

## Don S. Gottesman - Founding Partner



Mr. Gottesman graduated from the University of California at Berkeley in 1975, receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree in history with high honors. He also studied history at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. Mr. Gottesman received his law degree from Hastings College of the Law, University of California, San Francisco, in 1978, and was admitted to the Order of the Coif. He received the Milton D. Green Award given to the top ten students in his class at Hastings College of the Law.

Mr. Gottesman was a member of the Hastings Law Journal from 1976 to 1977 and a founder and research editor of the Hastings International and Comparative Law Review in 1977 and 1978. He served as an adjunct professor of constitutional law at the Northrop University School of Law in Los Angeles (1981-1982). Mr. Gottesman is also an active member of the Los Angeles County and Beverly Hills Bar Associations.

Mr. Gottesman is an experienced trial attorney who has tried and won cases in diverse legal fields. He has been lead trial counsel in both civil and criminal cases and has won multi-million dollar verdicts for his clients. He has represented clients in major real estate, construction, tax, partnership, antitrust, brokerage, employment, and insurance disputes. He is admitted to practice before all courts of the State of California and the United States District Court, Central District of California. In 1996, after obtaining a \$5 million jury verdict in a fraud case, Mr. Gottesman was profiled by the Los Angeles Daily Journal in an article entitled "Shakespeare Buff Repels Oppressor's Wrongs." In 2007, the San Fernando Valley Business Journal named Mr. Gottesman as one of the "Top 25 Lawyers of the Valley." Mr. Gottesman has been honored by his peers by being designated a Southern California Real Estate "Super Lawyer" in 2009, 2010 and 2011.

Mr. Gottesman is also an experienced appellate counsel. His important appellate victories include published decisions in *David H. Tedder & Assocs. v. United States*, 77 F.3d 1166 (9th Cir. 1996), a tax dispute, *Real Estate Analytics, LLC v. Vallas*, 160 Cal.App.4th 463 (2008), a real estate dispute, and *Aguilera v. Heiman*, 174 Cal.App.4th 590 (2009), a workers' compensation dispute.

Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Gottesman was a partner in the firm of Allen, Matkins, Leck, Gamble & Mallory. He previously had been associated with the firm of Kindel & Anderson.

## **Memberships/ Associations**

### LEGAL

- Los Angeles County Bar Association
- Beverly Hills Bar Association

### CIVIC / COMMUNITY

- Member of Board of Directors, Yes I Can, 2005 – 2012 (a charitable organization dedicated to the prevention and treatment of child abuse and domestic violence)
- California Super Lawyers, 2009 – 2011
- San Fernando Valley Business Journal, “Top 25 Lawyers of the Valley” Honoree