

William A. Bogdan

San Francisco, CA

He/Him

📞 415-263-8127

✉️ wbogdan@hinshawlaw.com



About Bill

Bill's regular caseload is split between employment and construction issues. He brought his East Coast training and Jersey smarts (not an oxymoron) to San Francisco in 1986, and has defended companies and individuals in state and federal court for almost forty years.

As a litigator at heart, Bill thrives on case strategy, strong discovery, and thoughtful resolution of cases for his clients.

The *National Law Journal* named Bill as one of its Litigation Trailblazers in 2023 for his success in the groundbreaking case *Kuciemba v. Victory Woodworks*, where he convinced the California Supreme Court to reject the take-home COVID liability theory against employers. The case addressed whether employers must compensate nonemployees who claim to have been infected by an employee who brought the virus home. After moving through state and federal courts, the California Supreme Court ruled in favor of Bill's client, leading the Ninth Circuit to dismiss the case.

While wins are often highlighted, Bill also values lessons learned from cases that seemed unsuccessful at first glance:

In a high-stakes construction trial, Bill's client received an unfavorable verdict due to a flawed jury instruction issued by the California Judicial Council. Recognizing the defects in the instruction, Bill filed an appeal. However, while that was pending, a similar legal issue arose in a California Supreme Court case. Seizing the opportunity to shape the law, Bill drafted the Associated General Contractors' (AGC) amicus brief, advocating for a correction.

The California Supreme Court ultimately ruled the instruction incorrect, incorporating key arguments from Bill's amicus brief into its decision. This landmark ruling set a precedent benefiting the construction industry, though the Supreme Court declined to revisit his client's verdict. His efforts led to a significant legal clarification, ensuring future cases are decided on a sound legal foundation.

Bill's Affiliations

- Bar Association of San Francisco
- California Associated General Contractors, Legal Advisory Committee
- State Bar Association of California, Labor & Employment Section

Areas of Focus

Industries: Construction

Services: Complex Commercial Litigation ; Complex Tort & General Casualty;
Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation ; Employment Advice & Counseling;
Employment Litigation; Labor & Employment; Litigation & Trial

Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Personal Injury Litigation – Defendants, 2026
- *National Law Journal*, Litigation Trailblazer, 2023
- *The Daily Journal*, Top Defense Verdicts, 2023

Credentials

Education

Boston University School of Law, JD, 1986

Pennsylvania State University, BA, *with honors and distinction*, 1983

Bar Admissions

California

Court Admissions

US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

US District Court for the Central District of California

US District Court for the Eastern District of California

US District Court for the Northern District of California

Interests

Did you know...

Bill's essay about an encounter with Elvis Costello, a pair of undergarments, and a worldwide online audience won a prize in the Amoeba Records Anniversary Contest.

Community/Civic Activities

- Pennsylvania State University, Schreyer Honors College, External Advisory Board

Thought Leadership

Presentations

Bill has lectured at Lloyd's of London, the DRI Employment Law Committee Annual Meeting, the AGC Legal Advisory Committee, and a variety of public and private audiences on employment and construction issues. Most recently, he spoke at the Pentarisk Construction Conference regarding crisis management.

Publications

Bill's employment law articles have appeared in *California Labor and Employment Law Quarterly*, *The Job Description*, and the Defense Research Institute's *For the Defense*.

- [“A Pair Beats Four of a Kind: Take-Home COVID and the ‘Rowland’ Duty Factors,”](#) *The Recorder*, July 12, 2023

Event

- Hinshaw's Labor & Employment Regional Law Updates, Jan 10, 2024

In The News

- William Bogdan's California Supreme Court Win in “Take-Home COVID” Case Lauded by Business Groups and Press Commentators, Jul 13, 2023
- Law360: “Take-Home COVID” Case Handled by Hinshaw One of Nation's Top Personal Injury Cases to Watch, Jul 12, 2022

Insights for Employers Alert

- A Pair Beats Four of a Kind: Take-Home COVID and the ‘Rowland’ Duty Factors, Jul 13, 2023

Press Releases

- 102 Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2026 Editions of *The Best Lawyers in America*® and *Ones to Watch*™, Aug 21, 2025
- Daily Journal Names “Take-Home” COVID Case Handled by William Bogdan One of The Top Defense Verdicts of 2023, Feb 22, 2024
- Hinshaw Partner William Bogdan Selected for National Law Journal 2023 Litigation Trailblazers, Nov 1, 2023
- Appellate Spotlight: Ninth Circuit Reacts to California Supreme Court Ruling, Dismisses “Take-Home COVID” Case, Aug 4, 2023
- “Take-Home COVID” Case Handled by Hinshaw Named by Law360 as one of its Top Five Personal Injury Cases to Watch in 2023, Jan 5, 2023

[View all of Bill's Insights](#)