



## Esteban Rodriguez

Counsel

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Esteban Rodriguez is an experienced litigator whose diverse practice focuses on defending life sciences companies in government investigations and complex, multi-jurisdictional matters alleging product liability, false advertising, unfair competition, and other consumer fraud claims. Most recently, Esteban was a critical member of the trial team that defended Johnson & Johnson in opioid litigation brought by the State of Oklahoma. He continues to play a key role representing the company in nationwide litigation concerning its opioid medications, including state attorneys general investigations and litigations. Esteban also provides life sciences law compliance advice to pharmaceutical and medical device companies.

Esteban has also represented clients in a wide range of high-stakes commercial litigation matters, including consumer class actions, mass tort cases, unfair competition, business torts, fraud, and contract disputes. He has litigated such matters for clients across a broad spectrum of industries, including food and beverage, consumer products, health care, and entertainment.

In addition, Esteban has substantial experience advising and representing Latin American companies and US companies that operate in Latin America. In 2017, Esteban practiced as a visiting attorney in the Mexico City office of Solórzano, Carvajal, González, y Pérez-Correa, S.C. (“SOLCARGO”), a top-tier Mexican law firm. There, Esteban worked on various adversarial matters including international arbitrations and commercial litigation.

Esteban is a recipient of the 2019 O’Melveny Warren Christopher Values Award, which recognizes attorneys who embody the firm’s

### Admissions

#### *Bar Admissions*

California

#### *Court Admissions*

US District Court, Central and Southern Districts of California

US Court of Appeals, Sixth and Ninth Circuits

### Education

Stanford University, J.D.: Editor, *Stanford Law & Policy Review*; Co-President, Stanford Latino Law Students Association

University of California at Irvine, B.A., Criminology: *cum laude*; Phi Beta Kappa

values of excellence, leadership, and citizenship. He serves on the Los Angeles office's Employment Committee, co-chaired O'Melveny's Firmwide Associates and Counsel Advisory Committee, and served as the head of O'Melveny's Latino/a Attorneys employee network. Esteban also devotes significant time to immigration-related pro bono matters, and he has tried multiple criminal jury trials and argued appellate matters as part of the firm's pro bono Trial Advocacy Prosecution Program.

Outside of O'Melveny, Esteban serves as Chair of the Board of Directors of Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County, one of the largest and most prominent public interest law offices in California. Esteban also serves on the Board of Directors of ScholarMatch, an organization that helps first-generation college students apply to and graduate with little debt from college.

## Experience

- Representing **Johnson & Johnson** and its subsidiary **Janssen Pharmaceuticals** in state and federal multi-district litigation relating to the marketing of prescription opioid pain medications.
- Represented **Amylin Pharmaceuticals**, an AstraZeneca company, in nationwide product liability litigation over the diabetes drug Byetta®, including in securing the dismissal with prejudice of certain claims in *McElroy v. Amylin Pharms., Inc.*, 573 F. App'x 545 (6th Cir. 2014).
- Represented a subsidiary of **Endo Pharmaceuticals** in state and federal multidistrict litigation relating to transvaginal polypropylene mesh products.
- Represented boxing promoter **Top Rank, Inc.**, **Manny Pacquiao**, **HBO**, and other defendants in securing the dismissal with prejudice of nationwide class action litigation asserting claims related to Pacquiao's "Fight of the Century" against Floyd Mayweather, Jr. in *In re Pacquiao-Mayweather Boxing Match Pay-Per-View Litig.*, 942 F.3d 1160 (9th Cir. 2019).
- Represented a leading maker of fitness shoes in a nationwide class action involving false advertising, unfair competition, and other consumer fraud claims.
- Represented a leading food company in class actions challenging the marketing and sale of probiotic yogurt.
- Represented a leading manufacturer of kombucha tea products in class actions over labeling claims.
- Represented a beverage company in several class actions alleging violations of state consumer protection statutes and California's Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65).
- Represented **Exportadora de Sal, S.A. de C.V.**, a Mexican State-owned enterprise and the world's largest producer of sea salt, in securing the dismissal of multi-billion dollar lawsuits in US Federal Court in *Packsys v. Exportadora de Sal, S.A. de C.V.*, 899 F.3d 1081 (9th Cir. 2018).
- Advised an international luxury hospitality company in an anti-corruption investigation relating to its hotel resorts in Mexico.
- Represented a former CFO of a public company in a civil lawsuit brought by the US Securities and Exchange Commission alleging purported violations of securities laws.
- Represented **Sempra Energy** and **Southern California Gas Company** in mass tort litigation relating to the Aliso Canyon gas leak in Porter Ranch, California.

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## Professional Activities

### Author

- “Class Action Settlements,” *Product Liability Litigation: Current Law, Strategies and Best Practices*, Practising Law Institute, co-authored with Richard B. Goetz and Carlos M. Lazatin (2021)
- “Winner’s Playbook: Behind the Scenes of the Pacquiao Case,” Law360, co-authored with Daniel Petrocelli, Jeffrey Barker, and David Marroso (May 2020)

### Speaking Engagements

- Speaker, “State AG Litigation Trends,” Hispanic National Bar Association Health and Life Sciences Law Committee, Quarterly Meeting (Nov. 2021)
- Panelist, “State AG Enforcement Trends and What to Expect Next,” Hispanic National Bar Association 2021 Annual Convention, Health and Life Sciences Law Section (Sept. 2021)

## Languages

- Spanish