



SUSAN M. HACK

HFM Partner Susan Moriarty Hack practices general tort and business litigation.

With over 30 years of experience as a trial lawyer, Ms. Hack primarily handles business disputes, personal injury, premises liability, professional medical and business negligence, and product liability matters. She is also dedicated to meeting the needs of her clients, as well as raising the standard of practice within HFM and the broader San Diego legal community.

PRACTICE AREAS

- ▶ Business Litigation
- ▶ Health Care Law
- ▶ Products Liability Law
- ▶ Tort & Insurance Law
- ▶ Transportation Law

EDUCATION

- ▶ J.D. University of San Diego School of Law (1989)
- ▶ B.A. University of California, Los Angeles (Magna Cum Laude; Phi Beta Kappa) (1986)

ADMITTED TO PRACTICE

- ▶ California

Often noted for her considerable enthusiasm for the practice of law, Ms. Hack has practiced at HFM her entire career, joining HFM in 1989 after her admittance to the State Bar of California. She became one of the Firm’s partners in 1996, and in 2001, she became a part of the Firm’s management when she was appointed as an Executive Partner. In addition, she heads the Firm’s Diversity and Inclusion Committee and the education side of the Firm’s Professional Development Committee.

Ms. Hack has received numerous awards throughout her distinguished career. She was honored in 2023 as the “Defense Lawyer of the Year” by the San Diego Defense Lawyers. She was the 2013 recipient of the prestigious Daniel T. Broderick III Award, awarded by Consumer Attorneys of San Diego. This award is given to a lawyer in private practice with a substantial body of civil litigation experience, whose word is his or her bond and who epitomizes the highest principles of civility, integrity, and professionalism. For civil litigators practicing in San Diego County, this award is viewed as the highest accomplishment one can receive.

In 2002, Ms. Hack was a recipient of the YWCA’s Tribute to Women & Industry (TWIN) Award. Each year since 2007, Ms. Hack has been named a Business Litigation Southern California *SuperLawyer*[®], an honor limited to no more than five percent of attorneys within California. She is rated “AV Preeminent[®]” by Martindale Hubbell[™] — earning the highest possible rating for both Legal Ability and Ethical Standards.

In addition to practicing law, Ms. Hack is an Adjunct Professor at her alma mater, the University of San Diego School of Law, and has taught "Negotiations" since 2018. She has also been an instructor for CEB's annual courses "Recent Developments in Tort Litigation" and "Use and Abuse of Interrogatories." She also serves as an arbitrator for the San Diego County Superior Court.

Ms. Hack is a past president of the San Diego Inn of Court, and she also serves on the Board of Directors of the American Inns of Court (Hon. William B. Enright Inn). She is also a past president of that organization, which works to create an atmosphere of camaraderie among lawyers and judges. Ms. Hack serves as a mentor to new lawyers within HFM, and she mentors law students and new lawyers for the Lawyers Club of San Diego.

In addition to Ms. Hack's service to the legal community, she dedicates time to contributing to the greater community at large. She is a former board member of FAME, which is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the public education/schools in her family's residential community in many areas, including technology. She has also served on the "Bike-A-Thon" committee for the Magdalena Ecke YMCA. This is an annual 12-hour event and is part of the Magdalena Ecke Y's Annual Giving Campaign, which raises money for underprivileged children attending summer camp.

AWARDS & HONORS

- Best Lawyers in America© "Lawyer of the Year", Insurance Law (2026)
- "Defense Lawyer of the Year" San Diego Defense Lawyers (2023)
- Named to San Diego Business Journal's "Women of Influence in Law" (2021)
- Recognized by Best Lawyers in America® (2021-2026)
- San Diego Metro's "Top Attorneys for 2020"
- San Diego Magazine "Top Lawyers," recognized by Martindale-Hubbell® as an AV Preeminent Peer Review Rated Lawyer (2020)
- San Diego Metropolitan Magazine Women Who Impact the City
- San Diego Super Lawyers® (2007-2023)
- Daniel T. Broderick III Professionalism and Civility Award (Consumer Attorneys of San Diego)
- Community Service Award, Service to Education (San Diego County Bar Association)
- YWCA's Tribute to Women & Industry (TWIN) Award
- "AV Preeminent" by Martindale Hubbell™
- Top 25 Women of San Diego

- Litigation Counsel of America (Senior)
- San Diego Super Lawyers® 2026

AFFILIATIONS

- State Bar of California
- San Diego County Bar Association
- Lawyers Club
- American Inns of Court (Master, Enright Inn) (President 2012-2014; Board of Directors, 2005- present)
- San Diego Inn of Court (President 2009; Board of Directors, 2005-2015)
- Association of Business Trial Lawyers
- Defense Research Institute
- Association of Southern California Defense Counsel
- Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce
- Friends of Aviara Maintaining Excellence in Education (Board of Directors, 2009-2015)
- Tom Homann LGBTQ+ Law Association
- Member, Trial Law Institute
- Member, Diversity Law Institute