

CALIFORNIA PUBLIC RECORDS ACT

NAVIGATING A CPRA REQUEST



Mae Alberto



Host: Nevada County Sheriff's Office
Webinar: March 17, 2022, 9:00am to 1:00pm
NO RECORDING OF THIS PRESENTATION IS PERMITTED

Course Description:

The program will provide an overview of the California Public Records Act ("CPRA"), and how to navigate through a CPRA request. Among the topics that will be covered include the duties of the requester and responding party; the applicable deadlines from request to initial response and disclosure; identifying what records are disclosable at the time of the request; the exemptions or exceptions that apply to disclosability; redaction obligation; and avoiding the pitfalls of litigation. There will also be time for discussion questions.

Course Registration:

Cost: Free (Open to current governmental employees only)
RSVP: Sergeant Timothy Highsmith
timothy.highsmith@co.nevada.ca.us
*Course materials will be made available by email prior to the webinar

Mae Alberto is a senior counsel in the Los Angeles office of Manning & Kass, Ellrod, Ramirez, Trester LLP, where she is a member of the firm's Strategy, Writs and Appeals Team. In this role, she provides specialized legal expertise to support the work of many of the firm's practice area groups, but primarily focuses on the defense of government entities and religious institutions. Ms. Alberto is a founding member of the firm's *Pitchess & Police Records Advocacy, Instruction, and Defense Unit*, which specializes in the litigation of cases brought against law enforcement agencies under the California Public Records Act ("the CPRA").

Ms. Alberto recently won a defense verdict for a southern California law enforcement agency in a case brought under the CPRA where the plaintiff claimed the agency was in violation of the Act after failing to produce requested records more than a year after the request date. Ms. Alberto argued that the records the plaintiff had requested were actually subject to different provisions of the CPRA that were more favorable to the agency. The Court agreed, denying not only the motion, but also plaintiff's related motion for legal fees.

Ms. Alberto also advises government agencies on their responses to CPRA requests such that they will not open themselves to the possibility of future litigation. She is a graduate of Southwestern University School of Law and has taught legal writing at Glendale University College of Law.