

# ***Law Offices of James F. Cote***

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## **Education:**

University of California, Santa Barbara  
Bachelor of Arts: Economics 1976  
High Honors

University of San Francisco  
Juris Doctor 1979

## **Professional Experience:**

2014 - Present: Law Offices of James F. Cote (Senior Attorney)  
Estate planning, probate and trust administration

1999 - 2014: Sole Practitioner  
Estate planning, probate and trust administration, counseling small businesses  
(corporations, general and limited partnerships, LLCs, LLPs)

1985 - 1999: Griffith & Thornburgh (Partner, 1988)  
Complex civil litigation, civil appeals, estate planning, probate and trust  
administration, business counseling

1982 - 1985: Archbald & Spray (Associate)  
Business and probate litigation, business counseling, personal injury and  
professional negligence and products liability insurance defense

1979 - 1982: Sole practitioner  
General civil and criminal matters

1986 - 1990, 1994 - 1996, 2007: Santa Barbara College of Law: Business entities  
instructor

## **State Bar of California Specialist Accreditation:**

Certified as an estate planning specialist by the State Bar of California  
See: [calbar.ca.gov/Attorneys/Legal-Specialization](http://calbar.ca.gov/Attorneys/Legal-Specialization)

**Judicial Recognition:**

Accepted as expert witness on estate planning, probate and trust administration issues, and appointed as neutral Special Administrator and Special Interim Trustee in probate and trust proceedings, by the Santa Barbara Superior Court, Anacapa Division.

**Volunteer Activities:**

Santa Barbara Superior: Arbitrator and Judge Pro Tem (1980 - 2008)

Santa Barbara County Bar: Conference of Delegates (2001 - 2003)

Anacapa School: Board of Trustees (2001 - 2004)

Montecito Union School: Board of Trustees (2002 - 2006)

Hospice of Santa Barbara: Board of Trustees (2002 - 2006)