

# HURST & HURST

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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## FIRM RESUME

# HURST & HURST

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

GEORGE G. HURST, \*CLS-F  
DEBRA L. HURST  
KYLE VAN DYKE  
JULIE CORBO RIDLEY

*\* Certified Family Law Specialist  
The State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization*

Hurst & Hurst is a boutique civil litigation firm handling class actions, complex cases, and serious injury cases. Approximately 80% of our cases fall into these categories. The firm represents the interests of consumers, insurance policy holders and investors in state and federal trial and appellate courts throughout California and nationwide. Hurst & Hurst's principals have been appointed lead counsel and have held other leadership positions in a wide variety of class action, mass tort, and complex litigation matters.

## **George G. Hurst**

Mr. Hurst is the firm's co-founding partner and current partner emeritus. His practice has focused on family law matters as Mr. Hurst is a Certified Family Law Specialist. A lifelong San Diego County reside, Mr. Hurst shares his over fifty (50) years of legal experience with the firm.

Mr. Hurst received his Bachelor of Arts degree from San Diego State University in 1956. He then graduated from the University of California, Berkley School of Law at Boalt Hall in 1959.

Mr. Hurst started his career as a prosecutor and then as a general practitioner. By the 1970's, Mr. Hurst had evolved his practice to be exclusively devoted to Family Law. Mr. Hurst obtained his Family Law Certification in 1999.

Mr. Hurst co-founded Hurst & Hurst with his daughter, Debra, in 1994. Mr. Hurst has enjoyed many successes in trial and informal resolutions of his client's claims. He has served as

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a legal expert and expert trial witness in San Diego Superior Court on family law issues. He has also sat by assignment as a San Diego Superior Court Judge Pro Tem and as a San Diego Superior Court Mediator / Arbitrator.

Mr. Hurst is currently active in his own private mediation practice. He also provides consulting services to other family law practitioners on complex family law issues.

## **Debra L. Hurst**

Ms. Hurst is the firm's co-founding partner and current managing partner. Her practice has focused on class actions, complex cases, and serious injury cases since the late 1980's. Ms. Hurst has enjoyed many successes in trial and informal resolutions of client's claims. Ms. Hurst has tried over 50 trials to verdict and has resolved or tried to verdict over \$225 million dollars in Plaintiffs' claims.

In her early career, Debra was solicited to join the firm of Shifflet, Sharp & Walters where she became one of the first female partners in all of San Diego in 1987. While at the Shifflet firm, Debra handled numerous trials as lead trial counsel. Her clients included State Farm Insurance Company, Allstate Insurance Company and AIG among others. Ms. Hurst was involved in all aspects of an active insurance defense practice including coverage analysis and Bad Faith.

In the late 1980's Debra's practice emphasis at the Shifflet firm evolved toward representation of Plaintiffs. In her early days she had significant successes against such institutions as McDonalds, Nordstrom and the Catholic Church. By 1991 Debra's practice was predominately devoted to Plaintiff representation at which time she elected to leave the Shifflet firm and establish a private practice. Three years later she joined with her father and Hurst & Hurst was formed.

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Ms. Hurst is currently co-lead and liaison counsel in a complex mass tort case pending in San Diego Superior, *Curtis v. SDG&E*, Case No. 37-2007-00083093-CU-EI-CTL (coordinated case arising from the 2007 San Diego Wildfires). As co-lead and liaison counsel, Ms. Hurst serves as liaison counsel between the court and numerous other plaintiffs' attorneys; She acts as the central voice in Court hearings.

Ms. Hurst has represented millions of employees, consumers, and insureds against large wireless companies, UPS, and Wells Fargo, among others. As lead or co-lead counsel, she has recently reached favorable class action settlements in *Morales v. GE Osmonics, Inc.*, CASD Case No.:10cv1045-JM; *Deffenbaugh v. Mobile Systems, Inc.*, SDSC Case No. GIC838045; *Quenaon v. Mobile Systems Wireless, Inc.*, SDSC Case No GIC847278; and *Archie v. United Parcel Services*, SDSC Case No. GIC748880. *Archie* resulted in an \$18 million class action settlement on behalf of 6000 workers. As a result of her efforts as lead counsel in *Archie*, a wage and hour class action lawsuit, Ms. Hurst received the California Lawyer of the Year (CLAY) in 2003.

