

Kenneth A. Rutan

Ken was the first in family tree to get a college degree, putting himself through school with summer jobs and a partial athletic scholarship at an NCAA Division I school. Over the years he played with many teammates that made a name for themselves in the big leagues, including Tony Gwynn, Buddy Black, Tom Niedenfuer and umpire Kerwin Danley. After playing semi-professional in Canada and professional Baseball in the Northwest League for three years, he started a mobile glass and screen business with a childhood friend. He later sold his interest in the business to pay for his first year of law school. His former partner in the business is currently the Regional Vice President of Externa Relations for Sempra Energy and was on the San Diego Port Commission for ten years.

During the final months of law school Ken started with the firm of Shifflet Sharp & Walters as a clerk. The firm grew from about 10 attorneys to 45 and he became an equity partner. The firm's focus was representing Insureds with personal and commercial lines. Work included pre-litigation claims and litigation matters through trial and appeal. Matters included files related to: personal injury; premises liability; products liability; construction defect; homeowner association disputes; uninsured and underinsured motorist claims; working with Special Investigation Units regarding first and third part claims (Ken's work resulted in several criminal convictions); and Administrative charges filed by licensing boards against daycare providers and foster parents. In 1998 Ken became a founding partner of the firm of Walters, Frazier, Caietti, Rutan, & Lopez. Ken continued doing the same type of work until 2002. Former partners Ron Frazier and Carolyn Caietti are now Superior Court Judges.

Ken continued litigation practice for periods of time, but also ventured into other areas. This included working for about a year as General Counsel for a financial asset management company (commuting to Kansas for 2 weeks a month)

and working as a regional director of a non-profit volleyball club organized to provide the experience of club volleyball to girls regardless of their social/economic situation. Although Ken had to step down from his position as a regional director, he has for 17 years been involved in the organization. He currently sits as an Executive Board Member of the national organization while on the local level he coaches and runs a club that averages 10-13 teams a season.

In 2005, Ken accepted a position as Senior Trial Counsel with CNA's San Diego Staff Counsel's office focusing primarily upon commercial insureds. While Ken continued to do much of the same type of work as he had been doing for 20 years, he also handled litigation and pre-litigation matters involving insureds covered by Marine policies, and professional liability policies for architects, engineers, surveyors, construction managers and accountants.

While at CNA, Ken handled matters throughout San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino, Orange, Los Angeles, Ventura and Imperial Counties. Ken left CNA in October 2018, and began with Borton Petrini, LLP in November 2018. Ken brings with him to the firm 30 years of defense litigation experience, which experience includes numerous jury as well as administrative trials.

Education:

Mar Vista High School, Imperial Beach California, 1975
San Diego State University, BS in Public Administration, 1980
University of San Diego School of Law, 1986.

Admitted:

State Bar of California, 1986
Central District of California
Southern District of California



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