

BRIAN J. LAWLER

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EXPERIENCE

Pilot Law, P.C. - San Diego, California

2004-Present

Owner, Founder, Trial Attorney

Founder and owner of civil litigation law firm representing servicemembers in USERRA complaints against civilian employers, victims of aviation accidents, and victims in personal injury and product defect cases, as well as consumers in consumer protection class action litigation.

- Considered a national authority on USERRA by the Reserve Officers Association, the largest lobby group in the U.S. for Reserve Officers, and one of a few attorneys nationwide to whom the Reserve Officers Association refers potential USERRA clients
- Litigate USERRA cases, including hostile work environment and harassment complaints, from client intake to administrative hearing and trial in Federal District Court and the Merit Systems Protection Board
- Investigate and litigate domestic and international aviation cases including mass commercial aircraft disasters, general aviation accidents, and military mishaps, both helicopter and fixed wing, from case intake to trial

Lieff Global, LLP - San Francisco, California

2007-2009

Of Counsel

Personally selected by the firm's founder as one of five attorneys in the global Plaintiffs' litigation firm representing victims of domestic and international aviation accidents.

- Successfully represented international clients from Brazil, Indonesia, Peru, and Thailand in cases pending throughout the United States and abroad
- Spoke on recent developments in aviation law at an international legal symposium

Engstrom, Lipscomb and Lack, P.C. - Los Angeles, California

2001, 2002-2004

Associate

Associate in a nationally-renowned Plaintiffs' litigation firm hired specifically to augment the firm's aviation law practice group.

- Represented clients in aviation accidents, product liability, and insurance bad faith cases, including hundreds of victims of the 1994 Northridge earthquake and 2003 Julian fires

U. S. Marine Corps Reserve, Marine Forces North, New Orleans, LA

2014-Present

Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer; Lieutenant Colonel

- Act as a liaison between FEMA and the Department of Defense in Defense Support of Civil Authorities (DSCA) missions nationwide

- Provide guidance to FEMA Region IX, Oakland, California regarding Department of Defense capabilities in disaster relief scenarios

U. S. Marine Corps Reserve, 4TH Marine Aircraft Wing, San Diego, CA 2008-2014
Reserve Liaison Officer

- Conducted three investigations into multi-fatality aviation accidents, two as lead investigator, and provided guidance and counsel to General Officers regarding how to manage public reaction to the investigation findings
- Conducted two investigations into allegations of senior officer misconduct

U. S. Marine Corps Reserve, Marine Aircraft Group 46, San Diego, CA 2001-2008
Operations Officer

- Responsible for the daily operations of a Marine Aircraft Group in excess of 1,000 personnel, nearly 100 aircraft, and a budget in excess of \$1,000,000, including designing and delivering training requirements to the entire Group
- Created, planned, and executed two multi-agency, collaborative training evolutions between more than 50 local first response agencies, non-governmental agencies and various Department of Defense commands to assess and improve inter-agency capabilities in Southern California (Operation Golden Phoenix, 2006-2007)

EDUCATION

University of San Diego School of Law

Juris Doctor, May 2002

Runner-up, Best Oral Advocate, *Lawyering Skills I*, Spring 2000

Highest Grade in Class, Constitutional Law, Spring 2001

U.S. Navy Naval Flight Officer School, Pensacola, Florida

Designated Naval Flight Officer, October 1992

Commodore's List, Primary Flight Training, May 1991

Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana

B.A., Political Science, May 1990; Dean's List, Spring 1987

JURISDICTIONS ADMITTED TO PRACTICE

State Bar of California

United States District Court, Southern District of California

United States District Court, Central District of California

United States District Court, Northern District of California

United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

United States Supreme Court

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

State Bar of California
Consumer Attorneys of California
Consumer Attorneys of San Diego
San Diego County Bar Association
American Association for Justice
Lawyer Pilot Bar Association
American Bar Association

SPEAKING ACTIVITIES

- Global Justice Forum, Recent Developments in Aviation Law, Rome, Italy, May, 2007

PUBLISHED OPINIONS

- *Carder v. Continental Airlines, Inc.* 636 F.3d 172 (5th Cir. 2011) (A class action dismissed by the Southern District of Texas and affirmed by the Fifth Circuit holding that Plaintiffs did not have a cause of action for harassment/hostile work environment under USERRA. As a result of this case, Congress passed the VOW to Hire Heroes Act in 2011, clarifying that USERRA is, and always has been, intended to provide protection against harassment and hostile work environments on the basis of one's military service.)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- “*Harassment, Hostile Work Environment, and Available Damages or Equitable Relief under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act,*” American Association for Justice, Federal Tort Liability and Military Advocacy Newsletter, Fall 2014 (<https://www.justice.org/sections/newsletters/articles/userra-harassment-hostile-work-environment-and-available-damages-or#sthash.hUmJdXOz>) (reprinted with permission in Reserve Officers Association Law Review 14091, December 2014)