

PROFESSIONAL RESUME

RICKY STEELMAN is a senior litigator at Levene, Neale, Bender, Yoo & Brill L.L.P. Mr. Steelman's client-centered and resolution-driven practice focuses on complex commercial disputes, including litigation connected to bankruptcy, restructuring and insolvency. His extensive business litigation experience includes successful representation of individuals, Fortune 500 companies, hospitals, and emergency physician groups in state and federal courts, private arbitrations, and more than 75 appeals in the various appellate districts of the California Courts of Appeal, as well as the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Not only an experienced appellate attorney and litigator, Mr. Steelman also has substantial bankruptcy experience in numerous bankruptcy matters and adversary proceedings. Specifically, he played a critical role in obtaining summary judgment (resulting in a published decision in favor of a Fortune 100 financial institution) where the bankruptcy court granted his plaintiff client's request for substantive consolidation. That judgment forced seven non-debtor entities and three non-debtor individuals involved in a multi-million dollar mortgage-relief fraud scheme into the primary debtor-entity's Chapter 7 bankruptcy and under the purview of the bankruptcy court. This resulted in better protections for vulnerable consumers and members of the community, as well as financial institutions and corporations.

In addition to his significant class action defense work in federal court, Mr. Steelman has appeared numerous times in California probate court. He first chaired a probate trial where he successfully challenged the executor's final accounting of a probate estate and the executor's request for extraordinary fees in connection with that estate. That probate decision after a multiple-day trial resulted in greater financial distributions to Mr. Steelman's client, as well as several other non-profit organizations across the country.

Mr. Steelman is very proud to be a two-time Cooke Scholar after being selected for the 2002 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Undergraduate Scholarship and the 2006 Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Scholarship – a rare and coveted accomplishment in today's competitive world. He is also honored to have been named a Southern California Super Lawyers "Rising Star" each year since 2013.

Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Steelman worked more than 8.5 years at Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP as a litigation, appellate, and class action associate. He also worked at Buchalter as special counsel, focusing on complex healthcare litigation relating to provider-payor disputes. Mr. Steelman graduated *magna cum laude* from Pepperdine University with a B.A. in Political Science and a Music Minor in 2003. He graduated *cum laude* from Pepperdine University School of Law in 2009. Mr. Steelman is licensed in all California state and federal courts and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He is a member of the California Society for Healthcare Attorneys, the American Health Lawyers Association, the Los Angeles County Bar Association and its Appellate Courts, Litigation, and Healthcare Law sections.



**RICKY P.
STEELMAN**

rps@lnbyb.com