

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEW PARTNERS, LAWRENCE JOE AND CONOR KENNEDY

January 1, 2021

San Diego, California - Garcia Hernández Sawhney, LLP is proud to announce its newest partners Lawrence Joe and Conor Kennedy. Lawrence and Conor formally became partners in the firm effective January 1, 2021.

“We are so proud of Lawrence and Conor. They exemplify the first-rate heart and first-rate mind criteria that our firm requires of all of our legal professionals,” said Bonny Garcia, the firm’s Managing Partner. “We can be very confident about the future of our law firm when we have the great pleasure of elevating such rising stars into our firm’s leadership.”

The new GHS partners are as follows:

Los Angeles Area Office

Lawrence Joe, Partner

“I am humbled and honored to have been tapped to join the firm’s partner ranks,” says Lawrence Joe. “I am also thrilled to have the opportunity to work with such a talented and diverse group of colleagues.”

Since joining the firm’s Los Angeles area office in 2014, Mr. Joe has become a key part of the firm’s education practice area, with particular emphasis in advising school district clients on special education and Section 504 matters and representing school district clients in mediations and administrative due process hearings. Lawrence also has experience assisting school district and community college clients with workplace investigations and human resource/personnel issues, as well as assisting clients with California Public Records Act requests. A Past President of OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates, Lawrence served as Co-Chair of its very successful 2014 National Conference, which was the first national conference to take place in Los Angeles in 20 years. Lawrence earned his law degree from UCLA School of Law and a Bachelor of Arts from UC Berkeley. He also holds a Master of Arts from Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education and a Master of Arts in Urban Planning from UCLA’s School of Public Affairs.

Lawrence continues to be active in the community and is a Board member for the local chapter of OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates. Lawrence also maintains an active membership with the California Council of School Attorneys.

San Francisco Bay Area Office

Conor Kennedy, Partner

“I am so proud to take on this new role at this firm and to continue to work with this team of premier legal professionals with depths of experience serving high profile public-sector leaders across California,” said Conor Kennedy. “As partner, my aim is to bring my own experience, knowledge, and capabilities to our team’s tireless effort to always exceed client expectations.”

Conor Kennedy joined the firm’s San Francisco Bay area office in January of 2019. He currently represents the firm’s school district, community college district and business clients both in public meetings and in the courtroom, handling a range of complex compliance, transactional, and litigation matters. He joined the firm after spending two years with the San Francisco Mayor’s Office, leading a large scale local effort to expand equitable access to reliable, high speed internet. Prior to that, he served individuals and small and medium



sized Bay Area companies as a full-time litigator. Conor earned his law degree from Harvard Law School and his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science, Magna Cum Laude, from Brown University.

Conor currently serves as General Counsel to the Fairview Fire Protection District and as outside counsel for the Oakland Police Commission. He maintains an active membership with the Bar Association of San Francisco.