

Prop 65 News Law Firm Profile

Malcolm Weiss and Chris Amantea Partners



**HUNTON &
WILLIAMS**

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Practice Areas

- Proposition 65; CEQA; CERCLA; CPSIA; Environmental Regulation; Climate change Law and Policy; Environmental Issues in Business Transactions; Environmental Auditing; Environmental Management; Government Relations; Land Use; Redevelopment; Brownfields; Superfund ; Toxic Torts; Water Quality.

Education

Malcolm Weiss

J.D., Lewis and Clark, Northwestern School of Law, honors in Environmental and Natural Resources Law. 1982

B.A., University of California-Santa Barbara, with honors, 1979

Chris Amantea

J.D., Chicago-Kent College of Law, Order of the Coif, Executive Articles Editor of Chicago Kent Law Review, 1989

B.A., University of California-Davis 1977

Hunton & Williams LLP attorneys have been leaders in environmental law in California for more than 25 years, and have advised clients regarding Proposition 65 compliance, defense and case resolution since the adoption of the initiative in 1986. The firm's attorneys have represented hundreds of clients in Proposition 65 actions involving dozens of chemicals. Most of those actions resulted in court approved settlements and many have been litigated to successful outcomes. The firm's clients include commercial trade associations, major industries including a leading oil and gas company, and a wide variety of product manufacturers.

Hunton & Williams regularly advises clients on minimizing potential Proposition 65 liability by developing effective compliance strategies, conducting audits, and creating compliant warning systems. When an enforcement action is

defense strategies. The firm counsels clients in matters alleging chemical exposures from or at facilities or stemming from the use of consumer products, including food and beverage containers, cosmetic and beauty products, toys, jewelry, china, crystal, food items (including herbal supplements), electronic products, apparel and automotive parts, to just name some.

Notes partner [Malcolm Weiss](#), "A major element of successfully representing a client after they receive a Proposition 65 notice of violation is helping to ensure that once an action is complete, the company remains claim-free into the future. Resolving the current claim effectively and efficiently is important, but perhaps even more important is helping clients stay out of harm's way in the future."

Some of the defense strategies developed by the firm have become the tried-and-true norm in certain Proposition 65 litigation. For example, in two separate actions, Hunton & Williams defended members of both California's largest hotel and lodging association and members of the California Apartment Association in cases where different plaintiffs claimed alleged exposures to distinct chemicals. See, [Consumer Def. Group v. Rental Hous. Indus. Members](#), 137 Cal. App. 4th 1185 (2006).

"While we cannot prevent a plaintiff from issuing a Proposition 65 notice of violation unless we are asked to provide compliance advice early on, we can engage quickly, without reinventing the wheel, to resolve a claim once it is made," observes partner [Chris Amantea](#).

Hunton & Williams has more than 900 lawyers serving clients in 100 countries from 18 offices around the world. It has one of the most prominent environmental practices in the country, having received a #1 ranking from Chambers USA. In addition to Proposition 65 and other California-specific environmental matters, we counsel clients from a broad range of industries on environmental products litigation and enforcement, regulatory issues, air quality and permitting, land use, international and domestic climate change issues, water resources, water quality issues, Superfund, sustainability and corporate social responsibility, CPSIA, REACH/chemical regulations/FIFRA, RCRA, wetlands, and endangered species.

For more information on the Hunton & Williams Proposition 65 Practice, please [click here](#).

Representative Proposition 65 Cases

AYS v. Conbraco Industries
AYS v. Turco Products
Brimer v. The Gift Shop at South Coast
CAG v. Bristol Hotels & Resorts
CAG v. Coastal Hotel Group
CAG v. Creative Hospitality
CAG v. Hotel Sofitel
CAG v. Kintetsu Enterprises of America
CAG v. Reneson Hotel
CAG v. Shilo Inns & Resorts
CCHA v. Grover Products
CEH v. A.D. Sutton & Sons
CEH v. Alan James Group
CEH v. Rayne Corporation
CEH v. Ross Stores
CEH v. Touch-Flo Manufacturing
Communities For a Better Environment v. Tosco
Consumer Cause v. Ace Hardware
Consumer Cause v. Arco Oil
Consumer Def. Group v. Rental Housing. Indus. Members
Davidoff of Geneva v. Yeroushalmi
DiPirro v. Nupla Corporation
Held v. Ascendia Brands
Mateel v. A & A Manufacturing
Mateel v. ATD Tools
Mateel v. Maurice Sporting Goods
People v. Nutraceuticals Inc
Te'o v. Trudeau Corporation