

# RENÉE WELZE LIVINGSTON

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## CURRICULUM VITAE

A-V (5.0) rated civil trial attorney by Martindale-Hubbell. Northern California SuperLawyer 2011 and 2012. Listed in *Best's* Directory of Recommended Insurance Attorneys and Adjusters. On Board of Directors for the National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms. Tried numerous cases to verdict before juries in State and Federal court. Particular expertise in product liability, wrongful death and catastrophic injury, trucking and commercial transportation, fire and casualty, intentional torts including sexual assault and molestation, premises liability, and insurance coverage.

## EMPLOYMENT

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SHAREHOLDER

AUGUST 2000-PRESENT

*Livingston Law Firm*

Walnut Creek, California

*A Professional Corporation*

PARTNER

*Livingston Tate LLP*

General civil litigation practice with emphasis on representation of corporate and individual clients in complex personal injury and wrongful death matters. Served as regional counsel for national beverage bottling and distributing company, and currently serves as California counsel for national wholesale distributor of grocery and food service industry products and equipment.

PARTNER

JANUARY 1992-AUGUST 2000

ASSOCIATE

SEPTEMBER 1986-DECEMBER 1991

*Bledsoe, Cathcart, Diestel, Livingston & Pedersen LLP*

San Francisco, California

General partner in defense trial practice and litigation firm.

## PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

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Defense Research Institute (DRI), Insurance Law, Product Liability, Trucking Law, Diversity and Women in the Law Committees; American Bar Association, Tort Trial and Insurance Practice and Litigation Sections; Queen's Bench; Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California and Nevada; San Francisco and Contra Costa County Bar Associations; National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL); National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms (NAMWOLF).

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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Arbitrator and Settlement Mentor, San Francisco and Contra Costa County Superior Courts; Mentor, U.S.F. Women Lawyers Committee; Officer and Director, UCSB Alumni Association Board of Directors, 1991-1997; Member, UCSB Bay Area Leadership Forum, 1998-2006; Member,

UCSB Northern California Campaign Committee, 2004-present; Director, National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms, 2004-present; Chair, NAMWOLF Annual Meeting, 2006.

## PUBLICATIONS

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*Overcoming the Challenges of Starting and Growing a Woman-Owned Law Firm*, ADC Defense Comment, Vol. 19, No. 2/Summer 2004; *Contra Costa Lawyer*, October 2003

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

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Defense Research Institute, Faculty:

Trucking Law Seminar, Road Warriors 2012 – Reshaping Trucking Litigation, *Defending the Driver's History: When the Focus Is on the Driver and Not the Accident* (January 2012)

National Association of Minority and Women Owned Law Firms:

Moderator, *Tips, Trick and Marketing Tools for Your Next Annual Meeting*, Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA (October 2012)

Moderator, *Trial Strategies: Demystifying the Corporate Client*, Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (October 2009)

Featured Panelist, *Law Firm Membership and Corporate/Public Entity Partnership*, Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL (October 2005)

American Conference Institute, Faculty:

3<sup>rd</sup> *National Forum on Defending and Managing Trucking Litigation: Preparing and Presenting Company Representatives and Truck Drivers for Depositions: How to Ensure that Testimony Does Not Inadvertently Sink Your Case* (November 2012 Atlanta)

2<sup>nd</sup> *National Forum on Defending and Managing Trucking Litigation: Valuing a Claim, Determining Damage Reserves and Defending Against Plaintiffs' Damages Claims, Including Punitive Damages* (December 2011 Orlando)

*National Forum on Defending and Managing Trucking Litigation: Accident Reconstruction and the Use of Biomechanical and Human Factors Experts* (March 2011 Chicago)

*Workshop on Trucking Litigation: Litigation of a Catastrophic Trucking Suit from Start to Finish* (March 2011 Chicago)

Contra Costa County Bar Association:

Featured Panelist, 17<sup>th</sup> Annual MCLE Spectacular, *Navigating Gender Bias: Empowering Women to Overcome Barriers Above and Below the Glass Ceiling on the Road to Success* (November 2011)

National Business Institute, Faculty:

*Tips for Handling the Personal Injury Case* (September 2008)

*Trying the Wrongful Death Case in California: Strategies in Preparation and Valuation* (January 2003)

Featured Panelist, California Continuing Education of the Bar:

*Preparing and Examining Expert Witnesses: Reports, Depositions and Cross-Examination* (May 2009)

*Maximizing the Use of Experts* (May 2006)

*Preparing & Examining Expert Witnesses* (August 2004)

*Getting the Most Out of Your Expert Witnesses* (August 2003)

*Preparing a Case for Trial: The Last 100 Days before Trial* (February 2001)

*Preparing for and Conducting Expert Witness Depositions* (November 2000)

Featured Panelist, Women in the Profession Roundtable, Cal Law/The Recorder Roundtable Series (November 2006 and October 2008)

Guest Lecturer on Civil Procedure and Evidence, Hastings College of Law; Guest Lecturer on California Litigation: Practices and Procedures, Premises Liability, Insurance Claims Handling, Discovery Procedures, Wrongful Eviction Under the San Francisco Rent Ordinance, Insurance Coverage and Bad Faith, for PMA Insurance Group, State Farm Insurance Companies and The Farmers Insurance Group of Companies

## PUBLISHED DECISIONS

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*Becker v. State Farm Fire and Casualty Co.* (N.D. Cal. 1987) 664 F.Supp. 460

*Bakanauskas v. Urdan* (1988) 206 Cal.App.3d 621

*Calvillo-Silva v. Home Grocery* (1998) 19 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 714

*Jankey v. Lee* (2010) 181 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 1173 (pet. for rev. granted)

## EDUCATION

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JURIS DOCTOR, HONORS

*University of San Francisco School of Law*

Admitted to California Bar, December 1986

MAY 1986

*San Francisco, California*

Admitted to United States District Court

Northern District of California, December 1986

Eastern District of California, December 1998

Central District of California, September 2005

Southern District of California, March 2008

Admitted to United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, December 1986

BACHELOR OF ARTS, LIBERAL STUDIES, HIGH HONORS

*University of California, Santa Barbara*

JUNE 1982

*Santa Barbara, California*

## PERSONAL

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East Bay native. San Leandro High School, Class of 1978. Married, three teenagers. Enjoys antique shopping in Brimfield, wine-tasting in central California, the beaches on Kauai and traveling anywhere. Walked 60 miles in San Diego in 2007 and raised \$6,000 for the Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk Benefitting Susan G. Komen for the Cure.