



## Alana H. Rotter

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GMSR partner Alana Rotter is a go-to lawyer for appeals and writ petitions in many fields. Clients and trial lawyers seek her out for her clear writing, thorough research, and efficiency. Alana respects client relationships, and is adept at working hand-in-hand with trial lawyers. Her substantive experience includes trusts and probate, profit participation and other contract disputes, employment claims, and issues facing public entities.

Alana helps clients—both plaintiffs and defendants—defend victories and reverse adverse rulings in the California appellate courts and the Ninth Circuit. She excels at developing new legal arguments, drafting incisive briefs and writ petitions that resonate with appellate judges, and honing drafts prepared by trial counsel. Clients also hire Alana to provide guidance in the trial court, where she assists with dispositive motions and issue preservation. Such early interventions by a leading appellate lawyer can be critical to appellate success.

Alana is a State Bar-certified appellate specialist, and **Chambers USA ranks her among the top appellate litigators in California**. She has an insider perspective on the appellate system, having clerked for Judge Kermit Lipez of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. She received her law degree from Yale Law School, where she was an editor of the Yale Law Journal.



## Education

J.D., Yale Law School (2004). Yale Law Journal (Editor), Yale Law and Policy Review (Notes Editor).

B.A., University of California at Berkeley (2000). Phi Beta Kappa.

## Honors

Chambers USA ranks Alana among the top appellate litigators in California (Band 4)

Southern California Super Lawyers, Appellate (2018 – Present)

- Top 100: Southern California Super Lawyers (2023, 2024)
- Top 50: Women Southern California Super Lawyers (2023, 2024)

Named in *The Best Lawyers in America*® (Appellate Law, Litigation – Trusts and Estates) (2018 – Present)

Public Counsel Appellate Law Program pro bono award (2013)

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## Bar Admissions

California

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. Court of Appeals: First and Ninth Circuits

U.S. District Courts: Central District of California, District of Columbia

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## Speaking and Involvement

**Laying The Foundation For Appellate Success: Tips for Litigators, Riverside County Bar Association Civil Litigation Section**

2023

**Municipal Tort and Civil Rights Litigation Update – League of California Cities; City Attorneys Spring Conference**

2023

**Getting It Right: Best Practices in Responding to Government Claims – League of California Cities; Annual Conference and Expo**

2022

**Laying the Foundation for Appellate Success: Tips and Trust and Probate Litigators – Ventura County Bar Association**

2022

**Laying the Foundations for Appellate Success – Tips for T&E Litigators, Beverly Hills Bar Association Trusts and Estates Committee**

2022

**Anti-SLAPP Motions in Probate Litigation, LACBA Trusts and Estates Symposium**

2021

**No-Contest Clauses and the Anti-SLAPP Statute: Traps for the Unwary, University of Southern California Trusts & Estates Conference**

2020

**How To Make Your Appeal More Appealing, Beverly Hills Bar Association**

2019

**Appeal Killers, San Mateo County Counsel**

2019

**The Appeal Killers – Avoiding Reptile Tactics And Other Traps That Can Doom Your Appeal Before It Begins, County Counsels' Association Civil Law & Litigation Conference**

2019

**Persuasive Legal Writing, Glancy Prongay & Murray LLP**

2018

**The Appeal Killers – Avoiding The Traps That Can Doom Your Appeal Before It Begins, International Municipal Lawyers Association's 83rd Annual Conference**

2018

**Stop the Appeal: Strategies and Practices for Seeking and Opposing Dismissal of Appeals, Kendall Brill Kelly**

2016

**How to Use Amicus Support Effectively, Beverly Hills Bar Association**

2014

**What Trial Lawyers Need To Know About Appeals, Beverly Hills Bar Association**

2012

**What Trial Lawyers Need To Know About Appeals, Federal Bar Association, Northern District of California chapter**

2012

**Volunteer Instructor, Constitutional Rights Foundation (Appellate Court Experience)**

2011

## **Professional Associations**

**California Academy of Appellate Lawyers (2017 - Present)**

**Los Angeles County Bar Association: State Appellate Judicial Evaluation Committee: Chair (2019 - present); Member (2012 - 2018)**

