



Howard J. Fulfrost

PARTNER



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With a passion for helping students and public education entities function at the highest level possible, Howard Fulfrost represents school districts, county offices of education and special education local plan areas in all aspects of special education law. Howard's ability to facilitate fair and effective negotiations brings administrators and families together to attain the best outcomes possible.

Long recognized as a legal leader in special education and student matters, Howard is known for his experience in the area of local educational agencies' obligations to students with disabilities. He guides organizations through all stages of due process, including resolution sessions, mediations and hearings. Whether Howard is assisting client personnel to prepare for a challenging Individualized Education Program (IEP) team meeting, reviewing files to spot red flags on compliance, or advocating for clients before the Office of Administrative Hearings, he loves helping school districts help kids.

Howard advises clients on a wide spectrum of student-centered matters, including issues stemming from discipline, inter-district attendance, residency and subpoenas for student records. He also performs Title IX and related investigations. His ability to identify weaknesses in cases and policies and rectify them early adds both strategic and practical value for clients. It allows them to do what they do best: educate students.

As an undergraduate, Howard was a student teacher in special education at the University of California, Los Angeles' Neuropsychiatric Institute (now Semel Institute) in-patient school. He also holds a master's degree in Developmental Psychology from Columbia University. This background gives him a deep understanding of the needs and experiences of special education students and helps him speak credibly and perceptively with parents, teachers, school psychologists, administrators during IEP team meetings.

Additionally, Howard's interesting history elevates his ability to serve clients today. He began his career in the New York City public school system, where he coordinated a community-based program in two Brooklyn high schools. Prior to private practice, he was employed as staff counsel for the Division of Special Education at Los Angeles Unified School District, where he represented the



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district in hundreds of due process cases and provided ongoing legal support in all areas of special education law.

Howard is a popular and energetic presenter who's frequently invited to speak on a variety of special education legal topics. He regards public education as the most important institution in American society and finds it gratifying to effect policy change at the state and local level and contribute to improving America's educational system.

Education

University of San Francisco School of Law (J.D.)
Teachers College, Columbia University (M.A., Developmental Psychology)
University of California, Los Angeles (B.A., Psychology)

Experience Highlights

Served on the American Bar Association's Commission on Disability Rights

Recognition

Named a Southern California Rising Star by Los Angeles Magazine in 2004, 2005 and 2006
During the summer of 2012, Howard was invited to participate in the Harvard Graduate School of Education Universal Design for Learning Institute

Admissions

Bar Admissions

California

Court Admissions

Supreme Court of California
U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
U.S. District Court, Central District, California
U.S. District Court, Eastern District, California
U.S. District Court, Northern District, California