



Nicholas Ma

Shareholder

Walnut Creek, CA

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Nicholas has significant experience representing clients in disputes involving the purchase and sale of commercial property, easement rights, real estate investment and financing, and commercial leases.

Nicholas Ma is a litigation shareholder in Miller Starr Regalia's Walnut Creek office. Nicholas has significant experience representing clients in a wide range of litigation, including disputes involving the purchase and sale of commercial property, easement rights, real estate investment and financing, and commercial leases. Nicholas represents clients from a variety of backgrounds and industries, including commercial landlords and tenants, real estate developers, lenders, public entities, tech companies, construction companies, and agricultural landowners. He has obtained favorable results for his clients through mediation, settlement, and multiple motions, including dispositive motions.

Before joining Miller Starr Regalia, Nicholas worked at Weintraub Tobin Chediak Coleman Grodin in San Francisco, and prior to that, at a national law firm, Wood Smith Henning & Berman, representing businesses in construction defect, and general liability matters.

Nicholas was born and raised in Walnut Creek, California. Nicholas attended the University of California College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings College of the Law), where he focused on trial and appellate advocacy, securities regulation, and antitrust law. While in law school, he served as the Executive Articles Editor of the Business Law Journal and as a regular competitor on the nationally-ranked Moot Court Team. Nicholas also provided corporate legal services to multiple tech companies in the Bay Area through the Startup Legal Garage. Nicholas received multiple CALI awards at Hastings, including awards for Appellate Advocacy, Trial Advocacy, and Antitrust & Intellectual Property.

Outside of the office, Nicholas enjoys traveling, performing music, and spending time with his family.

Practice Areas

- Arbitration & Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Commercial & Business Litigation
- Appellate Advocacy
- Commercial Lease Disputes

- Land Disputes, Easements & Lien Priority Claims

Education

J.D., University of California College of the Law, San Francisco (2015)

B.A., magna cum laude, University of California, Irvine, Political Science and Business Economics (2012)

Representative Matters

Successfully opposed Motion for Summary Adjudication challenging enforceability of option to purchase provision in commercial lease.

Successfully defended commercial landlord's unlawful detainer action from commercial tenant's Motion to Dismiss ("Demurrer") in San Francisco County.

Secured default judgment on promissory note following prove-up hearing in Contra Costa County Superior Court.

Negotiated and settled unlawful detainer action on behalf of local restaurant seeking relief from rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Successfully compelled arbitration of easement dispute in Ventura County Superior Court.

Successfully opposed special motion to strike (also known as an anti-SLAPP motion), thereby preserving a tenant's claims of extortionate conduct against his landlord in San Francisco County.

Associations

Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area (AABA)

Contra Costa County Bar Association

Awards & Recognition

Super Lawyers Northern California Rising Star (2022-2025)

Bar Admissions

California