**USC Trusts and Estates Conference Planning Committee**

**International Municipal Lawyers Association**

**Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles: Amicus Briefs Subcommittee**

**Beth Am Lawyers: Founder/Coordinator**

**California Supreme Court Historical Society, Boardmember (2018 - 2021)**

**Beverly Hills Bar Association: Amicus Committee Co-Chair (2011 - 2016)**

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## High Impact Wins

**JPV I, L.P. v. Koetting (2023) 304 Cal.App.5th 550**

Feb 07, 2023

**Dhital v. Nissan North America, Inc. (2022) 84 Cal.App.5th 828**

Oct 25, 2022

**Foxcroft Productions, Inc. v. Universal City Studios, LLC (2022) 76 Cal.App.5th 1119**

Apr 26, 2022

**Ferra v. Gilmore (Aug. 20, 2021, B303592) 2021 WL 3700420**

Aug 20, 2021

**Law Finance Group, LLC v. Key (2021) 67 Cal.App.5th 307**

Jul 30, 2021

**Quincy Jones v. MJJ Productions, Inc. (May 5, 2020, B285986) 2020 WL 2140759 [nonpublished opinion]**

May 05, 2020

**Estate of Jackson (May 16, 2019, B282375) 2019 WL 2136114**

May 20, 2019

**Pacific Western Bank v. Far Out Productions, Inc. v. Audio Visual Entertainment, Inc. (Dec. 31, 2018, B278076, B278122) 2018 WL 6839451**

Jan 10, 2019

**Wind Dancer Production Group v. Walt Disney Pictures (2017) 10 Cal.App.5th 56**

Mar 27, 2017

**Breeden v. Superior Court (Oct. 10, 2014, E061553) 2014 WL 5090571 [nonpublished opinion]**

Oct 10, 2014

**Celador Internat., Inc. v. American Broadcasting Cos., Inc. (9th Cir. 2012) 499 Fed.Appx. 721**

Dec 03, 2012

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## **Publications**

**Is Your Anti-SLAPP Ruling Appealable? An Overview of California and Ninth Circuit Rules**

Oct 12, 2022

**GMSR's Alana Rotter Authors Article On Appellate Stays**

Sep 22, 2021

**Counting the minutes... Calculating the deadline for requesting a statement of decision, Daily Journal (June 10, 2019)**

Jun 11, 2019

**GMSR's Alana Rotter reviews what juror affidavits can—and cannot—establish for post-trial motions**

Apr 02, 2019

**GMSR's Alana Rotter reviews what litigators can do at trial to strengthen an appeal in IMLA Municipal Lawyer**

Mar 02, 2019

**GMSR's Alana Rotter reviews the standards for getting writ relief in California and federal courts in the ABTL Report**

Feb 26, 2019

**Alana Rotter reviews the appellate benefits of obtaining a statement of decision after a bench trial, and the process for obtaining one.**

Jan 25, 2019

**When is your notice of appeal due? Alana Rotter explains a new U.S. Supreme Court decision on extensions for filing appeals in federal court.**

Nov 13, 2017

**Anti-SLAPP motions in probate? Alana Rotter explains a new decision applying the anti-SLAPP statute to petitions to enforce a no-contest clause.**

Oct 26, 2017

**Alana Rotter and Cindy Tobisman warn what lawyers should avoid when voluntarily dismissing claims to hasten appellate review**

Jun 13, 2017

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**Alana Rotter offers tips on what defense lawyers need to know about anti-SLAPP appeals**

