

Deirdre Kelly

Deirdre was the President of the Orange County Bar Association in 2019.

For over 30 years, Deirdre has worked with many of the richly diverse elements of the legal community. As a law student, Deirdre conducted 25-30 juvenile trials with the LA District Attorney's office. She started at Jones Day after graduation, and was then brought in as Vice President and Legal Counsel of American Savings Bank in Irvine, where she resolved legacy issues from the S&L crisis. Afterward, Deirdre joined a vibrant trial group at Kindel & Anderson, and later practiced real estate litigation with Paul Hastings. Deirdre then became a law school professor and today is Assistant Dean for Career Development and a professor at Western State College of Law.

Deirdre is the former Chair of the OCBA's Judiciary Committee as well as Chair of the OCBA's Law School Task Force. She also has been an active member of the OCBA's Diversity, Mommy Esq., and Pro Bono Committees. Deirdre is a member of the OCBA Charitable Fund Board, and has served on the Public Law Center's Dinner Committee. Deirdre is active with the Orange County Coalition for Diversity in the Law, the Celtic Bar, ABTL, and the William Gray Legion Lex Inn of Court. Deirdre is a Past President of the Orange County Women Lawyers Association.

Deirdre was recently nominated for the Orange County Business Journal's Women in Business Award and was awarded Congressman Lou Correa's Women of Distinction Award.