from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in 1988.

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Product Liability

Ms. Terk has practiced on a national, regional and local level in numerous complex product liability actions involving matters as diverse as drugs and medical devices, nutritional supplements and herbs, firearms, power tools, heavy equipment, chemical exposures, asbestos, mold infested buildings and leaking underground storage tanks. She also represents clients concerning compliance with California's Proposition 65 warning requirements.

She has served as National Coordinating Counsel and as Regional Counsel for Fortune 500 companies, including having served as National Coordinating Counsel for companies that manufactured and sold mammary implants.

Ms. Terk has spoken on cutting edge product liability issues and mass torts at the Defense Research Institute's Product Liability seminars. In addition, she has authored a chapter on the application of the *Daubert* standard by the Federal Courts, and has been published on mass torts in the Defense Research Institute's *For the Defense* magazine.

Premise Liability and Real Estate

Ms. Terk has extensive experience in the defense of developers, owners and managers of real property. She has handled personal injury matters ranging from slip and fall accidents, to toddlers falling from upper story windows, and persons alleging injury to their health from "sick buildings," asbestos and mold in buildings. In addition, she has defended against lawsuits alleging building code violations and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) claims.

Her practice also involves the resolution of disputes between purchasers and sellers of real estate, and disputes between owners of adjoining properties. Such matters include claims arising out of the alleged failure of sellers to disclose adverse conditions of the property at the time of sale, disputes over trees, disputes over easements and claims arising from diversion of the normal path of underground water and run-off. On the business side Ms. Terk also represents real estate professionals and investors with regard to contract disputes arising over sales commissions and the enforcement of lease terms, including wrongful hold-over matters.

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Business and Commercial Disputes

The services Ms. Terk provides to her business and commercial clients vary widely. Representative matters have ranged from individual shop owners involved in disputes with or negotiating leases with their landlords, to business partners disputing the terms of their partnership agreement and large corporations enforcing, renegotiating or trying to avoid multi-million dollar purchase / sale agreements.

Equine Law

An avid horsewoman in her own right, Ms. Terk first served the equine community in 1994, when she began authoring a column on equine law issues in a Northern San Francisco Bay Area horse magazine.

Having established her knowledge of the factual and legal issues unique to the equine world, Ms. Terk has been retained to draft contracts including trainers' liability releases, trailering agreements, horse lease/sponsorship agreements, horse sales agreements, and even a power of attorney for veterinary care and euthanasia. In addition, she has litigated cases involving the alleged negligence of trainers, boarding facilities, trail ride operators and farriers.