



John L. Boos

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Jack Boos is a partner in K&L Gates' San Francisco office. He focuses on domestic and international dispute resolution, including, investigations, international expropriation and other government-related claims, and fine art and cultural property.

Jack has participated in various international proceedings and dispute resolution in Europe and Asia including representation of investor groups against the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Iran-U.S. Claims Tribunal in The Hague, The Netherlands. He also has appeared before the United Nations Compensation Commission in Geneva, Switzerland on behalf of a Gulf War claimant against Iraq. He has spoken widely in the United States, Europe, Asia, and Australia on litigation, arbitration, construction, environmental and insurance coverage topics.

Under the auspices of the Russian-American Rule of Law Consortium, Jack addressed a conference of Russian jurists in Yuzhno-Sakalinsk, Russia on the recognition and enforcement of foreign arbitral awards.

Jack also has an extensive record of service as an arbitrator, mediator, and settlement master including private designations and appointments by state and federal courts.

Jack has a long involvement in various pro bono initiatives in cooperation with national and local public service entities across wide-ranging subject areas. Jack's community service also includes leadership in youth sports in the San Francisco Bay Area, where he served eight terms as president of North Oakland Little League Baseball, and served on the Mayor's Sports Advisory Council.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Before joining K&L Gates, Jack practiced in the San Francisco offices of two other international firms where he was head of the litigation group. Prior to entering private practice he served as counsel and legislative assistant to a Member of Congress. He also served as counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Armed Services, and counsel to the U.S. House of Representatives Select Committee on Intelligence to Investigate the Activities of the U.S. Intelligence Community. The Select Committee's scope included oversight of certain projects of the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, among others.

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Bar Association of San Francisco
- American Bar Association

EDUCATION

- B.A., University of Dayton
- J.D., Georgetown University Law Center

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of California
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- United States District Court for the Central District of California
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
- United States District Court for the Northern District of California
- United States District Court for the Southern District of California

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Complex Commercial Litigation and Disputes
- Appellate Litigation
- Class Action Litigation Defense
- Construction and Infrastructure
- Government Contracts and Procurement Policy
- Insurance Recovery and Counseling
- International Arbitration

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Client possessed the largest, most diverse collection of ancient Islamic art in private hands. My client built his collection over a lifetime. Objects dated back to the early days of Islam and were widely exhibited in the Western world, Mid East and Asia. During the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait Saddam Hussein's son Udayans

experts from the Baghdad museum personally supervise the looting of the client's facility in Kuwait and the transport to Baghdad. The UN Compensation Commission was established to provide compensation for victims of the invasion with funding provided by the Oil For Food program. My client preferred the return of his objects to cash compensation. However, it was not to be. The subsequent U.S. and allied invasion of Iraq caused general chaos in the country and the dispersal of most everything of value, including the collection. Alas, apart from a few pieces that surfaced, the collection has disappeared entirely. Our client received a large monetary award but passed away with virtually nothing of his lifelong efforts. It is believed that pieces are secreted in the private collections around the world.

- Expropriation. In the wake of the Islamic Revolution there was widespread seizure, without compensation, of new privately-owned enterprises notably Industrial Cities particularly in the western part of the country. Meanwhile, the new Islamic Republic was owed billions for advance payments to the United States for military hardware sold by to the former shah, sales which were cancelled by the U.S. without refund. As part of the settlement of the crisis caused by the Islamic Republic's seizure of the U.S. embassy and hostages, a tribunal was established in Holland to adjudicate certain claims against the other, with judgments satisfied from assets seized from each.