

PARTNER

Marco A. Martinez

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📍 Ontario / Irvine



Marco A. Martinez is a partner in Best Best & Krieger LLP's (BBK) Municipal Law practice group, where he advises public agencies on a wide range of legal issues including general municipal law, Brown Act and Public Records Act compliance, land use and zoning laws, the California Subdivision Map Act, state housing laws, CEQA compliance, First Amendment matters, cannabis regulation, and billboard and sign ordinances. He serves as city attorney for the City of Shafter, and assistant city attorney for the cities of Colton and Pomona. He also provides special counsel land use services to the cities of Montclair, Brawley, Paso Robles and Plumas County. Marco previously served as General Counsel to the Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino and has provided general counsel services to many of the firm's school and special district clients. He currently serves as general counsel to the California Chapter of the American Planning Association, staying involved in housing and development issues that affect California communities.

Before becoming an attorney, Marco spent over a decade working as a city planner with the City of Downey and the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning. He was also selected as a California Executive Fellow and assigned to the California Department of Housing and Community Development, where he contributed to statewide housing policy research and reviewed housing elements.

Marco is a regular speaker and instructor on land use and planning issues and ethics in local government. In 1988, he authored an HCD research paper titled- "The Effects of Subsidized and Affordable Housing on Property Values: A Survey of Research" (1987) to assist local agencies to increase the production of low and moderate income housing in their communities. In his spare time, Marco coaches Little League and travel baseball teams and regularly visits his children who live out-of-state.

Professional & Community Involvement

- Riverside County Bar Association
- Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- American Planning Association

CORE PRACTICES

Housing, Economic Development and Real Estate

Environmental Law & Natural Resources

Open Government & Ethics

Municipal Law

Public Infrastructure

Public-Private Partnerships

EDUCATION & ADMISSIONS

Education

Loyola Law School, J.D.

California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, B.A., urban planning

Bar Admissions

California

- International Municipal Lawyers Association
- International Conference of Shopping Centers
- Volunteer Baseball Coach - Little League & Travel Baseball
- American Baseball Coaches Association

Thought Leadership

Publications

- "California Board of Forestry Adopts Emergency "Zone 0" Regulations Under AB 3074," *PublicCEO*, Sept. 16, 2026
- "New Laws Affecting Public Agencies in California," *BBK Legal Alert*, Nov. 25, 2013
- "New Law Gives Local Agencies the Power to Reject Mobile Home Park Conversions," *BBK Legal Alert*, Sept. 30, 2013
- "Court Upholds Town's Sign Ordinance as Constitutional," *BBK Legal Alert*, March 25, 2013

Presentations

- "AB 1234 & Government Ethics," League of California Cities New Mayor & Councilmember Academy, Jan. 2025
- "State Mining & Reclamation Act (SMARA) Compliance & Vested Rights Laws," California Chapter of the American Planning Association, 2024
- "AB 602: An Essential Breakdown for Development Impact Fee Programs," League of California Cities Annual Conference, 2022
- "SMARA and What Planners Need to Know About Mining and Reclamation Law in California," American Planning Association California Conference, Sept. 30, 2024
- "AB 602: An Essential Breakdown for Development Impact Fee Programs," League of California Cities Annual Conference and Expo, Sept. 8, 2022
- "Enforcement of Solicitation/Panhandling Regulations and Overview of SB 946 (Sidewalk Vending)," BBK Webinar, Dec. 11, 2018
- "Ethics for Planners," American Planning Association, California Chapter Inland Empire Section's Law and Ethics for Planners Event, Nov. 19, 2015