



## TODD R. HAAS

## PARTNER

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Todd Haas is a Partner in Selman Breitman's San Diego office and is a member of the firm's Insurance, Commercial Litigation, General Liability, and Trucking and Transportation practice groups. He represents insurers in coverage disputes, including cases arising out of first- and third-party property casualty issues, construction, employment matters, intellectual property, healthcare, and extracontractual issues. He also has experience representing hospitals and residential care facilities for the elderly (RCFEs) in disputes that involve sophisticated claims and lawsuits involving nursing care, medical standard of care, and employment matters.

With tremendous experience in insurance coverage and litigation, Todd consistently and efficiently analyzes complex insurance coverage issues with ease and clarity, allowing him to effectively and efficiently advocate on behalf of insurers. His collaboration and team approach is a great asset to obtain great results and to prioritize his clients' interests.

Todd has been responsible for several published opinions before the California Fourth District and the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal, as well as a response to a writ of certiorari to the United States Supreme Court. His landmark case *California Traditions, Inc. v. Claremont Liability Insurance Company* (2011)197 Cal.App.4th 410, reaffirmed that a policy term is not ambiguous simply because it is not defined in the policy and that the reasonable expectations of the insured can only be used to interpret an ambiguous policy and cannot be used to create an ambiguity if none exists.

Todd has an extensive background in general liability defense, specifically in the area of health care. In particular, Todd obtained a defense verdict for an RCFE in a complex and difficult three-week trial in which the plaintiff sought over \$4 million in damages. He has also defended a local hospital against a difficult Family and Medical Leave Act, which resulted in a minimal verdict after trial. He also handled a six-day binding arbitration in an employment case, which resulted in a very minimal award.

For several years, Todd has coached the Coronado High School mock trial team in a county-wide competition. Last year, Todd's team was given two awards for best witness and best clerk, and received high accolades for its performance in the competition.

### BAR ADMISSIONS

California, 1997

U.S. Supreme Court

U.S. District Court Central District of California

U.S. District Court Northern District of California

U.S. District Court Southern District of California

U.S. Tax Court

U.S. Court of Appeals Ninth Circuit

### EDUCATION

California Western School of Law,  
J.D., 1997

American Jurisprudence Award  
in Partnership Taxation;  
Dean's Honors List, 1996 & 1997

Santa Clara University, B.S., 1993

### AWARDS & AFFILIATIONS

San Diego County Bar Association,  
Insurance Bad Faith Section,  
Vice Chair

American Bar Association

*Super Lawyers*, 2013-2017