



## Todd A. Roberts

### Partner

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Todd, the Chair of Ropers Majeski's Business & Commercial Litigation practice group, has more than 30 years of broad and varied experience focused on business litigation. His emphasis is on the defense of businesses and management in fiduciary and shareholder disputes, trade secrets, intellectual property, employment, real estate and business contracts, and insurance coverage matters at both the court and appellate levels. Todd is known for his ability to collaborate with clients, identify and understand legal and business issues, and develop paths to successful resolution, including through trial.

Relied on by clients in their high-stakes and high-exposure matters, Todd regularly advises:

- National and multinational corporations
- Directors and officers

#### **PRACTICE AREAS**

Business & Commercial Litigation  
Employment  
Insurance Services  
Real Estate  
Trials  
Professional Liability

#### **ACCOLADES**

Northern California Super Lawyers, Business Litigation, 2021-2025  
The Best Lawyers in America®, Commercial Litigation, 2025-2026

#### **COURT ADMISSIONS**

California  
District of Columbia  
US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit  
USDC: District of Arizona  
USDC: Central District of California  
USDC: Eastern District of California  
USDC: Northern District of California  
USDC: Southern District of California  
USDC: Eastern District of Wisconsin

- Employers
- Real estate developers and brokers
- Technology entrepreneurs
- Other executives

He represents commercial and residential real estate companies in high-stakes litigation and helps his clients solve problems related to purchase and sale, leases, fiduciary and professional duties, and property boundaries. Todd was lead counsel in a binding arbitration at JAMS, representing the developer of a \$100 million mixed-use real estate project in Menlo Park, CA, prevailing on all claims and all defenses.

Todd has also defended insurance carriers in more than 100 bad faith cases and has frequently represented insurers and their agents in coverage and other disputes with policyholders. He has handled disputes over the interpretation of nearly every form of insurance, including E&O and D&O, in a variety of contexts. He is among the few attorneys to have successfully argued in the California Supreme Court on an issue of great importance to insurers and has also argued multiple cases in the US Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit, and California Courts of Appeal.

Todd also represents employers and their officers and directors in a wide range of claims, including harassment, discrimination, termination, retaliation, wage and hour, and trade secrets. He has experience defending clients in state and federal court and before agencies, including:

- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- California Department of Fair Employment and Housing
- Unemployment Insurance Appeals Board
- California Labor Commissioner
- National Labor Relations Board

#### **EDUCATION**

Mediation Certificate, Harvard Law School, 2002

JD, University of California, Davis School of Law, 1987

BS, University of Oregon, 1983

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Member, Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California and Nevada (ADCNC)

Member, Association of Defense Trial Attorneys (ADTA)

Member, Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM)

Member, Defense Research Institute (DRI)

Secretary-Treasurer, FDCC Foundation

Member, Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC)

Member, International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC)

Member, San Mateo County Bar Association (SMCBA)

ADR Panel, USDC: Northern District of California Mediation Panel

ADR Panel, California Superior Court, San Mateo County, Arbitration and Mediation Panel

Todd is a 20-year member of the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel (FDCC), an invitation-only organization for lawyers promoting civil justice, knowledge, and professionalism. Todd was a dean and faculty member at the FDCC's Litigation Management College, at which he taught annually at Emory University. He served six years on the FDCC Board of Directors, was selected as the Program Chair for the 2017 Annual Meeting in Montreux, Switzerland, and the Convention Chair for the 2018 Annual Meeting in Wailea, Hawaii. Todd has received the prestigious John Appleman Award for best section chair and the Joseph Olshan Award for his long-term commitment to the ideals of the FDCC. Todd has also been selected for membership in the Association of Defense Trial Attorneys.

### **Representative Matters**

- Currently representing a defendant in a class action antitrust suit brought on behalf of all California bailees.
- Represented an excess liability insurer in connection with the omnibus litigation involving allegations of construction defects and fraud in connection with the sale of luxury high-rise condominiums in buildings found to be sinking and leaning.
- Won JAMS arbitration for a major developer in connection with a \$100 million mixed-use project.
- Successfully resolved 11 of the 13 claims brought by the plaintiffs against our client, the founder and CEO of a biotech firm, arising from state and federal securities and fiduciary duty allegations brought by firm investors.
- Defending an online car service, its CEO, and its CFO in a lawsuit brought by an early company investor who alleges market manipulation and insider trading in connection with sales of his stock in the secondary market.
- Successfully secured an arbitral ruling in favor of a biotech company's CEO in an \$850,000 matter brought by three investors, asserting causes of action for breach of fiduciary duty, fraud and misrepresentation, and state and federal securities law violations.
- Defending a biotechnology diagnostics company, its CEO, president, and COO against five purchasers of the company's convertible notes who have brought claims seeking recovery under California's om CEO and founder and the board of a medical device company against

derivative and individual fiduciary duty and corporate governance claims brought by former board members and directors of the company.

- Successfully achieved a full dismissal with prejudice of our insurer client from a suit brought by a third-party claimant alleging injuries from a motor vehicle accident with the insured.
- Negotiating a settlement in a trade secrets case on behalf of a cloud computing company and three engineers who allegedly shared confidential and proprietary information belonging to their former employer with our client.
- Defending a biotech company that develops flow cytometry products for allegedly stealing trade secrets after it hired some scientists, engineers, and executives from a competitor.
- Favorably settled cases following an order on cross-motions for summary judgment on behalf of a restaurant franchisor in which the plaintiffs sought to control management of the cooperative corporation and its intellectual property.
- Settled lawsuits in trade secrets and securities cases on behalf of an early-stage technology company and its executives.

