



# LEPISCOPO & ASSOCIATES LAW FIRM

SAN DIEGO—ORANGE COUNTY



<http://www.linkedin.com/in/petelepiscopo/>  
[www.LepiscopoLawFirm.com](http://www.LepiscopoLawFirm.com)

---

SAN DIEGO OFFICE



## WILLIAM “BILL” MORROW, ESQ.

Admitted to the State Bar of California  
The District of Columbia Bar  
All Federal Courts in California  
U.S. Court of Military Appeals

---

### **LEPISCOPO & ASSOCIATES LAW FIRM**

In December of 2006, completed 14-years of service in the California Legislature. During tenure in office as an Assemblyman elected in 1992, and a Senator elected in 1998, presided as the Chair and Vice Chair of the powerful Judiciary Committees in both chambers of the California Legislature, bringing extensive legal knowledge, experience, and litigation skills to bear in a leadership role on a wide variety of legislative issues.

In February of 2007, teamed with San Diego attorney Pete Lepiscopo (22 years in private practice) to form a new law firm, Lepiscopo & Morrow, LLP, with offices in San Diego and Sacramento. Presently, he is *Of Counsel* with **LEPISCOPO & ASSOCIATES**. The Firm's areas of practice include: government, corporate, and business law and litigation, civil litigation, and political and governmental law and consulting, as well as state and federal constitutional law.

## **PROFESSIONAL PROFILE**

- Longstanding *renowned reputation for integrity, credibility, preparedness*, attention to detail and competence, which immediately projects a truly professional image on behalf of firm and clients.
- Possesses strong oral *communication and advocacy skills* with comfortable, confident, and engaging presence in high level interpersonal or group meetings and negotiations, trials and legal hearings, press conferences and interaction with media, or public oratory to diverse audiences of all sizes.
- Veteran lawmaker and political strategist with broad experience and achievement in government, developing *strong networks and working relationships* with key decision makers in all branches and levels of government, on both sides of the political aisle, as well as with opinion leaders and activists in corporate, business and industry associations, not-for-profit organizations, the community, and the media.
- Highly *proficient in legal research and drafting* a wide variety of legal filings, documents, and memoranda, as well as general proposals, analysis, position papers, and opinion editorials, on issues, and proposed laws or regulations.
- *Effective courtroom litigator*, accustomed to managing 100+ caseload, with extensive jury trial experience in criminal cases prior to practicing civil litigation.
- Uncommonly *qualified to integrate both client legal services and*, where appropriate, legislative and regulatory advocacy, legislative bill monitoring and reporting, in depth policy analysis, and developing and implementing *comprehensive government, political, communications and media strategies*.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

***LEPISCOPO & ASSOCIATES***

**2007-Present**

**Law Firm: *Of Counsel*—see above for details.**

***CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE***

**1992-2006**

**State Senator - 1998-2006**

Elected to office in 1998 and re-elected in 2002 by overwhelming majorities, and served 8 years representing the 38<sup>th</sup> Senate District in north San Diego and south Orange Counties until termed out of office in December 2006. As Chair of the Veteran's Affairs Committee, was 1 of only 2 Republicans appointed to chairmanship of a standing committee in a legislature led under Democrat control. Developed a reputation for competence, ability, and leadership in wide areas of law and public policy, setting a record by additionally and concurrently serving as the Republican Vice-Chairman of 5 other committees: Judiciary, Energy Utilities and Commerce, Insurance, Environmental Quality, and the Select Committee to Investigate Price Fixing in the Wholesale Energy Market.

During the early fall of 2000 was the only legislator in the forefront to publicly warn of an impending and severe statewide energy crisis, calling upon the Governor to convene an emergency session of the legislature to address the escalating threat. Although such action belatedly occurred several months later, this foresight was rewarded a render of confidence in 2001 when appointed to the Energy Committee as its Vice-Chairman in the midst of the resulting crisis. In that capacity, had prominent input into how California should shape energy policy to extricate from and prevent future energy emergencies. Also called upon to author flagship legislation on “tort reform” and death penalty issues, and was relied upon as a leading expert in the legislature on administration of justice and judiciary issues, as well as issues pertinent to the Civil, Civil Procedure, Evidence, Family and Probate Codes.

**State Assemblyman - 1992-1998**

Elected to office in 1992 and re-elected in 1994 and 1996, and served 6 years representing the 73<sup>rd</sup> Assembly District, covering North San Diego and South Orange Counties. During the 1995-1996 legislative term when the Republicans held a majority in the Assembly, was selected to be Chairman of the powerful Judiciary Committee that contains the highest bill load and broadest jurisdiction among the policy committees. Also appointed Chairman of the Budget Subcommittee on State Administration. Quickly earned reputation as a tireless workhorse who ably integrated courtroom skills and legal expertise in all aspects of the legislative process. A recognized champion for civil justice reforms, and instrumental in writing several landmark bills instituting major legal reforms, including measures expediting the death penalty appellate process and habeas corpus petitions, and overhauling the budget process to provide a steady reliable source of state trial court funding achieving uniformity in the courts.

**AULT, DEUPREY, DANIELSON, JONES & GORMAN, San Diego, CA 1989-1992**  
**Associate Attorney**

Represented defendants in general civil litigation in federal and state courts. Focus on insurance defense, personal injury, product liability, medical and legal malpractice, wrongful termination, and construction defect cases.

