

Business Licensing & Franchising

Overview

In an increasingly complicated fiscal landscape, cities are searching for ways to secure sufficient revenue to fund and manage programs and meet their constituents' needs.

Maintaining an active Municipal Law practice since the firm's inception, Best Best & Krieger LLP is a leader in advising cities on ways to secure maximum local business license and franchise revenues to which they are entitled under the law.

We work extensively with our city clients to ensure that they impose, collect and maintain business license taxes and fees in compliance with applicable law. We regularly assist in setting tax/fee rates, processing exemptions, establishing collection policies and audit procedures, and in reviewing refund claims. Further, when a city proposes a business license tax increase, we can guide it through the local election process (often a necessary step under California's Proposition 218).

BB&K has a large team of lawyers focused on areas of particular concern to city clients, which makes us well qualified to assist cities regarding nearly every type of local franchising. We have considerable experience advising clients on the increasingly complex relationship between local cable television franchises and telecommunications facilities relative to federal and state law. Our lawyers also regularly negotiate solid waste and recycling franchises and we have resolved numerous issues concerning the distribution and sale of gas, water, oil and electricity.

Overall, our extensive experience enables us to help cities get the most out of their local business licensing programs and franchises.

Representative Matters

Helped the City of San Juan Capistrano update its business license code, enhance revenue collection, streamline local procedures and ensure fair apportionment of business license taxes as required by law, all without the need to increase tax rates.

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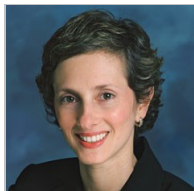
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Industries

Municipal

Related Practices

Charters & Internal Organizations

Comprehensive Code Enforcement

Economic Development, Real Estate & Affordable Housing

Elections

Fees, Taxes & Assessments

Government Policy & Public Integrity

Hazardous Waste

Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO)

Public Agency Labor & Employment

Public Agency Litigation

Public Contracts & Construction

Public Safety

Public-Private Partnerships

Telecommunications

Transportation

Water



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News & Events

LEGAL ALERTS | NOV 06, 2019

Cities Issuing Business Licenses Will Need to Verify NPDES Permits First

What California Cities Need to Know to Comply with SB 205

BB&K IN THE NEWS | MAR 13, 2019

Ban on Commercial Cannabis Licenses Lifted

San Bernardino Sun Reports on BB&K's Successful Defense of City

PRESS RELEASES | DEC 19, 2018

Cities' Struggles to Meet Obligations Are Real — BB&K Municipal Law Team Grows to Help

New and Expanded Services and More Attorneys and Staff Added in 2018

VIDEOS | MAY 09, 2017

Haviva Shane Video Bio

Of Counsel

VIDEOS | NOV 18, 2016

William J. Priest Video Bio

Of Counsel

LEGAL ALERTS | MAR 03, 2015

Court Strikes Down Surcharge on Utility Users Imposed Under a Franchise Agreement

Surcharge Collected for General Revenue Purposes Under a Franchise Agreement must be Approved by Voters