Ms. Hurst has tried numerous professional malpractice cases, both Legal and Medical, and recently tried to verdict one of the first medical malpractice actions stemming from a bariatric procedure to a verdict of in excess of \$7 million, *Williams v. Callery*, SDSC Case No: GIC821090. Ms. Hurst has extensive experience representing Plaintiffs in complex real estate fraud cases such as *Ramsour v. Norton, et al.*; SDSC Case No: GIC872531 and *Euro-Canadian, Inc. v. Norton, et al.*; SDSC Case No: GIC880360 which resulted in a favorable confidential settlements for the Plaintiffs.

Ms. Hurst has been honored for her trial and advocacy skills in the past as a recipient of the CASD David S. Casey Trial Attorney of the Year for her successful litigation of 5 jury trials, and has received multiple Outstanding Trial Attorney Awards and the award for Outstanding

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Trial Attorney of the Year for San Diego County in 1998. Ms. Hurst performs expert services in the field of legal malpractice. Ms. Hurst also sits by assignment as a San Diego Superior Court Judge Pro Tem and as a San Diego Superior Court Mediator/Arbitrator. She is a member of ABOTA, CASD, CAOC and SDBA and is a Master in the Louis Welch Inn of Court.

Ms. Hurst is admitted to practice in the state of California, the United States District Court for the Southern District of California. Ms. Hurst received her Juris Doctor from University of San Diego School of Law in 1982, where she was active in and won many Moot Court Competitions. She was also a member of the San Diego Law Review and served on the Law Review Board. Her Law Review article on tort-related issues was published in 1981 and has been cited favorably by California Appellate Courts and the California Supreme Court. Ms. Hurst received her Bachelor of Arts with *Cum Laude* Honors in joint majors of English Literature and Spanish Literature from the University of California at San Diego in 1979.

## **Kyle Van Dyke**

Mr. Van-Dyke is a partner with the firm. His practice has focused on class actions, complex cases, and serious injury cases for seventeen years. Mr. Van Dyke has enjoyed many successes in trial and informal resolutions of client's claims. Mr. Van Dyke was instrumental in the resolution and/or trial to verdict of over \$225 million dollars in Plaintiffs' claims.

Mr. Van Dyke currently plays a significant role in the complex mass tort case pending in San Diego Superior, *Curtis v. SDG&E*, Case No. 37-2007-00083093-CU-EI-CTL (coordinated case arising from the 2007 San Diego Wildfires). Mr. Van Dyke has successfully mediated and/or negotiated multiple individual confidential settlements for victims of the 2007 San Diego Wildfires.

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Mr. Van Dyke has also represented millions of employees, consumers, and insureds against UPS and Wells Fargo, among others. As lead or co-lead counsel, he has reached favorable class action settlements in cases such as *Morales v. GE Osmonics, Inc.*, CASD Case No.:10cv1045-JM; *Deffenbaugh v. Mobile Systems, Inc.*, SDSC Case No. GIC838045; and *Archie v. United Parcel Services*, SDSC Case No. GIC748880. *Archie* resulted in an \$18 million class action settlement on behalf of 6000 workers.

Mr. Van Dyke's efforts representing the Plaintiff in *Wimberly v. Darby*, resulted in a published opinion, *Wimberly v. Darby Cycle Corp.*, (1997) 56 Cal. App. 4th 618. In a case of first impression, the Court of Appeals found Proposition 51 was inapplicable where a plaintiff's injuries were caused solely by a defective product and the only parties among whom fault can be apportioned are in the product's chain of distribution. The Court reasoned that if Proposition 51 applied to these cases, a plaintiff would have to prove a defendant's negligence in order to recover noneconomic damages, and nothing in Proposition 51 compels this dilution of the strict liability concept. This was a landmark case which provided benefits to Plaintiffs who no longer had to apportion plaintiff's noneconomic damages between defendant and other liable parties that had settled with plaintiff before trial.

