



Stone & Hiles is a civil litigation and trial firm, practicing in California State and Federal and in the courts of various other states. We engage in litigation, trial and appellate courts in the areas of Environmental, Toxic Torts, Professional Errors and Omissions, General Liability, Insurance, Commercial, and Employment Law. Currently, our firm is principally in the Los Angeles area, with shared offices in Northern California. ■ The firm takes special care to provide for the needs of our clients, and is known to provide outstanding legal services to clients as though they were members of our own families. ■ We truly value our clients and find it exceptionally hard to maintain long and lasting relationships.

Partners

RUSSEL D. HILES

Mr. Hiles is a founding partner of Stone & Hiles and its senior managing partner. He has been practicing for over 31 years, first as a Deputy District Attorney; then as an attorney representing only plaintiffs; and then, as a defense attorney for the last 25 years. During his career, Mr. Hiles has tried over 200 jury trials.

Developing strong skills in chemistry as an undergraduated, Mr. Hiles has focused on pharmacy, pharmaceutical and chemical torts defense. He was the lead pharmacy counsel in the Fen-Phen litigation, managed and defended numerous environmental matters, and developed a nationally recognized strategy for mold litigation defense.

Due to his chemistry background and toxic tort experience, Mr. Hiles has been a guest lecturer to dozens of insurance companies and consumer groups, as well as property management associations concerning the defense of mold claims. Additionally, he has been a lecturer, panelist, and Division Officer in the American Chemical Society.

Mr. Hiles has tried numerous employment cases, prompting his interest in diversity. Over 12 languages are spoken by the firm's attorneys and staff. This diversity sparked his desire to author a newly released book entitled: "WE ARE ONE, A Photographic Celebration of Diversity in America" (2005).

Born: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 21, 1942
Education: California State Polytechnical University, B.S. 1969.
California Western School of Law, J.D., 1973.
Settlement Officer: Los Angeles County Superior Court, 1984 - 1995.

Member: California State Bar No. 59502; various United States District Courts and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; American Chemical Society; Los Angeles County Bar Association; American Bar Association; Association of Southern California Defense Counsel; conference of Insurance Counsel; and the Defense Research Institute.

Author/Lecturer: "Kelly-Frye Hearings in California", American Chemical Society, 1995; "How to Defend a Mold Claim", California Continuing Education of the Bar, 2004, "WE ARE ONE", Beyond Words Publishing Company (Simon & Schuster), 2005; Lecturer to the Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles; Lecturer to the United States Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., 2004.

Partners

DAVID SCHAFFER

David L. Schaffer is a Senior Partner in the law firm of Stone & Hiles. He has been an attorney for over 30 years, being admitted in Florida as well as California. Additionally, he has a Master's Degree in Business Administration.

Mr. Schaffer, currently, concentrates his practice in the defense of civil actions, primarily in the areas of products liability, sports and recreation liability, automobile liability, and insurance bad faith.

Mr. Schaffer served as a Deputy District Attorney for three years, and was recognized for his outstanding work in the field of Juvenile Law.

Additionally, Mr. Schaffer is an accomplished songwriter. One of his songs was recently recorded by Greg Walker, the former lead singer for Santana, and appears on Greg's Christmas album, "Sharing Christmas."

Born: Los Angeles, California, December 11, 1949.

Education: University of California at Los Angeles, B.A., 1972.

University of Miami, J.D., 1975.

Loyola Marymount University, MBA, 1986.

Author/Presenter: "Paying for Proposition 103: constitutional and Other Legal Infirmities in the Insurance Commissioner's and The State Board of Equalization's Billing Insurers," the feature article in the April 1990 issue of California Insurance Law and Regulation Reporter.