

Asa W. Markel

Principal, Los Angeles

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Asa Markel, Chair of the firm's Commercial, Competition & Trade practice group, is a dual-qualified U.S. attorney and non-practicing English solicitor. His experience includes civil litigation, including first chair jury and bench trials, appellate argument and arbitrations. Asa's courtroom work ranges from business disputes to professional liability, admiralty and transportation, construction and employment law matters. He also advises foreign and domestic companies regarding their supply contracts, distribution arrangements, customs matters, export regulatory compliance, government contracts and protection of trade secrets.

In his second decade of practice, Asa is a member of the firm's Litigation and Corporate, Finance & Acquisitions groups and Chair of the Commercial, Competition & Trade practice. He also leads the firm's International Trade & Logistics team. Diligent and always prepared, Asa is totally focused on continuously offering his clients strategic options and viable paths to achieving their objectives. Asa knows, from hands-on experience, how contracts and regulations will be enforced, which has given him an edge when negotiating and documenting agreements for his clients. A Super Lawyers "Rising Star," Asa brings diverse experience, practical legal advice and creative solutions to every matter.

Prior to joining the firm, Asa practiced maritime and transportation law in California, where he advised on cargo damage claims, the professional liability of forwarders and customs brokers, marine insurance coverage issues for American, British and Japanese insurers, and international sales contracts. He originally worked for a respected civil litigation law firm in Arizona.

Experience



Education

University of Arizona Rogers College of Law, J.D., 2003

Northern Arizona University, B.A.,
summa cum laude, 2000

Admissions

California

New York

U.S. District Court, Southern District of
New York

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of
New York

Arizona

U.S. Court of International Trade

England & Wales, (non-practicing)

Practice Areas

Commercial, Competition & Trade
Litigation

Corporate, Finance & Acquisitions

- Successfully represented a major machine tool importer on prior disclosure to U.S. Customs for \$10 million worth of entries.
 - Successfully obtained a discovery order in U.S. district court against a major Silicon Valley consumer technology company on behalf of a publicly listed Japanese company for use in Tokyo District Court litigation.
 - Facilitated the set-up of U.S. branch for U.K.-based IT firm.
 - Oversaw discovery in multiple states for California litigation involving a major domestic freight carrier.
 - Represented a multistate developer of apartment complexes in several commercial and employment disputes.
 - Successfully defended a real estate brokerage at trial against negligence claims by a defaulting home seller.
 - Represented U.S.-based freight forwarder in a settlement with an international aluminum trader.
 - Obtained a summary judgment dispensing with punitive damages claim in an infant wrongful death case for a major commercial landlord in federal district court.
 - Obtained a dismissal under head of state immunity doctrine of commercial dispute involving a foreign cabinet minister.
 - Successfully reversed a trial judge's discretionary certification of a partial judgment in a \$50 million construction dispute.
 - Advised an international steel trader on U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) regulations.
 - Facilitated a software technology firm's response to a data breach incident, including the preparation of data breach notification letters for compliance with the laws of multiple U.S. jurisdictions.
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Memberships

- American Bar Association
 - Foreign Trade Association of Southern California
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Distinctions

- Southern California *Super Lawyers* - Rising Star, 2012-2018
 - *The Best Lawyers in America*, 2021
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