Mr. Van Dyke has also been instrumental in the trial of numerous professional malpractice cases, both Legal and Medical, including the trial to verdict of one of the first medical malpractice actions stemming from a bariatric procedure to a verdict of in excess of \$7 million, *Williams v. Callery*, SDSC Case No: GIC821090.

Mr. Van Dyke has also extensive experience representing Plaintiffs in complex real estate fraud cases such as *Ramsour v. Norton, et al.*; SDSC Case No: GIC872531 and *Euro-Canadian, Inc. v. Norton, et al.*; SDSC Case No: GIC880360 which resulted in a favorable confidential settlements for the Plaintiffs. Currently, Mr. Van Dyke represents Plaintiffs in real estate fraud, medical product liability, legal and medical malpractice, and wage and hour cases.

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Mr. Van Dyke is admitted to practice in the state of California and the United States District Courts all Districts in California. After a successful career in the United States Marine Corps, Mr. Van Dyke received his Juris Doctor from Thomas Jefferson School of Law in 1994. Mr. Van Dyke received his Bachelor of Arts in major of Law from Western State University.

## **Julie Corbo-Ridley**

Ms. Corbo-Ridley is a senior associate with the firm. Her practice has focused almost exclusively on representing Plaintiffs in complex and class action litigation. Ms. Corbo-Ridley received her undergraduate degree from the University of California at San Diego. After pursuing careers in finance as a Registered Representative and in public relations/marketing as Director of Marketing for Colleges.com, a burgeoning internet company, she attended the University of San Diego, School of Law. Ms. Corbo-Ridley received her J.D. with *Cum Laude* Honors. Ms. Corbo-Ridley is licensed to practice in the state of California and the United States District Courts in the Central, Southern and Northern Districts of California as well as the Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit.

During law school, Ms. Corbo-Ridley was a member of the San Diego International Law Journal, a Staff Writer for Motions (USD's law newspaper), was President of the Sports and Entertainment Law Society (as its President she developed charity events that benefited the local community), and she participated in the Pro Bono Legal Advocates' Mediation Program. Her law school accolades include: Highest grade in class, Contracts; CALI Award Cyberspace Law; Honors and Outstanding Combined Written and Oral Lawyering Skills; Honors Entrepreneurship Clinic; and, she was a Finalist in the Annual Thorsnes Closing Argument Competition.

Before joining Hurst & Hurst, Ms. Corbo-Ridley focused on complex litigation and class actions. At her prior firm, Wolf Haldenstein Adler Freeman & Herz, she worked on such class actions as: *Bamboo Partners LLC, et al. v. Robert Mondavi Corp., et al.*, which settled for \$10.8

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million in 2007, and *In re Dynamic Random Access Memory Antitrust Litigation*, which settled for more than \$300 million. While at Kirby, Noonan, Lance & Hoge, she played a significant role in obtaining settlements for Plaintiffs in real estate fraud cases of over \$30 million.

At Hurst & Hurst, Ms. Corbo-Ridley was instrumental in the resolution and/or trial to verdict of over \$75 million dollars in Plaintiffs' claims. Ms. Corbo-Ridley has played a significant role for the Plaintiffs in the mass tort actions arising from the 2007 San Diego Wildfires, *Curtis v. SDG&E*, Case No. 37-2007-00083093-CU-EI-CTL (coordinated case). She has also represented Plaintiffs in wage and hour class actions, products liability, complex real estate fraud cases, in addition to representing insurance consumers in a class action against a prominent insurance company.

In 2008, Ms. Corbo-Ridley was recognized as one of San Diego County's Top Attorneys, best corporate litigators, semi-finalist. She has authored articles for Trial Bar News, Products Liability Section.