DONAHUE FITZGERALD ATTORNEYS

David Bona

Partner

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Practice Areas

- Wildfire Litigation
- Litigation

Overview

David Bona is a seasoned trial attorney and partner at Donahue Fitzgerald. With over two decades of experience, he has built a reputation for defending clients in high-stakes, high-exposure litigation nationwide.

David specializes in complex litigation cases involving , floods, equipment failures, catastrophic injury defense, and wrongful death. He leverages his in-depth knowledge of forensic investigation techniques and the admissibility of technical and scientific evidence to deliver results in large-scale litigation. With extensive experience using remote sensing technologies, including GIS mapping, for catastrophic loss investigation, fire progression analysis, and damage assessments, he has developed a deep expertise in fire origin and cause, fire behavior, and evaluating claims involving thousands of plaintiffs.

He has successfully managed:

- Wildfire litigation involving thousands of parties in California, Texas, Colorado and other states
- Defended a telecommunication company against claims by over 4,000 plaintiffs seeking more than $2 billion in damages
- Defended vegetation management companies against claims of over $1 billion following the October 2017 North Bay fires
- Defended vegetation management companies in wildfire litigation in Washington,
- Defended an electric cooperative utility in consolidated lawsuits involving over 70 plaintiffs claiming over $35 million dollars in damages

- Defended companies and individuals against natural resource damage claims from the United States Forest Service
- Defended the California Department of Water Resources against property damage claims following the Oroville Dam Spillway Incident
- Complex e-discovery pertaining to technical and scientific subject matters and evidence
- Binding arbitration, alternative dispute resolution

David received his B.A. from the University of Utah and his J.D. from the UCLA School of Law. He regularly speaks in matters involving catastrophic loss investigation, multi-party litigation strategies, and wildland fire litigation. When not practicing law, David enjoys traveling with his family, cycling, and basketball.

Professional & Community Affiliations

- Member, Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California and Nevada

Bar Admissions

- California
- Texas

Courts

- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California
- U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit

Education

- **J.D.**, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law
- **B.A.**, University of Utah

Recent Articles/News

- Donahue Fitzgerald Launches Wildfire Defense Practice as Fire Litigation Grows, *Daily Journal*, January 16, 2026
- Donahue Fitzgerald Launches Dedicated Wildfire Litigation Practice: East Bay's Largest Law Firm Takes on Growing Need to Defend Large Wildfire Cases in California and Beyond

Recent Speaking Engagements

- September 30, 2026, Navigating Mass Tort Litigation: Risk, Response, and Public Agency Preparedness , Public Risk Innovation, Solutions, and Management: PRISM, Indian Wells, CA 92210

Past Speaking Engagements

- Remote Sensing in Engineering Expert Driven Litigation, ABA Forum on Construction Law, February 2023
- Rural Cooperatives & Utilities – Issues and Challenges to Provide Necessary Service, National Wildland Fire Conference, Co-host since 2018, Speaker 2010 – 2019, 2025