



## Jessica L. Diaz

Associate

[jdiaz@bhfs.com](mailto:jdiaz@bhfs.com)

805-882-1416

**Santa Barbara, California**

Assisting clients on a broad range of California water rights matters, Jessica Diaz's practice encompasses water rights litigation and transactions, counsel on compliance with state surface water regulations, and preparation and filing of reports with the State Water Resources Control Board. Jessica works with both water providers and private property owners on land use and water regulatory matters, including issues related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Coastal Act, and local land use law. She also assists on general public law matters, including counsel to various water districts and the City of Carpinteria.

Prior to her legal career Jessica worked in both state and local government and her familiarity with public agency work supports her ability to advise clients on regulatory compliance. Prior to joining the firm, Jessica clerked for Alaska Supreme Court Justice Joel Bolger. She also worked as a summer law clerk for a San Francisco law firm and for the California Attorney General's Natural Resources Section.

### Practices

Energy & Natural Resources, California Coastal Act, Land Use, NEPA/CEQA, Water

### Industries

Water

### Representative Matters

- Counsel to a broad group of agricultural stakeholders in the Salinas Valley providing assistance with the development of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency that includes significant participation by the agricultural groundwater users within the valley.

### News & Events

- Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck Adds New Associate To Expand Natural Resources Department In Santa Barbara

### Community

- Santa Barbara Mock Trial Competition, Judge
- McBaine Honors Moot Court Competition, Brief Judge

### Publications & Presentations

- CEQA News You Can Use - Vol. 3, Issue 1, *Brownstein Client Alert*, February 1, 2018
- Prior Appropriation Water Law Made Simple, Speaker, Water Rights in California Seminar, National Business Institute, San Luis Obispo and Fresno, CA, January 2018
- Green v. Gray Infrastructure in Land Use and Development, Panelist, California Water Law Symposium, Berkeley, CA, January 20, 2018

- Developments in Groundwater Litigation, Moderator, 2017 Groundwater Law Workshop, Sacramento, CA, October 2, 2017
- Serving Development During Drought: Creative & Sustainable Solutions, Co-author, *Santa Barbara Lawyer*, August 2017
- Brownstein Water: Current Trends in Water Law & Policy, Contributor
- CEQA News You Can Use - Vol. 2, Issue 2, *Brownstein Client Alert*, July 20, 2017
- CEQA News You Can Use - Vol. 1, Issue 2, *Brownstein Client Alert*, February 2, 2017
- CEQA News You Can Use - Vol. 1, Issue 1, *Brownstein Client Alert*, October 6, 2016
- California Municipal Law Handbook 2016, Attorney Reviewer, CEB Municipal Law Handbook, 2016 Update

### **Education**

- J.D., 2014, *Order of the Coif*, University of California, Berkeley, School of Law
- B.A., 2006, Harvard College

### **Admissions**

- California
- Alaska

### **Recognition**

2018 Water Leader, Water Education Foundation

Land Use Law Writing Award

Best Petitioner Brief and Quarterfinalist, 2014 McBaine Moot Court Competition