

HOGE FENTON SUMMER 2015 UPDATE

Although we're into the dog days of summer, business and the law do not go on vacation! Our clients remain as busy as ever, doing deals, undertaking exciting new projects, and resolving disputes.

We are committed to keeping you up to date on relevant legal issues. As you can see from the articles below, **our expertise covers the spectrum**, from intellectual property and tech transactions to family law to construction and real estate.

This diversity demonstrates how Hoge Fenton is different: We are a **multi-service firm**, with focused practitioners who can meet nearly all our clients' needs – under one roof. Our IP lawyers are not corporate lawyers who dabble in IP – they are IP lawyers, period. Our real estate attorneys are industry experts, and our family law lawyers are family law specialists. Our breadth of expertise means that one of our lawyers can simply walk down the hall and talk with other subject matter experts to better serve you. Simply put, we are **stronger together**.

And, as a member of **Mackrell International**, a premier network of independent law firms in 60 countries, our reach now extends around the world. This network provides our clients with access to vetted and trusted local counsel throughout the U.S. and across the globe, allowing us to seamlessly assist our clients in San Jose, California and San Jose, Costa Rica.

Finally, in recognition of our breadth of skills, eight Hoge Fenton lawyers have been identified as "Northern California Super Lawyers." Only 5% of California lawyers are so recognized! We congratulate:

- **Michael T. Bonetto***, Certified Specialist** in Family Law - Family Law
- **Alison P. Buchanan**, Certified Specialist** in Legal Malpractice Law - Business Litigation
- **Denise E. Chambliss**, Trust & Estate Litigation
- **Janice W. Fox** - Estate Planning & Wealth Management
- **J. Timothy Maximoff** - Taxation and Trusts & Estates
- **Natasha M. Parrett**, Certified Specialist** in Family Law - Family Law
- **Stephanie O. Sparks** - Intellectual Property, Privacy & Data Security
- **Daniel W. Ballesteros** - Real Estate & Business Litigation

*Northern California "Rising Star"

**Certified by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization

Thanks for reading, and we welcome your feedback and suggestions for future articles.

Ready, Set... Wait!

Choose your Company's Trademarks with Care to Develop Brand Value

"We're a mid-sized technology company facing tough competition. We want a trademark for our new product that will immediately and directly tell customers what our product is and what special features it has.... Right?"

Full Article by **Dana Brody Brown**

Easement — or License? New Case Blurs the Line. Is a friendly agreement between adjoining property owners enforceable?

How can you protect your property rights?

Full article by **Steven J. Kahn**

Water Agencies Can Require an Easement as a Condition of Providing Water to a Newly Subdivided Parcel - After the Mapping Process.

Recent court opinion results in the ability of local water agencies to require property owners to grant easements *after* the mapping process has ended.

Full article by **Sean Cottle** and Anthony Verdugo

Attention Public Works Contractors and Subcontractors!

You are required to register with the Department of Industrial Relations, and additional requirements take effect on January 1, 2016.

Full article by **Sean Cottle**

Are You Participating in Divorce Mediation?

Family Code Disclosure Formalities Apply to You, Too!

Recent case law has made it clear that the formalities of the Family Code don't just apply to litigants in court.

Full article by **Michael Bonetto**

Software and the Trade Agreements Act when Doing Business with the U.S. Government

Most federal government contracts require compliance with the *Trade Agreements Act*. Violators may be subject to substantial civil and criminal penalties.

Full article by Dan Minutillo

Primary Contact

■ Daniel W. Ballesteros