



ELLIA M. THOMPSON

PARTNER

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Direct 310.281.6356

Ellia Thompson is a Partner and Chair of the Land Use Department.

Ellia has spent the last twenty years working in various positions with the federal government, media outlets and in private practice as a land use attorney. She concentrates her practice in the areas of land use, planning and zoning regulations, governmental administrative law and local housing laws. Her clients come to her for her extensive experience in land use entitlements, with particular emphasis on zoning and subdivisions, governmental administrative law, community outreach, projects located in the hillside and historical areas and environmental compliance, especially in relation to the California Environmental Quality Act. She also has broad experience in environmental review processes, administrative proceedings and land use litigation.

The *Los Angeles Business Journal* named Ellia among the “Most Influential Women Attorneys” in 2018 and 2019, she was named among Southern California Super Lawyers Rising Stars and she has been selected by Southern California *Super Lawyer* every year since 2013. She also founded the land use and environmental law firm, CA Land Use Professionals, LLP. Before starting her own firm, Ellia was an attorney with Jeffer, Mangels, Butler & Marmaro LLP in its Government, Land Use, Environmental, Energy Group. She previously was awarded the coveted Pulliam-Kilgore Fellowship by the Society of Professional Journalists and worked in the Media Law practice at Baker Hostetler.

Prior to law school, Ellia worked as Press Secretary to Congresswoman Jane Harman and Communications Director to Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, Chair of the powerful House Rules Committee. After September 11, 2001, Ellia also worked as the Democratic Press Secretary to the House Subcommittee on Terrorism and Homeland Security.

EDUCATION

J.D., The George Washington University Law School

B.A., University of California, Los Angeles

PRACTICE AREAS

Land Use and Environmental
Real Estate

ADMISSIONS

California

Active with several charities that focus on housing and services for the homeless in downtown Los Angeles, Ellia, in October 2012, was honored by CREW-LA as a “Woman on the Rise”. She was awarded by Connect LA and the Junior Chamber of Commerce for her significant commitments to community service by providing pro bono land use legal services to the Downtown Women’s Center (DWC) and its homeless women. She serves on the Board of Trustees for the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association, which supports the many philanthropic and conservation efforts of the Los Angeles Zoo. She previously served five years on the Economic Development Committee for DWC. She has provided pro bono legal services to several U.S. military veterans, obtaining additional medical services and monetary awards for certain combat veterans suffering from past injuries.

Ellia is an avid gardener and founded a children’s gardening science program at her son’s elementary school.

HONORS & RECOGNITIONS

Selected by Los Angeles Times B2B Publishing as an Inspirational Women Finalist, 2021

Selected as one of Los Angeles' Top Women Attorneys, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, 2020

Selected as one of Los Angeles' Most Influential Women Attorneys, *Los Angeles Business Journal*, 2018 & 2019

Selected to Southern California Super Lawyers List, multiple years

COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL

Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association (GLAZA), Board of Trustees

Valley Industry Commerce Association (VICA)

Urban Land Institute (ULI)

CLIENT ALERTS

Land Use Partner Ellia Thompson Quoted in *The Commercial Observer* on Corruption at City Hall
Commercial Observer, 09.03.2020

Client Alert: City of LA Passes Wide-Sweeping Tenant Protections
Protections Go Further Than Those Proposed by Mayor and Governor
03.30.2020

Client Alert Update: More Details on Changes to TOC Maps
12.10.2018

Client Alert: Changes to TOC Tier Determinations Are Coming in December – Be Careful Before Buying New Properties and Get Your Applications In Now!

12.03.2018

Land Use Update: Los Angeles Approves Density Increases for Transit Oriented Communities

09.26.2017

Land Use Specialist Ellia Thompson Elevated to Equity Partner at Ervin Cohen & Jessup LLP

02.16.2017

City Planning Grants Reprieve of New Park Fees to Certain Projects

12.22.2016

On The Move: Daily Journal Announces New Land Use Team

05.23.2016

Alert - City Increases Park/Quimby Fees for ALL Future Residential Buildings

05.21.2016

Ervin Cohen & Jessup Acquires Land Use Group

05.18.2016

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

Economic Development: Beyond the Crystal Ball

Valley Industry & Commerce Association's 31st Annual Business Forecast Conference, Universal City, CA,

10.25.2019

Developing Coliving

Coliving Capital Markets Summit, Los Angeles, CA, 10.21.2019

SUCCESSSES

Ervin Cohen & Jessup's Ellia Thompson Selected as Leader in Law Award Nominee

Ervin Cohen & Jessup Works with City of L.A. to Protect TOC Incentives in Legal Win

Ervin Cohen & Jessup Trial Team Prevails in Longstanding Mulholland Drive Real Estate War