

## **RONALD G. ARONOVSKY**

Professor of Law  
Southwestern Law School  
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### **EDUCATION**

#### **UC Berkeley School of Law, University of California, Berkeley**

J.D., May 1980

*Order of the Coif*

Associate Editor, Ecology Law Quarterly, 1979-80

AmJur Awards: Civil Procedure (Spring 1978); Property (Fall 1977, Spring 1978)

Moot Court: Best Brief Award, 1978; Co-Director, Honors Competition, 1980

#### **University of California, Berkeley**

B.A., with Great Distinction in General Scholarship in History, 1977

*Phi Beta Kappa*

Chancellor's Certificate of Distinction (awarded to top ten seniors at UC Berkeley)

Honors Scholar in History

### **EXPERIENCE**

#### **Southwestern Law School, Los Angeles, California**

Professor of Law: 2008 - present

Associate Professor of Law: 2003 - 2008

Courses: Civil Procedure, Environmental Law, Alternative Dispute Resolution, MBE

Excellence in Teaching Award, Upper Division, 2011-12 academic year (AY)

The Anahid Gharakhanian Excellence in Teaching Award, 2024

SCALE Professor of the Year Award, 2024-25 AY

Irving D. and Florence Rosenberg Professor of Law, 2008-09 AY

Moot Court Honors Program Faculty Recognition Award, 2006-07 AY

Dean's Advisory Committee, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17, 2019-20 AY (elected by faculty)

#### **Pennsylvania State University, Dickinson School of Law, Carlisle, Pennsylvania**

Visiting Assistant Professor of Law: 2002 - 2003

Courses: Civil Procedure, Contracts, Professional Responsibility, Advocacy

#### **Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP, San Francisco, California**

Partner: 2001 - 2002

#### **Alden Aronovsky & Sax LLP, San Francisco, California**

Partner: 1995 - 2001

**Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP**, San Francisco, California  
Partner: 1987 - 1995; Associate: 1982 – 1986

**Judge Alfred T. Goodwin, U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit**, Portland, Oregon  
Law Clerk: 1980 - 1981

**Justice Mathew O. Tobriner, Supreme Court of California**, San Francisco, California  
Judicial Extern: 1979

## **PUBLICATIONS**

*Pressing the “Restart” Button: Amending FAA Section 2 so that State Law, not the FAA, Regulates Adhesion Arbitration*, in *THE FEDERAL ARBITRATION ACT: SUCCESSES, FAILURES, AND A ROADMAP FOR REFORM* (Richard Bales and Jill Gross, eds., Cambridge University Press, 2024)

*Starting Over: Letting States Regulate Adhesion Arbitration Agreements*, 17 SYRACUSE L. REV. 1019 (2021)

*The AALS Litigation Section’s Program on “The Future of Discovery,”* 34 REV. LITIG. 641 (2015)

*The Supreme Court and the Future of Arbitration: Towards a Preemptive Federal Arbitration Procedural Paradigm?*, 42 SW. L. REV. 131 (2012)

*Introduction: The AALS ADR Section's Program on the Supreme Court and the Future of Arbitration*, 42 SW. L. REV. No. 1 (2012)

*Foreword: CERCLA and the Future of Liability-Based Environmental Regulation*, 41 SW. L. REV. 581 (2012)

*A Preemption Paradox: Preserving the Role of State Law in Private Cleanup Cost Disputes*, 16 N.Y.U. ENVTL. L. J. 225 (2008)

*Back From the Margins: An Environmental Nuisance Paradigm for Private Cleanup Cost Disputes*, 84 DENVER UNIV. L. REV. 395 (2006)

*Federalism and CERCLA: Re-Thinking the Role of Federal Law in Private Cleanup Cost Disputes*, 33 ECOLOGY L. Q. 1 (2006)

*Liability Theories in Contaminated Groundwater Litigation*, 1 JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL FORENSICS 97 (2000)

*Trying Technology*, Environmental Law, The Recorder (November 1997)

*Employers of Wausau v. Musick, Peeler & Garrett: Ninth Circuit Finds Non-Parties Beyond The Reach of Contribution Bar Order*, American Bar Association Committee on Securities Litigation, Section of Litigation, Securities News, Vol. II, No. 1 (Summer 1992)

*Liability of Parent Corporations For Hazardous Substance Releases Under CERCLA*, 24 U.S.F. L. REV. 421 (Spring 1990) (with L. Fuller), reprinted in *Protecting the Corporate Parent*, Practicing Law Institute Handbook No. 749 (1991), and cited by the United States Supreme Court in *United States v. Bestfoods*, 524 U.S. 51, 64 at n.9 (1998)

*Defending Public Offering Litigation*, 2 New Dimensions in Securities Litigation, American Law Institute/American Bar Association Course of Study Materials, No. C129 (1986) (with T. Snow)

*Representing Professionals in Tax Shelter Litigation*, Tax Shelters In Trouble, Practicing Law Institute Handbook No. 232 (1985) (with T. Snow)

*Representing Professionals in Tax Shelter Litigation*, National L. J. (Nov. 4, 1985) (with T. Snow)

