

PARTNER

Wendy Y. Wang

wendy.wang@bbklaw.com (213) 787-2554

Los Angeles

Wendy Y. Wang works with public and private clients on matters involving water law, Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, the Resource Conversation and Recovery Act, Proposition 218, Air Quality Management District rules and regulations, and public works projects. She also has significant experience in commercial litigation and contract agreements.

Wendy regularly represents water suppliers. She was a part of the successful team that earned a *Daily Journal* Top Verdict recognition in 2018 for a jury verdict that favored water agencies in a first-of-its-kind groundwater rights trial. Representing the City of Paso Robles, which was sued along with other public water suppliers by about 600 landowners seeking to claim quiet title to groundwater rights, Wendy and her colleagues successfully convinced a jury that water suppliers had acquired prescriptive groundwater rights to the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin during times of groundwater shortage conditions. That trial is believed to be the first jury trial over groundwater rights in California.

Wendy was also part of the team of attorneys that secured a trial court judgment in the Antelope Valley groundwater adjudication, the largest groundwater rights case ever in California and perhaps in United States history. After 16 years of litigation involving approximately 70,000 landowners, including two separate classes, a judgment was entered determining who has the right to pump water from the Antelope Valley groundwater basin and establishing a long-term sustainable management plan.

Wendy has extensive experience representing clients subject to AQMD rules and regulations, and successfully negotiated settlement agreements between public agencies and AQMD regarding penalties and notices of violation. She appeared before the AQMD hearing board on petitions for abatement proceedings and regularly advises clients on AQMD rules and relevant California Health and Safety Code provisions.

Wendy grew up in Orange County and now lives in Los Angeles. She considers herself an adventurous foodie.

Wendy is fluent in Mandarin. She is admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court.

CORE PRACTICES

Air Quality

Endangered Species

Environmental Law & Natural Resources

Environmental Litigation

Municipal Law

Public Infrastructure

Special Districts

Water

EDUCATION & ADMISSIONS

Education

University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, J.D.

University of California, Los Angeles, B.A.

Bar Admissions

California

Wendy Y. Wang

Los Angeles

wendy.wang@bbklaw.com

(213) 787-2554

Accolades

- The Best Lawyers in America®, Litigation - Environmental, Water Law, 2023–2027
- Top Verdict, *Daily Journal*, 2018

Professional & Community Involvement

- Association of California Water Agencies, Groundwater Committee, 2026–present
- International Municipal Lawyers Association, Chair, Environmental Section, 2024-present
- Southern California Water Coalition, Board of Trustees, Business Sector, 2023-present

Thought Leadership

Publications

- “New Regulations to Cement Conservation as a 'California Way of Life',” *Daily Journal*, Aug. 22, 2024
- “California Needs to Amend the Cartwright Act to Redress Single-Firm Monopolization,” *Daily Journal*, Sept. 27, 2023
- “California Should Amend The Cartwright Act to Address Single-Firm Monopolization,” *California Lawyers Association Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law*, Volume 33, Number 1, Spring 2023
- “Local Agencies React to Basin Boundaries Rule With Calls for Clarification, Collaboration,” *BBKnowledge*, Sept. 21, 2015
- “California Water Leaders Testify at Capitol on Water Bond,” *BBKnowledge*, Feb. 12, 2015

Presentations

- "Environmental Issues in Your Community," International Municipal Lawyers Association Annual Conference, WONK Table Host, Sept. 25, 2026
- "Sustainable Groundwater Management Act," The Seminar Group, Water Law in California Conference, March 5, 2026
- “Addressing Recent Case Law Impacts to the Clean Water Act,” International Municipal Lawyers Association Annual Conference, Oct. 19, 2025
- “Environmental Section: A Review of Recent Supreme Court Environmental Law Decisions,” International Municipal Lawyers Association Annual Conference, Sept. 27, 2024
- “SGMA and Groundwater Litigation: Implications for GSP Implementation,” Law Seminars International Seminar, Groundwater Sustainability Implementation in California, July 29, 2022
- “The Land Before Time: Stories from California’s Groundwater Adjudications,” Western Groundwater Congress and GRA Annual Meeting, Sept. 15, 2021
- “Understanding California Groundwater Rights,” California Groundwater and Surface Water: Preserving Finite Resources Webinar, HalfMoon Education, May 26, 2021
- “Lessons Learned from GSPs for Critically Overdrafted Basins,” California Water Law and Policy MCLE Conference, Argent Communications Group, Apr. 21, 2021
- “Groundwater Management Law Update (MCLE),” Online Event, San Diego Law Library, Sept. 23, 2020
- “Financing Options and Strategies for Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development,” BBK Webinar, Sept. 17, 2020

- “SGMA and Groundwater Adjudication: The Implications for GSP Development,” A Comprehensive Virtual Update: Groundwater Sustainability Plans in California, Law Seminars International, July 16, 2020
- “Groundwater Sustainability Plans: What We Now Know and What is Yet to be Learned,” BBK Webinar, May 12, 2020
- “Understanding California Groundwater Rights,” California Water Laws and Regulation Seminar, HalfMoon Education, Mar. 25, 2020
- “SGMA and Groundwater Rights: To Adjudicate or Not to Adjudicate,” BB&K Webinar, Feb. 20, 2020
- “Groundwater Production Allocations Under SGMA,” Association of California Water Agencies Fall Conference & Exhibition, Dec. 4, 2019
- “Land Use Planning, Water Supply Planning and SGMA,” BB&K Webinar, Nov. 8, 2019
- “Understanding California Groundwater Rights,” Water Law Seminar, HalfMoon Education, Oct. 23, 2019
- “SGMA and Groundwater Adjudications,” Law Seminars International's A Comprehensive Conference on SGMA's Next Phase: Sustainable Groundwater Planning in California Conference, July 26, 2019
- “SGMA - Groundwater Sustainability Plans,” Association of Environmental Professionals California State Conference, Mar. 25, 2019
- “Drought Regulations and Sustainable Groundwater Management Act,” 2015 California Stormwater Quality Association Annual Conference, Oct. 19, 2015