

Katherine J. Hart

Kate Hart has been practicing law since 1997, and has been an attorney with Abbott & Kindermann LLP since 2006. Her primary areas of practice are land use and environmental law.

Ms. Hart represents the firm's clients in processing local land use entitlements. She has extensive experience with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Subdivision Map Act, and Mitigation Fee Act. On behalf of private clients, she has processed subdivision maps, conditional use permits, rezoning amendments, general plan amendments, and variances, as well as negotiated development agreements, and public utility easements for residential, commercial and industrial properties. Ms. Hart has also reviewed General Plan updates and corresponding CEQA documents for numerous agencies. She has defended both agencies and real parties in interest in CEQA and Mitigation Fee Act litigation, as well as Clean Water Act lawsuits. Ms. Hart stays current on CEQA, land use and water quality law by blogging various cases on the firm's website and the California Planning & Development Report, as well as teaching classes on CEQA and development agreements.

Prior to working at Abbott & Kindermann LLP, Ms. Hart practiced land use law at Trainor Robertson in Sacramento, Reed Smith LLP (formerly Crosby Heafey Roach and May) in the Bay Area, and as a contract Deputy City Attorney for the City of Pittsburg in Contra Costa County. During her law school years, she had the privilege of serving as a judicial extern for the late Federal District Court Judge Edward Rafeedie in downtown Los Angeles and was a Legal Intern at the California Environmental Protection Agency under Assistant Secretary Jerry Johnston.

Ms. Hart is a member of a number of professional organizations including the State Bar of California, and the Environmental Law and Real Property Sections of the Sacramento County Bar Association.

In addition to her membership in professional associations, Ms. Hart is a community leader. She is the Chair of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board and President of the Board of Trustees for the Sacramento Valley Conservancy.

Ms. Hart attended Santa Clara University and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in both Political Science and French, and a minor in International Relations. After clerking for a law firm for a year, she attended the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law and graduated with a Juris Doctor and Certificate of Governmental Affairs.

Ms. Hart is admitted to practice before the state courts of California, as well as the United States District Court, Eastern, Northern and Central Districts.