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Kathleen A. McDonald is the Office Managing Associate in the firm's Fresno office. Her areas of practice cover Student Services and Special Education. Ms. McDonald spent four years teaching severely handicapped students at a high school in the Central Valley from which she gained considerable experience in both the legal and everyday challenges facing special needs students and the educational staff serving them. She provides compliance counsel in the areas of the Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008 (ADAAA). She is a popular speaker, providing workshops on a variety of topics.

Prior to joining the firm, Ms. McDonald was of counsel at a firm practicing environmental and land use law and assisted clients in solving complex compliance issues. In addition, she has mentored incarcerated youth through the Los Angeles County Bar Association's attorney mentoring program.

Ms. McDonald earned her Juris Doctor from the University of California, Los Angeles. While there, she authored "Battered Wives, Religion & Law: An Interdisciplinary Approach," which was published in the Yale Journal of Law & Feminism. She received her Bachelor's Degree, *magna cum laude*, from the University of California, Los Angeles, and both her Master's Degree in Special Education and her Education Specialist Credential from Chapman University.