

**Steven Riess**

**Attorney at Law**

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Undergraduate: 1968 to 1971 University of California, Berkeley  
1973 to 1974 University of California, Davis, B.A. Geology

Law School: 1978 to 1980 Northwestern School of Law, Lewis & Clark College, J.D.  
1980 to 1981 University of California, Hastings College of the Law, San Francisco  
2001 to 2002 Visiting Scholar, University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law  
2002 to 2004 Golden Gate University School of Law, LL.M. with honors

Legal Experience: 1981 to 1982 Law Offices of Steven Riess, San Francisco  
1982 to 1983 City & County of San Francisco, Deputy City Attorney  
1983 to 1986 Trembath, McCabe, Schwartz, Evans & Levy, Concord, Associate  
1986 to 1994 Riess & Riess, Partner  
1994 to 2003 Law Offices of Steven Riess, Walnut Creek, Principal  
2005 to -- Law Offices of Steven Riess, San Francisco, Principal

Teaching experience: 2000 to 2003 Hastings College of the Law, Adjunct Professor  
2002 to 2006 Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität, Münster, Germany, Visiting Professor  
2004 to 2006 Universität Passau, Passau, Germany, Visiting Professor  
2003 to 2006 Associate Professor and Director of Legal Writing, John F. Kennedy University, School of Law

Trial experience: Tried approximately 30 jury trials to judgment.

Professional: Past board member and president of the Contra Costa Barristers Association. Organized and administered the Judge Pro Tempore Program for the Contra Costa Superior Court, Small Claims Appeals. Judicial arbitrator for the Contra Costa Superior Court. Certified arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association. Recognized as personal injury trial specialist by the California Trial Lawyers Association. 2009 recipient of the Elder Financial Abuse Network Sentinel Award.

Publications: *Settlement Practice In California: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*, John F. Kennedy University Law Review, Volume 10, Number 1; Deutsch-Amerikanische Juristen Vereinigung Newsletter, 2/2002  
*Legal Reasoning and Writing: Principles and Exercises for the German Student of the Common Law*, ISBN: 3-8258-7769-8, Lit-Verlag Publishers, Germany, 2004  
*Legal Methods*, SFLINCPublishers, San Francisco, 2003  
*Legal Writing*, SFLINCPublishers, San Francisco, 2003  
*Legal Research*, SFLINCPublishers, San Francisco, 2004  
*Diary Of An American Lawyer: Principles and Exercises for Understanding How the American Legal System Works*, ISBN: 7-5343-7663-7, Jiangsu Educational Publishing House, People's Republic of China  
*Timing Is Everything: What Is the Period of Limitations for Elder Financial Abuse Actions?*, California Trusts and Estates Quarterly, Vol. 12, Issue 3, Fall 2006  
*Does Your Elder Have Standing?*, California Trusts and Estates Quarterly, Vol. 13, Issue 1, Spring 2007

Legislation: 2007 SB611 (Steinberg): Authorizes issuance of a right to attach order in actions for elder financial abuse; codified as Welfare & Institutions Code § 15657.01  
  
2008 SB1140 (Steinberg): Expands elder financial abuse to include undue influence and lack of capacity; imposes vicarious liability on employers; authorizes the recovery of compensatory damages; extends the statute of limitations to four years; codified as Welfare & Institutions Code §§ 15657.5, 15657.6, and 15657.7

2008 SB1136 (Alquist): Revises the Consumers' Legal Remedies Act to authorize the recovery of compensatory and mandatory treble damages for charging unreasonable fees to those seeking public social service benefits; codified as Civil Code § 1780.

References:

Richard Frankel, attorney  
State Bar Board of Governors

Mark Ericsson, attorney  
President, Contra Costa Bar Association

R. Prescott Cole, senior staff attorney  
California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform