



Darth Vaughn, Partner
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About Darth:

Darth represents corporations and individuals in a wide-range of tort-based litigation and he has successfully defended clients in both local and national State and Federal Courts, including the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Darth has extensive experience representing manufacturers and suppliers of various consumer and industrial products in local and national products liability, personal injury, and commercial litigation claims.

Darth has represented and defended automotive manufacturers and dealers in product liability, asbestos, and consumer warranty litigation. Darth has also defended employment and business matters for employers against a broad range of labor and employee disputes.

Areas of practice also include toxic tort, medical malpractice, elder abuse, premises liability, land use, unlawful detainer, and breach of lease actions.

Darth's background also includes experience as a business technology consultant with Accenture. He utilizes his substantial technical knowledge and expertise to partner with clients in developing and implementing processes to maximize strategic work flow and case management solutions that enhance economy in pursuing and achieving project completion and matter resolution.

Areas of Practice:

Commercial Litigation/Products Liability/Personal Injury/
Toxic Tort/Warranty/Employment Litigation

Education:

In 2005, Darth earned dual degrees from the University of Southern California, obtaining a Master of Real Estate Development from USC's School of Policy, Planning, and Development, and a J.D. from USC's Gould School of Law where he was a semifinalist in the Hale Moot Court Honors Program and won the Award for Best Brief. Darth also served as a board member and national team participant for the Hale Moot Court Honors Program.

Darth pursued his undergraduate and graduate degrees at Cornell University, where he played basketball and was a champion high-jumper on the track team. Darth earned both his Bachelor of Science and Master in Regional Planning degrees from Cornell University's School of Architecture, Art, and Planning in 1997 and 1998 respectively, graduating with honors. Darth also conducted urban planning research at Johns Hopkins University, and for the Mellon & Ford Foundation at the University of California, Berkeley.

- 2005 J.D., University of Southern California Gould School of Law
- 2005 M.R.E.D., University of Southern California
- 1998 M.R.P., Sage Fellow, Cornell University
- 1997 B.S., Urban and Regional Studies, with honors, Cornell University

Admissions:

- California
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Awards:

In 2017, Darth was selected for the "Fastcase 50 Award," honoring the law's smartest, most courageous innovators, techies, visionaries, and leaders. Darth was selected as a Super Lawyers Rising Star in 2015, 2016, and 2017. Darth was awarded the National Bar Association's Ronda F. Williams Emerging Leader Award in 2014, Presidential Award for Exemplary Service to the Association in 2013, and Shook, Hardy & Bacon's Harvey L. Kaplan Rainmaker Award in 2012.

As an undergraduate, Darth was a member of the honors program, and was awarded the Architecture, Art and Planning Commencement Undergraduate Community Service Award. Darth was also awarded the Sage Fellowship for his graduate studies at Cornell University.