

Robert K. Dixon is an experienced trial attorney who specializes in defending high profile corporate clients in product liability, personal injury, and consumer litigation in state and federal courts throughout California. He represents clients from a variety of industries, including automotive, pharmaceutical, construction, and retail. Mr. Dixon has been repeatedly recognized as a “Rising Star” in the area of “Personal Injury Products: Defense” by Super Lawyers® for 2015 – 2021, an honor reserved for those lawyers who exhibit excellence in practice.

In addition, the cases he litigates run the spectrum from single-plaintiff/defendant cases to multiple-party complex matters. He is experienced in managing matters from inception through trial as well as navigating matters through the arbitration process. He is a former in-house counsel where he was tasked with, among other things, managing hundreds of toxic tort cases concurrently. His corporate-counsel experience provides him with unique insights that are critical for ensuring that litigation and corporate objectives are always aligned. Throughout the years he has achieved successful results for his clients both in the courtroom and through the negotiation of favorable resolutions.

He devotes a considerable amount of his practice to representing automotive companies in state and federal courts throughout California. His experience includes defending automotive clients in cases involving fraud-based claims; warranty claims under the Commercial Code, California’s Song-Beverly Consumer Warranty Act and Magnuson-Moss Warranty Act; and claims under California’s Consumer Legal Remedies Act and Unfair Competition Law.

In addition, he regularly represents manufacturers, distributors, and retailers in product liability and wrongful death actions. In particular, he has defended the design, manufacture, performance, and warnings of a diverse array of products made by some of the world’s largest manufacturers. These products include automobiles, construction equipment, power tools, automotive component parts, and engines.

In addition to his trial practice, Mr. Dixon is actively involved in the American Bar Association as well as NAMWOLF. Mr. Dixon was named “Top 40 Under 40” by SD Metro Magazine in 2019. He was also honored by the National Black Lawyers, as one of the country’s “Top 40 Under 40” in 2015.

Representative Matters / Experience

- First-chaired a bench trial (and obtained a defense verdict) for a national retailer.
- Obtained summary judgment for an automotive company on 10 of the plaintiff’s 12 causes of actions, effectively gutting the plaintiff’s lawsuit.
- First-chaired two 3-day arbitration hearing for an automotive company.
- Obtained a dismissal via a motion for judgment on the pleadings on the basis that the plaintiff lacked capacity to maintain the action because it was a suspended entity.
- Obtained summary judgment for an automotive manufacturer in a product liability action on the basis that there was (1) no evidence that the subject vehicle was defective and (2) no evidence that the alleged defects caused the plaintiff’s injuries.

- Obtained summary judgment for a fitness company in a premises liability action on the basis that the plaintiff's claims were barred by the release she signed and the primary assumption of the risk doctrine.
- Obtained summary judgment for an automotive manufacturer in an action involving fraud-based and federal breach of warranty claims on the basis that the plaintiff's claims were barred by a prior class action settlement. The plaintiff's claims were barred because he was a member of the class and he failed to properly exclude himself from the class action. The Court of Appeal affirmed the lower court's decision—[*Dagher v. Ford Motor Co.*, 2018 BL 307751, Cal. Ct. App., 4th Dist., No. D072436, \(2018\) \(unpublished\)](#). As part of this victory, the costs for the summary judgment motion were also successfully collected from the plaintiff's counsel.
- Represented a home security company in several TCPA class actions; successfully moved the U.S. Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation to centralize these class actions in one state, which allowed the client to avoid defending several TCPA claims on multiple fronts and in a myriad of different courts.
- Obtained summary judgment for an automotive manufacturer in a breach of warranty action on the basis that the plaintiff lacked standing to bring a Song-Beverly claim, given that the vehicle was purchased in a private sale. The primary bases for the motion was affirmed in a published appellate decision—[*Dagher v. Ford Motor Co.*, 238 Cal. App. 4th 905 \(2015\)](#).
- Successfully defended an oil and natural resources company in a premises liability action; obtained dismissal for mutual waiver of costs without any motion practice.
- Defended an automotive company in an action involving Consumer Legal Remedies Act ("CLRA") claims and other claims; obtained dismissal of the CLRA claim with a demurrer.
- Represented an automotive manufacturer in an action involving unfair competition, breach of warranty, and other fraud-based claims; obtained dismissal with a motion for summary judgment.
- Successfully defended a national retailer in a product liability case; used motion for summary judgment to leverage a dismissal for mutual waiver of costs.
- Represented a drug manufacturer in a wrongful death case; obtained dismissal with a motion for summary judgment.
- Provided cost-effective management of product liability portfolio for national retailer.
- Successfully defended national retailer in a personal injury action alleging products liability and misrepresentation causes of action.
- Represented a drug manufacturer in a false labeling action; worked hand-in-hand with the claims administrator to ensure that the class action claims were administered properly and under budget.

Speaking Engagements

- Panelist, “‘Dude, Where’s My Car?’ – The Emergence of Autonomous Vehicle Technologies,” The NBA Commercial Law Section (February 2020)
- Panelist, “Becoming Certified as a Minority or Women Owned Law Firm,” Earl B. Gilliam Bar Association (July 2019)
- Moderator, “Hot Trends in Products Liability: Cybersecurity, Autonomous Vehicles, and Beyond,” NAMWOLF Annual Business Meeting (February 2018)
- Moderator, “[The Gavel Gap: Diversity on the Federal Bench and Its Implications](#),” American Bar Association Section of Litigation (December 2016)
- Panelist, “Product Liability Risks in a Connected World—Ready or Not Here They Come,” NAMWOLF Annual Meeting (September 2016)

Publications

- “[Nine Divine Tips for Trial Attorneys](#),” American Bar Association Section of Litigation (August 2018)
- “[UC Irvine Law Names Woman of Color as Its New Dean](#),” American Bar Association Section of Litigation (February 2018)
- “[A Former Trial Attorney Shares Her Insights as an Outside Counsel Turned Company Executive](#),” American Bar Association Section of Litigation (February 2018)
- “[What’s Proportionality Got to Do with It? An Update on the Revised Federal Discovery Rules](#),” American Bar Association Section of Litigation (May 2017)
- “[Six Stark Predictions about Diversity and Inclusion for 2020 and Beyond](#),” American Bar Association Section of Litigation (August 2016)
- “[Q&A with Tucker Ellis Attorney Amanda Villalobos](#),” American Bar Association Section of Litigation (August 2016)
- “[The Millennial Perspective on the Current State of the Practice of Law](#),” American Bar Association Section of Litigation (June 2016)
- “[Q&A with In-House Counsel Robert Harrison of ADT](#),” American Bar Association Section of Litigation (April 2016)
- “[Nine Tips for Building a Diverse and Inclusive Law Firm](#),” American Bar Association Section of Litigation (January 2016)
- “[Q&A with ABA President Paulette Brown](#),” American Bar Association Section of Litigation (January 2016)

- [“Tips for Building a Book of Business,”](#) NAMWOLF (December 2015)

Accomplishments

- Super Lawyers Rising Star by San Diego Super Lawyers (2015 – 2021)
- Top 40 Under 40 by San Diego Metro (2019)
- Co-Chair, ABA Section of Litigation’s Diversity & Inclusion Committee (2018 – 2019)
- Leadership Fellowship, ABA appointment to the Diverse Leaders Academy (2015 – 2017)
- Top 40 Under 40 by The National Black Lawyers (2015)

Education

J.D., University of Southern California Law School, 2008

B.A., Loyola Marymount University, 2005 (*magna cum laude*)

Admissions

California

Southern District of California

Central District of California

Eastern District of California

Northern District of California