

## Mitchell J. Popham

Partner

Los Angeles

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Mitch is a seasoned trial attorney with extensive national experience. He has led multibillion-dollar cases in complex business litigation, event cancellation, class action defense, and high-stakes insurance and product liability disputes.

### OVERVIEW

Mitch represents large corporations and insurers to smaller businesses and individuals in high-stakes cases across various jurisdictions in both state and federal courts. His practice areas include complex business litigation, event cancellation and nonappearance, unfair business practices and competition, class action defense, aviation, insurance coverage and bad faith, commercial disputes, product liability, marine and admiralty, transportation, energy, and toxic torts.

Mitch has served as lead counsel in significant cases, such as a \$100 million aviation product liability matter that reached the California Supreme Court and major wildfire cases with claims up to \$2 billion.

### REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Lead counsel on numerous high-profile event cancellation and non-appearance matters on behalf of insurers.
- Lead counsel on a significant aviation products liability insurance coverage and bad-faith matter with potential exposure in the amount of approximately \$100 million that reached the California Supreme Court.
- Lead counsel for insurers in major California and Oregon wildfire cases involving claims ranging from \$20 million to \$2 billion.
- Lead counsel on a \$5.3 billion fraudulent concealment toxic tort case brought by 83 plaintiffs against a major film lab and related companies.
- Lead counsel on a multimillion-dollar tuna vessel claim and related bad-faith action.
- Lead counsel on a \$20 million product liability case involving an alleged defective autopilot system.
- Lead counsel in a highly publicized products liability action brought by an NBA team and player against a foreign manufacturer of exercise equipment.
- Lead counsel on a significant subrogation action on behalf of insurers due to an anchor strike.
- Lead counsel in a highly publicized complex business litigation matter involving purported regulatory violations and claims against the client exceeding \$100 million.

- Lead counsel in numerous high-exposure, complex insurance coverage and bad-faith matters involving significant demands for punitive damages.
- Lead counsel on toxic torts cases involving wrongful death and bodily injury claims seeking millions of dollars.
- Lead counsel on a significant property damage product liability claim involving an alleged defective landing gear system on a fixed-wing aircraft.
- Lead counsel on a highly publicized \$5 million claim against a major foreign airline filed by animal rights activists.

## AWARDS

- *Super Lawyers®* Southern California (2015-2016)

## TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Business Litigation
- General Liability
- Insurance + Reinsurance
- Maritime, Shipping + Logistics

## ALL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Bad Faith
- Business Litigation
- Class Action
- Employment Practices Liability
- Environmental Insurance Coverage
- General Liability
- Insurance + Reinsurance
- Litigation + Trial
- Maritime, Shipping + Logistics

## PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Member, Los Angeles County Bar Association
- Member, State Bar of California
- Member, Association of Business Trial Lawyers
- Member, State Bar of California Litigation Section

## EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

### EDUCATION

- Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, J.D., *cum laude*, American Jurisprudence Award; St. Thomas More Law Honor Society
- University of California, Los Angeles, B.A., *magna cum laude*

## **BAR ADMISSIONS**

- California

## **COURT ADMISSIONS**

- U.S. District Court, Southern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

- Speaker, “Loss Payees: a UK and US (California) Perspective,” IUA, January 28, 2025.
- Speaker, “California BI Disputes and the Role of the Insurance Producer,” Locke Lord, July 22, 2020.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

- Co-author, “Business Interruption Insurance Coverage Litigation Arising from Covid-19,” Locke Lord QuickStudy, April 1, 2020.
- Co-author, “First Business Interruption Coverage Case Filed In Louisiana,” Locke Lord, March 19, 2020.
- Co-author, “Insurers and Reinsurers Can Expect COVID-19 Claims as Varied as the Virus Vectors,” Locke Lord, March 17, 2020.