

A partner in the Orange County office, Michael J. Carroll is the former chair of the Orange County office's Environment, Land & Resources Department. Mr. Carroll's practice focuses on permitting, entitlement and environmental review of complex development projects.

Mr. Carroll has been recognized by *Who's Who Legal: California 2007* as one of "California's Leading Environmental Practitioners". In 2006, Mr. Carroll was named among the top Environmental attorneys in California by *Chambers US*. He represents developers in the industrial, commercial, retail and residential sectors seeking project approvals from local, state and federal authorities.

Mr. Carroll has expertise on the California Environmental Quality Act, including the statutory and regulatory requirements, underlying environmental and planning issues, judicial interpretations, administrative procedures and realities, and the decision making process. Mr. Carroll represents clients on every aspect of the CEQA environmental review process, including the following:

- Determination of lead agency status
- Adequacy of all required notices and administrative procedures
- Selection of CEQA document
- Adequacy of environmental documents
- Preparation of Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Programs
- Completion of CEQA Findings and Records of Decision
- Communication with neighbors, community groups and interested members of the public

Mr. Carroll also has extensive experience with all the major US and California, state-wide and local, media-specific environmental programs and with local municipal and county zoning ordinances and procedures. In particular, he has expertise on the Clean Air Act and its state and local counterparts throughout California. He has obtained approvals for numerous projects involving complex air quality issues, including emission offset requirements, construction impacts, operational impacts and air toxics risk assessment.

Mr. Carroll has broad experience in the permitting and development of energy projects, including fossil fuel fired and renewable generating facilities, petroleum refineries, and pipelines and terminals. Mr. Carroll handles all aspects of project approvals at the federal, state and local levels. He is a leading authority on the Warren-Alquist Act and the siting procedures of the California Energy Commission. Mr. Carroll is also a leading authority on the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).