**SCHALL, BOUDREAU & GORE, San Diego, CA 1988-1989**  
**Associate Attorney**

Represented plaintiffs and defendants in general civil litigation focusing on personal injury, real property, patent and trademark infringement, and cases involving the Resolution Trust Corporation/Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

**ASSEMBLY REPUBLICAN CAUCUS, Sacramento & San Diego, CA 1987-1988**  
**Legislative Consultant**

Provided legislative staff services to Republican members of the California State Assembly. During the 1988 elections was transferred to the Assembly Republican Political Action Committee as campaign manager for Republican 78th Assembly District candidate Byron Wear.

**UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS 1979-1987**  
**Judge Advocate/Chief Trial and Defense Counsel**

During 8 years active duty as a commissioned officer, was assigned both criminal prosecutorial and defense trial duties in special and general courts-martial. Not long after arriving to first duty station in 1980, was elevated to position of Chief Defense Counsel for Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton. Thereafter served as Chief Defense Counsel for combined 2 years, and Chief Trial Counsel (chief prosecutor) for a combined 5 years at Camp Pendleton and overseas in Okinawa, Japan. Personally tried hundreds of criminal trials, including dozens of jury trials, ranging from murders and other violent felonies, property and drug-related crimes, to exclusively military offenses, such as desertion or disobeying lawful orders. Responsible for supervising dozens of junior officers/attorneys, their caseloads, as well as enlisted and civilian administrative support personnel.

From 1984-1986, additionally served as appointed Special Assistant U.S. Attorney in San Diego to assist the U.S. Attorney's Office, the F.B.I., and the Naval Investigative Services in the investigation, apprehension, and prosecution of subjects "stung" in the largest nationwide undercover operation at that time, known as 'Operation Ripstop', which involved the theft and sale of military equipment worth millions of dollars. Honorably discharged on September 1, 1987. Highest rank promoted was Major.

## **EDUCATION**

- **Pepperdine University School of Law, Malibu, CA**  
Juris Doctor, 1979
- **University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA**  
Bachelor of Arts, 1976 - Magna Cum Laude  
Major: Political Science,
- **University of Houston, Houston, TX**  
National College of District Attorneys  
Career Prosecutors Course, 1985

## **COMMISSION & BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

- **California Law Revision Commission**  
Appointed Member 2000-2006
- **Judicial Council of California**  
Appointed Member 2006

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

### **2006**

- Legislative Leader's Award, San Diego Citizen's Against Lawsuit Abuse (CALA)
- Legislator of the Year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)
- The Mickey Conroy Legislator of the Year Award, California State Commanders Veterans Council
- The George Thomas Memorial Off-Roader of the Year Award, California Off-Road Vehicle Association
- Legislator of the Year Award, Blue Ribbon Coalition of Off-Roaders
- Legislator of the Year, California League of Off-Road Voters and Friends

### **2005**

- California College Republican Elected Official of the Year
- California Legislator of the Year, APlus, A Personalized Learning Network Association of Charter Schools
- The Nathan Hale Award of the Retired Officers Association
- The Freedom Fighter's Award of the Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise Alliance
- Recognition Award, the California Legion of Valor Museum

### **2004**

- Serving Justice by Improving the Law Legislator of the Year Award, Conference of Delegates of the California Bar Association
- Advocate of the Year, San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
- The Motomu Nakasaki Memorial Legislator of the Year Award, California Association of County Veterans Service Officers
- Legislator of the Year, San Diego Traffic School Association

### **2003**

- Legislator of the Year, Crime Victims United
- Outstanding Legislator of the Year, California Rifle and Pistol Association
- Appreciation Award, Oceanside Friends of the National Rifle Association

### **2001**

- Alumnus of the Year, Mount San Antonio Community College
- Small Business Senate Legislator of the Year, California Small Business Association
- Electricity and Ratepayer Protection Award, the Building Owners and Managers Association of San Diego
- Resolution of Honor, San Diego County Board of Education

### **2000**

- Recognition Award, Marshall's Association of California
- Award of Appreciation, the California Motorcycle Dealers' Association
- Recognition Award, U.S. Department of Food and Agriculture

### **1999**

- Legislator of the Decade Award, the Off-Road Vehicle Legislative Coalition

- Outstanding Legislator Award, South Orange County Community College District

#### **1997**

- Legislator of the Year Award, the California Republican Assembly
- Legislator of the Year Award, Golden State Mobile Home Owners' League

#### **1996**

- Leadership and Service Award, the Judicial Council of the State of California

#### **1995**

- Award for Leadership, Association for the Improvement of Secondary Education
- Keeping the Promise Appreciation Award, Association for Service Disabled Veterans

#### **1994**

- The Top Producer Award, Boys and Girl's Club of Oceanside
- Chief Edward J. Allen Award, Orange County Pro-life PAC
- Outstanding Legislator Award, Capistrano Unified School District
- Legislator of the Year, Orange County Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse

#### **1993**

- Outstanding Legislator Award, Orange County League of Cities

#### **1989**

- Certificate of Recognition, Assemblyman Robert Frazee
- Certificate of Recognition, Assemblyman Bill Bradley

#### **1986**

- Letter of Appreciation, Director William Webster, Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Award of Appreciation, Naval Investigative Service
- Navy Commendation Medal

#### **1982**

- U.S. Marine Corps Commendation, Commanding General Kenneth Robinson, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton