

CONTACT

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925.282.8012

PRACTICES

Litigation & Investigations
Waste & Hazardous Substances

EDUCATION

University of California, Hastings
College of the Law
University of California, Santa
Barbara

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

California State Bar
U.S. District Court for the
Northern District of California
U.S. District Court for the Central
District of California
U.S. District Court for the Eastern
District of California

JUSTIN R. PANITCHPAKDI

ASSOCIATE



Professional Background

Justin Panitchpakdi helps clients navigate complex environmental and insurance coverage matters and has represented them in federal and state courts, in mediation, and in administrative enforcement actions. He has experience litigating environmental claims under the CERCLA, the California Health and Safety Code, and the Clean Water Act (CWA), and other federal and state environmental laws. Justin's practice includes conducting internal investigations for companies and other entities facing potential non-compliance. His practice also includes defending against contamination claims, pursuing affirmative cost-recovery claims, and obtaining insurance recovery. Prior to joining Van Ness Feldman, Justin represented clients in environmental contamination matters at Hunsucker Goodstein PC and represented policyholders in breach of contract and bad faith litigation against insurance carriers.

Before practicing law, Justin served the public as an ocean lifeguard for the California State Parks in Santa Cruz and Santa Barbara counties.

Representative Experience

- Represents clients in environmental litigation matters in federal and state court. Work includes defense against contamination claims and pursuit of affirmative cost-recovery claims.
- Represents clients in environmental enforcement actions by California agencies.
- Supported a highly-sensitive and confidential internal investigation into potential cybersecurity and disclosure violations for utility.
- Conducted an internal investigation of a domestic auto manufacturer regarding compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) and the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) air emission regulations.
- Supported a foreign auto manufacturer's internal investigation into potential violations of U.S. environmental laws and potential false statements to regulators.
- Obtained insurance defense and coverage for client facing potential underlying claims alleging environmental damage.
- Represented policyholders in breach of contract and bad faith litigation, including as a second chair at trial.

Awards and Honors

"Best Lawyers in America: Ones to Watch" by *Best Lawyers*

Insurance Law, 2024-2026
Environmental Law, 2026

Super Lawyers

Rising Stars, 2022-2024

Alerts

- AI in the Courtroom and the Boardroom: Delaware Court of Chancery Ruling Highlights Discovery Risks of Corporate AI Use, 05/19/2026
- Antitrust Enforcement Agencies Continue Focus on Corporate Use of Third-Party Communication Apps ,

01/30/2024

- Report Highlights Need for More Robust Corporate Record-Retention Strategy, 12/12/2023
- DOJ Announces New Policy on Voluntary Self-Disclosures in M&A Transactions, 10/06/2023
- Mitigating the Rising Risk from Corporate Use of Third-Party Apps, 11/14/2022