

Komey Vishakan

650.391.3569 ▪ kvishakan@gmail.com ▪ www.linkedin.com/in/kvishakan

KOMEY VISHAKAN

Experienced attorney with a proven track record and passion for education. Extensive knowledge of legal precedent and practices, both in the United States and internationally. Demonstrated experience at working effectively with diverse populations, including members of under-represented ethnic, cultural and religious groups.

Recognized for a compassionate and ethics-oriented professional style, resulting in significant success with resistant and uncooperative individuals. Exceptional ability at mediation and creating consensus across all strata of the system. Organized and detail oriented with significant experience thriving in high-pressure environments. Extensive qualifications in the following competencies:

- Trial Advocacy
- Legal Research
- Drafting Affidavits and Depositions
- Investigations
- E-Discovery Process
- Public Records Act Requests
- Licensed Mediator
- Policy Drafting

CAREER SYNOPSIS

Manager of Policy and Legal Compliance

June 2017 – Present

Legal Requests Specialist

June 2016 - June 2017

Palo Alto Unified School District (PAUSD), Palo Alto, CA

Responsible for successfully implementing the resolution agreements between the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) and PAUSD relating to Title IX matters, in addition to ensuring allegations of Title IX violations are investigated. Responsible for identifying and resolving legal compliance issues within the organization. Responsible for revising policies such as Sexual Harassment, Non-discrimination and Uniform Complaints Procedures. Responsible for supervising responses to Public Records Act requests. Key successes included:

- Improving the relationship between the OCR and PAUSD by continuing to successfully implement the requirements under the resolution agreement and providing detailed updates on progress.
- Implemented a tracking system (Roots) to log complaints received at various school sites ensuring those complaints are immediately received by Title IX Coordinator and information received is secured.
- Implemented an anonymous complaints system by which students and others could log complaints.
- Implemented a software-based system to streamline procedures relating to Public Records Act requests
- Provided training to staff on compliance issues relating to Public Records Act requests

National Litigation Manager

October 2010 – June 2012

Australian Crime Commission (ACC), Sydney, Australia

Provided strategic litigation advice to the CEO on 'hot button' legal issues concerning ACC's exercise of power under Australian Crime Commission Act 2002 to investigate serious organized crime. Advised on legal strategy including risks and benefits and conducted litigation as needed. Managed the process for all litigation matters and subpoenas. Managed and coordinated the work of external counsels conducting litigation nationally. Communicated case information to management including the CEO, investigators and analysts. Liaison to legal entities, concerned public agencies and media, for complex, high-profile cases. Key successes included:

- Defended an expansion of federal law enforcement power, against constant legal challenges
- Managed high profile cases with the potential for significant public attention, including tax probe of Paul Hogan (Crocodile Dundee)
- Successfully built working relationships with law enforcement and regulatory bodies resulting in them working within Commission's policies
- Created cost recovery system in 1st year of employment, increasing income from \$0 to \$120,000

Higher Court Advocate

November 2003 – September 2010

Crown Prosecution Service, Bristol, United Kingdom

Managed and monitored the litigation process for criminal cases, including drafting of indictments, conducting jury trials and engaging in plea-bargaining. Served as 'pre indictment' point of contact and resource to law enforcement regarding case specifics. Provided charging advice to law enforcement. Appeared in court for contested bail, committal, appeal hearings and sentencing matters. Mentored, trained and coached junior staff in case building and client advocacy. Served as Domestic Violence Unit Champion. Key successes included:

- Achieved conviction in 83% of all Crown Court cases
- One of the youngest prosecutors ever promoted to Higher Court Advocate
- Involved in the prosecution of a high profile murder trial, resulting in conviction

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Federal Prosecutor

September 2001 – September 2003

Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions, Sydney, Australia

Prepared and appeared in committal, sentence, appeal and bail hearings and contested hearings in jurisdictional courts. Advisor to government agencies including the Australian Federal Police, Excise and Customs, Taxation Office and National Crime Authority (similar to FBI Organized Crime) for conducting file assessments and drafting of appropriate information/charges. Instructed and trained colleagues in District Court trials and Supreme Court matters.

State Prosecutor

July 2000 – September 2001

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Sydney, Australia

Managed a jury trial practice, instructed Crown Prosecutors in jury trials and appeared in sentence and appeal hearings. Served as clerk prior to this appointment, from July 1999 to July 2000.

BAR ADMISSIONS

§	State Bar of California <i>Bar Number: 294938</i>	2013
§	Higher Court Advocate of England & Wales, UK	2006
§	Supreme Court of England & Wales, UK	2004
§	Supreme Court of New South Wales, Australia	2000

EDUCATION

University of Berkeley Mediation	2016
University of Western Sydney <i>LLB (JD Equivalent)</i>	1999
University of Sydney <i>BCom (Business Administration equivalent)</i>	1996

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Communities Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA), San Mateo, CA March 2016 – December 2016

Volunteer Attorney. After successfully completing the mandatory 40-hour training, help victims and families apply for restraining and other court orders.

Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office, San Jose, CA September 2013 – November 2013

Paralegal Intern. Assisted attorney dealing with child abduction cases including researching, drafting Bench Briefs for Hague Treaty Petitions and attending court, reviewed policies regarding Mutual Legal Assistance to release children from the abductor residing in foreign countries.

Addison Elementary School, Palo Alto, CA August 2013 – July 2015

PTA Co-president, VP Outreach & Membership. Successes include: Raised over \$130K. Introduced theater and science programs. Exceeded membership target set by the district for the first time.

Community Legal Services East Palo Alto, East Palo Alto, CA March 2013 – June 2013

Volunteer. Assisted Immigration attorneys with client interviews, preparation of Violence Against Women Act, U Visa and DACA petitions.