



Susan Paulsrud Welch, Of Counsel

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Ms. Welch has extensive experience in toxic tort and environmental litigation, including representation of companies in the oil and chemical, utility and mining industries. These matters have involved a range of legal theories including public and private nuisance, negligence, strict liability and multi-party CERCLA cost recovery. She has handled matters involving alleged air, water and soil contamination.

Ms. Welch has been involved in multiple toxic tort cases brought by thousands of individual plaintiffs, where, among other things, she has formulated strategies, prepared settlement and negotiation materials, and overseen motions practice. In addition to extensive work coordinating the offensive discovery of these complex cases, she has experience with the medical causation aspects of toxic tort cases. For example, she has worked with toxicologists, neurologists and other medical experts to prepare for medical examinations of plaintiffs and trial testimony. Her work has included cases brought by both U.S. and foreign citizens.

Ms. Welch also has experience in other areas of business litigation, including contract disputes, products liability, insurance coverage and employment.

Prior to joining Abelson | Herron, Ms. Welch was a litigation partner with Latham & Watkins LLP (Los Angeles, CA) from 1990-2010. She also served as a judicial clerk to the Honorable W. Eugene Davis of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Ms. Welch is a member of the California State Bar. She is admitted to practice in all California courts and the United States District Courts for the Central and Eastern Districts of California. She is a member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association.

Highlights of Ms. Welch’s Experience Include:

- Representing a public utility in toxic tort matters brought by approximately 4,000 individuals alleging chromium exposure. The matters received significant media attention, including being the subject of a major motion picture. The matters settled on favorable terms before trial.

- Representing a mining company in a toxic tort matter brought in Colorado by Peruvian citizens alleging exposure to mercury, which work included conducting and coordinating discovery in Peru. The case was resolved after a successful arbitration.
- Representing a mining company in a CERCLA cost-recovery matter involving a closed mine site. The matter settled favorably on the eve of trial.
- Representing private employers in sexual harassment litigation, including a high-profile case involving a celebrity co-defendant. The cases settled favorably before trial.

Education

University of Chicago Law School, J.D. with Honors, 1989

Research and Symposium Editor, *University of Chicago Legal Form*

Butler University, B.S. *Summa Cum Laude* with Highest Honors in Economics
and Business Administration, 1986

Professional Activities

Member, California Bar

Member, Los Angeles County Bar Association