



David A. DeJute

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Profile

David A. DeJute is of counsel in M&R's Los Angeles office. A premier litigator, he joined the firm after 12 years as an Assistant U.S. Attorney working in the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office.

While there, David handled a number of trials, including one brought against then-President Barack Obama alleging that, because he was not qualified to serve under the Constitution, he should be removed from office (the so-called "birther" dispute) and another involving the question of whether NASA properly held title to a moon rock. David also tried cases concerning constitutional tort violations, regulatory matters, medical malpractice, complex commercial disputes and fraud.

Before his stint with the U.S. Attorney's Office, David was a Vice President at Sony Pictures. For nearly a decade, he supervised every aspect of litigation involving the entertainment company worldwide. Many of those disputes related to intellectual property, copyright violations, profit participation and talent agreements.

Along with his work at M&R, David is an adjunct professor at Pepperdine University School of Law, where he supervises participants in the school's Disaster Recovery Clinic that provides *pro bono* legal representation to individuals impacted by natural disasters. David has also taught Antitrust, Trademark, Trade Secret, Copyright and Entertainment Law to second- and third-year law students, as well as a class in Ethics.

David began his legal career as a law clerk for the Honorable William J. Rea (deceased), a U.S. District Judge in the Central District of California, and then as an associate at Kaye Scholer (now Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer) and Kinsella, Boesch, Fujikawa & Towle. Prior to that, he attended Harvard Law School, graduating *cum laude*, and served as Vice President of the Harvard Legal Aid Bureau, the nation's oldest.

Associated Practices

Class Action & Complex Litigation

Bar & Court Admissions

- State Bar of California
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

Education

- Harvard Law School, J.D. (*cum laude*)
- University of Notre Dame, B.S. (*summa cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa)

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