*Metromedia v. City of San Diego: The First Amendment, Aesthetics and the Realities of Billboard Control*, 9 ECOLOGY L.Q. 295 (1981)

## **LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS (Partial List)**

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting, “Arbitration Law Update,” April 2025

Book Launch Webinar for *The Federal Arbitration Act: Successes, Failures, and a Roadmap for Reform* (Bales & Gross, eds., Cambridge University Press), “Pressing the ‘Restart’ Button: Amending FAA Section 2 so that State Law, not the FAA, Regulates Adhesion Arbitration”, January 2025

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting, “Arbitration Law Update,” April 2024

Association of American Law Schools, Alternative Dispute Resolution Section, Sixteenth Annual Works-in-Progress Conference (Zoom), “State Regulation of Adhesion Arbitration,” October 2023

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting, “Arbitration Law Update,” May 2023

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Special Session in Memory of Chief Judge Emeritus Alfred T. Goodwin, April 2023

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting (Webinar), “Arbitration Law Update,” April 2022

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting (Webinar), “Arbitration Law Update,” March 2021

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting (Webinar), “Arbitration Law Update,” May 2020

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting, “Arbitration Law Update,” April 2019

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting, “Arbitration Law Update,” April 2018

American Bar Association, “Arbitration Law Update” Webinar, (September 2017)

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting, “Arbitration Law Update,” April 2017

Los Angeles County Bar Association Fall 2016 Environmental Law Symposium, “U.S. and California Supreme Court Decisions and the Environment: Recent and Pending Cases and Future Developments,” November 2016

American Bar Association, “Arbitration Law Update” Webinar, (September 2016)

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting, “Arbitration Law Update,” April 2016

Los Angeles County Bar Association Fall 2015 Environmental Law Symposium, “Recent Developments in CERCLA Law,” November 2015

Association of American Law Schools, Alternative Dispute Resolution Section, Ninth Annual Works-in-Progress Conference, “Starting Over: Letting States Regulate Adhesion Arbitration,” October 2015

American Bar Association, “Arbitration Law Update” Webinar, August 2015

Law & Society Association, Annual Meeting, “Starting Over: Letting States Regulate Adhesion Arbitration Agreements,” May 2015

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting, “Arbitration Law Update,” April 2015

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting, “What I’m Reading,” April 2015

Los Angeles County Bar Association Spring 2015 Environmental Law Symposium, “Recent Developments in CERCLA Law and Practice,” March 2015

Association of American Law Schools, Alternative Dispute Resolution Section, Eighth Annual Works-in-Progress Conference, Conference Chair and Program Moderator, November 2014

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Environmental Law Section, “The Effect of *CTS Corp. v. Waldburger* on Contaminated Property Disputes” August 2014

American Bar Association, “Arbitration Law Update” Webinar, June 2014

Law & Society Association, Annual Meeting, “Mandatory Arbitration Agreements: Promoting Efficiency or Exploiting Inequality?” (June 2014)

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Annual Meeting, AALS/ABA Legal Educators Colloquium, “Using Emerging Technologies in Simulation Courses,” April 2014

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting, “Arbitration Law Update,” April 2014

Los Angeles County Bar Association Spring 2013 Environmental Law Symposium, “Recent Developments in CERCLA Law and Practice,” April 2013

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Annual Meeting, AALS/ABA Legal Educators Colloquium, “Writing and Teaching About Fixing the Federal Arbitration Act,” April 2013

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Spring Meeting, “Arbitration Law Update,” April 2013

International Film and Television Association, Arbitrators Annual Meeting, “The Supreme Court and the Future of Arbitration,” November 2012

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Annual Meeting, AALS/ABA Legal Educators Colloquium, “Integrating Legal Writing Skills Development into ADR Courses,” April 2012

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Spring 2012 Environmental Law Symposium, “CERCLA Contribution Rights,” April 2012

Association of American Law Schools, Alternative Dispute Resolution Section Annual Meeting Program (moderator), “The Supreme Court and the Future of Arbitration,” January 2012

Southwestern Law School, “CERCLA and the Future of Liability-Based Environmental Regulation” (symposium organizer and panel moderator), November 2011

Pepperdine University School of Law, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution Program on Teaching Alternative Dispute Resolution, “Teaching Mediation,” June 2011

American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section Annual Meeting, AALS/ABA Legal Educators Colloquium, “Teaching the ADR Survey Course: Challenges and Innovations,” April 2010

Association of American Law Schools, Litigation Section Annual Meeting Program (moderator):  
“The Future of Summary Judgment,” January 2010

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Environmental Law Section, “Impact of the U.S. Supreme Court’s Decision in *U.S. v. Burlington Northern* on the Future of CERCLA Law and Practice,” September 2009

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Spring 2009 Environmental Law Symposium, “The U.S. Supreme Court’s 2008-09 Environmental Law Docket,” March 2009

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Spring 2008 Environmental Law Symposium, “Clarity or Confusion: The Aftermath of the US Supreme Court’s Landmark 2006-07 Environmental Law Decisions,” April 2008