## Articles

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### **Forks Up, Wallets Open: The New Playbook in Collegiate Sports in the Era of NIL**

February 28, 2026

Todd A. Roberts authored a white paper for the FDCC 2026 Winter Meeting, tracing the collapse of the NCAA's amateur athlete system and showing how litigation and NIL policies have opened the door for student-athletes to monetize their name, image, and likeness

## Events

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### **Enrique Marinez, Todd A. Roberts, and Blake J. Russum Attended the FDCC 2025 Insurance Industry Institute**

November 07, 2025

This premier event brought together insurance executives, regulators, and thought leaders to share insights on emerging industry challenges

## **Enrique Marinez, Todd A. Roberts, and Michon M. Spinelli Attended the FDCC 2025 Annual Meeting**

August 07, 2025

This week-long event featured advanced programming on excellence in practice and leadership, along with unforgettable excursions

## **Todd A. Roberts and Michon M. Spinelli Participated in the FDCC 2025 Winter Meeting**

March 06, 2025

This five-day event included FDCC committee meetings, insightful programs, fun activities, and exciting excursions

## **Todd A. Roberts and Ropers Majeski Were Proud to Sponsor the Oregon Club of Northern California's Ducks Take Flight**

May 08, 2024

The event brought together University of Oregon alums, Duck fans, and friends to celebrate the unprecedented success and the exciting future of U of O athletics

## **Todd A. Roberts and Ropers Majeski Were Proud to Be a Part of the FDCC Insurance Industry Institute 2023**

November 13, 2023

Ropers Partner Todd A. Roberts attended the conference

## News

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## **Twelve Ropers Majeski Lawyers Recognized by Best Lawyers® in 2026 in America**

August 21, 2025

Congratulations to these outstanding lawyers for this recognition

## **Todd A. Roberts Elected Secretary-Treasurer of the FDCC Foundation**

August 18, 2025

This appointment reflects Todd's leadership and dedication to advancing the FDCC Foundation's mission

## **Ropers Majeski Attorneys Selected to 2025 Northern California Super Lawyers & Rising Stars Lists**

June 30, 2025

Congratulations to the Ropers attorneys selected to the 2025 Northern California Super Lawyers and Rising Stars lists

## Ropers Majeski's Bay Area Team Volunteered at Second Harvest of Silicon Valley

March 14, 2025

Their efforts supported Second Harvest's mission to end hunger in the community by providing nutritious food to individuals and families in need

## Four Ropers Majeski Lawyers Recognized by Best Lawyers® in 2025 in America

August 15, 2024

Congratulations to these outstanding lawyers for this recognition

## Ropers Majeski Attorneys Selected to 2024 Northern California Super Lawyers & Rising Stars Lists

June 26, 2024

Congratulations to our Northern California attorneys who are recognized in the 2024 Northern California edition of Super Lawyers

## Ropers Majeski Attorneys Recognized Among the 2023 Northern California Super Lawyers & Rising Stars

*Super Lawyers*

June 27, 2023

Congratulations to our Northern California attorneys who are recognized in the 2023 Northern California edition of *Super Lawyers*

## Ropers Majeski Attorneys Recognized Among 2022 Northern California Super Lawyers & Rising Stars

*Super Lawyers*

July 05, 2022

Congratulations to our Northern California attorneys who are recognized in the 2022 Northern California edition of *Super Lawyers*

## Ropers Majeski Partners & Associates recognized among 2021 Northern California Super Lawyers

July 07, 2021

Congratulations to our Northern California partners and associates who are recognized in the 2021 Northern California edition of *Super Lawyers*

## People in Business

*The Almanac*

August 13, 2014

Todd A. Roberts re-elected director by the FDCC

## People on the Move

*Biz Journal*

August 06, 2014

Todd A. Roberts re-elected director by the FDCC

## Speaking Engagements

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### Todd A. Roberts Participated in Collegiate Sports NIL Panel at FDCC 2026 Winter Meeting

March 02, 2026

The panel, "Forks Up, Wallets Open. The New Playbook in Collegiate Sports in the Era of NIL," examined developments shaping collegiate athletics, NIL policy, and the evolving legal landscape of college sports

### Todd A. Roberts and Joanne T. Blackburn Led FDCC Insurance Coverage Section Webinar on Efficient Proximate Cause Rule

April 01, 2024

The insightful presentation discussed the rule and the varied approaches taken by courts in its application

### Todd A. Roberts Presented FDCC's 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award to Brigadier General Michael I. Neil

March 07, 2024

Todd honored the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient during the FDCC Winter Meeting

### Legal Year in Review

*Ropers Majeski*

May 12, 2016 - May 29, 2016

Ropers Majeski Partners present a Year in Review

### Legal Year in Review

*Ropers Majeski*

May 13, 2015 - May 28, 2015

Ropers Majeski partners present a Year in Review

### Legal Year in Review

*Ropers Majeski*

May 01, 2013 - May 14, 2013

Ropers Majeski partners present a Year in Review

## FDCC Litigation Management College 2012 Program Faculty Member

*Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC)*

June 10, 2012

Todd A. Roberts was a member of the Faculty for FDCC's 2012 Litigation Management Conference

## Legal Year in Review

*Ropers Majeski*

May 01, 2012 - May 23, 2012

Ropers Majeski partners present a Year in Review