Jun 05, 2017

**Tips: Critical New Trial Motion Deadlines, Daily Journal (February 27, 2017)**

Feb 27, 2017

**Discovery Sanctions Appeals Can Be Tricky Business, Los Angeles Daily Journal (November 30, 2016)**

Nov 30, 2016

**No Reporter's Transcript? Here's What It Means For Your Appeal, Verdict Magazine (Vol. 2, 2016)**

Oct 06, 2016

**Timing Is Everything In Court, Los Angeles Daily Journal (January 13, 2016)**

Jan 13, 2016

**One Bite of the Apple, Los Angeles Daily Journal (July 27, 2015)**

Jul 27, 2015

**Lessons from appeals of nonappealable 'judgments', Los Angeles Daily Journal (March 25, 2015)**  
Mar 25, 2015

**Which Orders Regarding Arbitration Are Appealable?, Los Angeles Daily Journal (January 5, 2015)**  
Jan 05, 2015

**Maximize the Impact of Amicus Support, Los Angeles Daily Journal (September 11, 2014)**  
Sep 11, 2014

**Ruling Provides Guidance on Notice of Appeal, Los Angeles Daily Journal (April 18, 2014)**  
Apr 18, 2014

**Protecting Attorney Disqualification Orders from Reversal, Verdict Magazine (Volume 3, 2013)**  
Dec 31, 2013

**Creating an Appealable Judgment, Los Angeles Daily Journal (December 12, 2013)**  
Dec 12, 2013

**Appeals, Writs and Summary Judgment, Los Angeles Daily Journal (October 22, 2013)**  
Oct 22, 2013

**How Appellate Courts Review Attorney Disqualifications, Los Angeles Daily Journal (July 9, 2013)**  
Jul 09, 2013

**Case Highlights Importance of Timely Post-trial Motions, Los Angeles Daily Journal (June 11, 2013)**  
Jun 11, 2013

**9th Circuit Judges Call for an End to Anti-SLAPP in Federal Court, Los Angeles Daily Journal (May 9, 2013)**  
May 09, 2013

**Circuit Clarifies Anti-SLAPP Appeal Rules, Los Angeles Daily Journal (February 6, 2013)**  
Feb 06, 2013

**2nd Guessing Good Faith Settlement Determinations, Law 360 (June 2012)**  
Jun 21, 2012

**Getting Appellate Review of a Good Faith Settlement Determination, Verdict Magazine (Volume 3, 2012)**  
Jan 01, 2012

**Power to disagree: The authority of lower courts in new trial motions, Los Angeles Daily Journal (September 13, 2011)**  
Sep 03, 2011

**Appealability of Anti-SLAPP Orders in California and the 9th Circuit, Los Angeles Daily Journal (February 15, 2011)**  
Feb 15, 2011

**Have You Filed Your Appeal on Time?, Los Angeles Daily Journal (January 9, 2011)**  
Jan 09, 2011

**Circuit Split on Free Speech and Drug Prescription Data, Los Angeles Daily Journal (December 17, 2010)**  
Dec 17, 2010

**Tipping the Scales, Los Angeles Daily Journal (July 28, 2009)**  
Jul 28, 2009

**A Melting Pot of Rulings, Los Angeles Daily Journal (January 29, 2009)**  
Jan 29, 2009

**Proceed with Caution: Pitfalls in Preparing Jury Instructions, “Appellate Tips for Trial Lawyers” (a newsletter of the Los Angeles County Bar Association), Vol. 1, No. 9 (September 2008)**

Sep 12, 2008

**What a Relief? Los Angeles Daily Journal (May 12, 2008)**

May 12, 2008

**Trial: Technology in the Courtroom, “Appellate Tips for Trial Lawyers” (a newsletter of the Los Angeles County Bar Association), Vol. 1, No. 5 (April 2008)**

Apr 01, 2008

**Playbook Disqualification, L.A. Daily Journal (Aug. 6, 2007).**

Aug 06, 2007

**Appellate Law: Getting to the Substance (co-author), Los Angeles Daily Journal (November 9, 2006)**

Nov 09, 2006

**10th Circuit at Center of Splits on Anti-Discrimination Laws (co-author), Los Angeles Daily Journal (September 8, 2006)**

Sep 08, 2006

**3rd Circuit Splits From Other Courts on Fair Opportunity Doctrine (co-author), Los Angeles Daily Journal (July 24, 2006)**

Jul 24, 2006

**Circuit Splits Affect Conflicts of Authority (co-author), Los Angeles Daily Journal (June 14, 2006)**

Jun 14, 2006

**Splits Involve Issues Affecting Business, Government, Workers (co-author), Los Angeles Daily Journal (May 18, 2006)**

May 18, 2006

**When Private Enterprise Hits Public Agencies, Splits Arise (co-author), Los Angeles Daily Journal (April 13, 2006)**

Apr 13, 2006