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Environmental Law Section, “From *Aviall* to *Atlantic Research*: The Rebirth of CERCLA Cost Recovery Claims,” September 2007

State Bar of California, Environmental Law Section, 12th Annual Roundtables on Contaminated Sites, “Cost Recovery After *Aviall*,” June 2007

Pennsylvania State University, Dickinson School of Law, “The Unsettled State of Contaminated Property Law: A New Paradigm for Private Cleanup Cost Disputes,” April 2007

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Spring 2007 Environmental Law Symposium, “U.S. and California Supreme Court Environmental Law Developments,” March 2007

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Fall 2006 Environmental Law Symposium, “Cost Recovery in a Post-*Aviall* World,” November 2006

California Environmental Trial Academy, “Confidentiality in Environmental ADR,” May 2005

American Bar Association, Section on Dispute Resolution Annual Meeting, “2004 ABA-AAA Code of Ethics for Commercial Arbitrators: International Implications,” April 2005

State Bar of California, Environmental Law Section, “ADR in Complex Environmental Disputes,” October 2004

University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, Remedies class session, “Statutes of Limitations,” April 2002

University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, Pollution Law class sessions, “RCRA Citizens Suits,” April 2002

University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension, Environmental Forensics Conference, “Expert Testimony and the Use of Computer Generated Evidence,” April 2001

Golden Gate University School of Law, Environmental Law class session, “CERCLA Practice,” April 2000

University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension, Environmental Forensic Conference, "Recent Developments in Groundwater Litigation," April 2000

Golden Gate University School of Law, Environmental Law class session, “CERCLA Practice,” April 1999

University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension, National Environmental Forensic Conference "Use and Admissibility of Technical Case Evidence in CERCLA Litigation," August 1998

Golden Gate University School of Law, Environmental Law class session, “CERCLA Practice,” April 1998

University of Oregon School of Law, 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Environmental Law Conference, "Piercing the Corporate Veil in Environmental Litigation," March 1997

University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension, "Proving the Technical Case: Chlorinated Solvents and Hydrocarbons," September 1996

Bar Association of San Francisco, "CERCLA Litigation: Trial Techniques and Recent Developments," September 1996

California Environmental Trial Academy, "Expert Testimony: Issues and Strategies” May 1996

#### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES (Partial List)**

<b>Elected Member</b>	American Law Institute, elected 2007
<b>Section Chair-Elect</b>	Association of American Law Schools, ADR Section, 2025
<b>Section Chair</b>	Association of American Law Schools, ADR Section, 2012 Association of American Law Schools, Litigation Section, 2009
<b>Judge Pro Tem</b>	Superior Court of California, San Francisco County, 1999-2002 Superior Court of California, Contra Costa County, 1999-2002
<b>Neutral Case Evaluator</b>	U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, 2000-2002 Superior Court of California, Contra Costa County, 1999-2002
<b>Mediator</b>	California Court of Appeal, First District, 1999-2002
<b>Editorial Board</b>	Journal of Environmental Forensics, 2000-2001

<b>Planning Committee</b>	American Bar Association, Dispute Resolution Section ABA/AALS Legal Educators Colloquium, 2013
<b>Executive Committee</b>	Association of American Law Schools Alternative Dispute Resolution Section, 2004 - present Litigation Section, 2006 - present Los Angeles County Bar Association, Environmental Law Section, 2006 - present Co-Chair, Law School Outreach Subcommittee, 2007-present

## **PRIVATE PRACTICE AREAS OF EXPERTISE**

**Environmental Litigation:** Represented clients in numerous multi-million-dollar private CERCLA and/or state law hazardous waste contamination cases, *e.g.*, CERCLA contribution trial in *THAN v. Aceto Chemical*, (see 884 F. Supp. 357 (E.D. Cal 1995)), *Lincoln Properties v. Higgins*, 823 F. Supp. 1528 (E.D. Cal. 1992), and *Stanley Works v. SnyderGeneral Corporation*, 781 F. Supp. 659 (E.D. Cal. 1990).

**Business Litigation:** Represented clients in complex business litigation, including securities class actions (*e.g.*, *Mirotznick v. Sensney, Davis & McCormick* [part of Washington Public Power Supply System (WPPSS) Securities Litigation], 658 F. Supp. 932 (W.D. Wash. 1986); *Hudson v. Capital Management International*, 565 F. Supp. 615 (N.D. Cal. 1983)), contract, toxic tort, business tort and real estate cases. Represented *amicus curiae* in Proposition 13 litigation, *Sinclair v. Board of Equalization*, 15 Cal.4th 866 (1997).

**Alternative Dispute Resolution:** Represented clients in mediations and arbitrations. Completed 40-hour mediation training (Bar Association of San Francisco), 40-hour appellate mediation training (California Court of Appeal, First District), and two-day Early Neutral Evaluation training (U. S. District Court, Northern District of California).

## **ADMITTED TO PRACTICE**

U. S. Supreme Court; U. S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit; U. S. District Courts for the Central, Eastern and Northern Districts of California; all California state courts