

Jonathan Holtzman presently serves as Mayor Willie L. Brown's Director of Labor and Policy. In his current position, he is responsible for guiding city labor, employment and benefit policies, and directs the city's labor negotiations.

Prior to joining the Mayor's office, he served as San Francisco's chief labor and employment attorney for eight years, and Chief Deputy City Attorney for four years. During this time, Mr. Holtzman served as lead counsel in major employment lawsuits, writs, class actions and appeals in all areas of labor and employment law including Fair Labor Standards Act, Title VII, Equal Protection; sexual harassment; whistleblower; First Amendment; alleged violation of charter wage and benefit guarantees; health service and retirement issues; contracting-out; privacy and drug testing. Representative decisions include:

- Fazio v. San Francisco, 125 F.3d 1328 (9th Cir. 1997) [holding that assistant district attorney is a policymaker who can be dismissed due to speech critical of DA];
- Stewart v. San Francisco, 834 F.Supp. 1223 (N.D.Cal. 1993) [first case holding Department of Labor's 1954 "salary basis test" invalid as applied to public employers, eliminating large FLSA liability];
- Service Employees International Local 102 v. San Diego (9th Cir. 1994) [9th Circuit adopted San Francisco's argument that federal "salary basis test" could not lawfully be applied to government employers];
- United Farm Workers v. ALRB, 41 Cal.App.4th 303 [in this and a related case against San Francisco, courts held that California Table Grapes Council lacked the authority to sue union and City on behalf of growers].

Mr. Holtzman also was responsible for crafting the city's progression from a wage and benefit "formula" system to its present collective bargaining and interest arbitration system, as well as civil service reform measures. He has authored more than a dozen charter amendments adopted by the voters in this area between 1988 and the present.

Recently, Mr. Holtzman negotiated and drafted "Proposition E" on the November 1999 ballot, making the City's municipal transit system a quasi-independent agency. Mr. Holtzman is also an author of the City's hotel/restaurant "card check recognition" and minimum compensation laws affecting private employers, and is presently working on the Mayor Brown's health insurance initiatives.

During the period Mr. Holtzman served as Chief Deputy City Attorney, the San Francisco City Attorney's Office became a national pioneer in the area of "affirmative litigation," filing actions against banks, tobacco, gun and insurance companies. Mr. Holtzman also has served as counsel for the city in numerous lawsuits arising under Proposition 209, including the City's challenges to Proposition 209 in both state and federal courts.

Mr. Holtzman graduated from Haverford College in 1978 and Stanford Law School in 1981. During law school, he clerked for the Washington D.C. Center for Law and Social Policy as well as Clark Clifford's and Paul Warnke's law firm. After law school, he clerked for Justice Otto Kaus of the California Supreme Court for two years, and spent four years with Morrison & Foerster doing employment litigation, specializing in privacy, sexual harassment and Title VII issues.

Mr. Holtzman grew up in New York City. A San Francisco resident now for twenty years, Mr. Holtzman has served on the boards of many legal and community organizations, including as President of the Barristers Club of the Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF). He is married to Jill Armbrust, a psychiatrist, and has two children, Alex and Jessie, ages 11 and 8.