

Partner

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Practice Areas

- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Securities Law & Corporate Governance

Education

- University of Southern California Law School (J.D., 1973), Order of the Coif; Executive Editor of the *Southern California Law Review*
- Brandeis University (B.A., 1969)



Joan L. Lesser

Joan Lesser has a broad-based background. She has represented clients in corporate matters, including financings, governance issues, mergers and acquisitions and restructuring transactions, as well as in real estate and real estate finance matters.

Ms. Lesser has handled real estate, real estate finance and corporate transactions for many of our major real estate and finance clients, including Cadillac Fairview Corporation, Ponderosa Homes, Bank of Montreal and Sanwa Bank.

More recently, Ms. Lesser has specialized in corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions and financings, as well as corporate securities, corporate governance and general business matters. She is an outside corporate counsel for a number of private companies and has represented investors as a board member and observer in early stage companies. Recent matters include an out-of-court restructuring of debt and equity of a public company and its principal subsidiary; representing outside boards of directors in a special investigation regarding compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and related matters; representing the owner of the country's largest independently-owned Spanish television station to an affiliate of Telemundo Corporation; the sale of a privately-owned equipment manufacturer to Wisconsin Energy Corporation; and numerous financings of private companies, including businesses in the cable, media, healthcare, bio-sciences and telecommunications industries.

Ms. Lesser has spoken at seminars on a variety of corporate and real estate matters. In 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 and again in 2011, Ms. Lesser was selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America* for the specialty area of mergers & acquisitions law. In 2006, Ms. Lesser was named to the Southern California "Super Lawyers" list by *Los Angeles Magazine*.

Joan L. Lesser (continued)

Professional Activities

- Ms. Lesser has served on the Board of Trustees of Windward School and has also served as president and a board member of the Organization of Women Executives. Ms. Lesser currently serves on the Board of Directors of UCLA Live's Design for Sharing.

Bar & Court Admissions

- 1973, California