



**Reginald A. (Reg) Vitek, Shareholder**

vitek@scmv.com | P: 619.685.3075 | F: 619.702.6804

- Litigation
- Professional Liability Defense
- Estates & Trusts Litigation

Mr. Vitek practices in the area of complex business litigation. He also has considerable experience in defense of professional liability claims against lawyers and is certified by the State Bar of California as a Legal Malpractice specialist.

**Education**

Mr. Vitek received his B.A. from San Diego State College in 1964. He earned his law degree from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1967.

**Representative Matters**

- Represented several former officers and directors of failed banks in defense of litigation prosecuted by the FDIC and RTC
- Represented several banks and financial institutions in defense of lender liability cases
- Represented several law firms and individual attorneys, through trial, in defense of professional malpractice claims
- Represented several Japanese-owned entities in resolution of problem investments in California and Arizona properties—including the obtaining of a defense jury verdict in favor of two Japanese-owned corporations against a \$30 million claim of fraud and breach of contract
- Represented several companies in cases involving claims of trade secret misappropriation
- Represented many Superior Court judges in proceedings before the Commission on Judicial Performance
- Represented San Diego City Employees' Retirement System ("SDCERS") in a multitude of civil lawsuits and governmental investigations arising out of San Diego's pension under-funding crisis
- Represented military defense contractors in diverse civil lawsuits involving claims such as trade secret misappropriation, defects in military combat aircraft and bribery in the military procurement process
- Served as lead counsel for a national professional organization in defense of an anti-trust suit involving the right of a professional medical specialty society to regulate advertising and promotion by its members
- Represented a national bank in the prosecution and trial of a civil RICO claim in U.S. District Court arising out of judicial corruption in another court system

- In one of the longest civil jury trials in San Diego history (six months), successfully defended a major aircraft manufacturer against charges that the ventilation system in hundreds of commercial airliners was defectively designed so as to permit the accumulation of toxic gases in the cockpit
- Served as lead trial counsel for a group of plaintiffs in a Warsaw Convention case tried in U.S. District Court in New York arising out of the terrorist hijacking of Pan American Flight 73 in Karachi, Pakistan

### **Professional Affiliations & Admissions**

- Admitted in several U.S. District Courts throughout the country
- U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
- U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Tax Court
- American Bar Association
- State Bar of California
- Certified Specialist-Legal Malpractice, State Bar of California, Board of Legal Specialization
- San Diego County Bar Association
- Federal Bar Association
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America
- Association of Business Trial Lawyers, San Diego Chapter (Founding Member of the Board of Governors)
- ABA Committee on Commercial Litigation, Litigation Section (Former Co-Chair)
- American Inns of Court, Louis M. Welsh San Diego Chapter (Master, Member of Executive Board)
- Founding member of California State Bar Legal Malpractice Advisory Commission

### **Publications & Speaking Engagements**

- Panel member on California Continuing Education seminar on “Suits Against Business Entities”
- Panel member on ABA/PLI seminar on “Competence in the Law Firm”
- Panel member on Professional Liability Underwriting Society seminar on professional liability
- Lecturer for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy
- Participant in several ABTL trial demonstrations
- Panel member in several ABA National Legal Malpractice Conferences

### **Professional Awards & Honors**

- Fellow, American College of Trial Lawyers (Fellowship in the College is by invitation only and limited to the top one percent of the total lawyer population of any state or province.)
- Listed, since 1995, in *The Best Lawyers in America* specializing in Bet-the-Company Litigation and Commercial Litigation
- Listed in *Super Lawyers* since 2007, including as one of San Diego's top 50 lawyers (2008-2016, 2019) and as one of San Diego's top 10 attorneys (2009-2010)