



Wanger Jones Helsley PC

Representation Helping Ag Succeed



With a visible sign off Highway 41 that greets drivers into North Fresno near Riverpark, Wanger Jones Helsley PC is a name known by many. Behind the name, however, are dozens of attorneys ready to assist, one being agricultural law expert Riley C. Walter.

Walter's law career took a more untraditional route. He was a college professor at Cal Poly teaching agriculture business management when he decided to go to law school. Walter graduated from Western State University and became a law clerk for a federal bankruptcy judge, before moving into private practice nearly 40 years ago.

Today, as a shareholder at Wanger Jones Helsley PC, Walter practices exclusively in the areas of agricultural and bankruptcy law. He spends a majority of his time representing farmers and ranchers and agricultural businessmen and women on a variety of agricultural related topics such as PACA (Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act); Chapter 9,11,12 and reorganization; and others. He is admitted to the United States Supreme Court; United States District Courts for the Northern, Eastern, Central and Southern Districts of California; and all California courts.

Founded in 1995, Wanger Jones Helsley PC consists of 11 partners and 30 attorneys. They are a litigation firm, representing clients in the Central Valley and Central Coast on a variety of issues such as agriculture; environmental, water, real estate and land use law; labor and employment law; trusts and estates; probate; white collar crimes and so on. They have represented a number of irrigation and water districts, tree and row crop farmers, ranchers and so on, and also have extensive regulatory practice dealing with chemicals, fertilizers, growers, packers and shippers.

Their number one goal? Efficient representation.

"We simply try to achieve the client's goals and objectives in an efficient way and with a reasonable cost to it," said Walter. "We do not overstaff cases, and we try to bring in the right expertise on the right problem."

Not only do they help their client's day in and day out, but they give back and are very involved in the community they serve. Their attorney's serve on various boards, including Walter who serves on the board at Valley Children's Hospital. They are also involved with other organizations such as the American Heart Association, Laval Entrepreneur Mentor Program and Marjaree Mason Center.

They are also very supportive of the agricultural community and are FCFB Friends of the Family Farm Premium Members.

"This farm community in the Central Valley has been very good to me over the years, and I wanted to show my support by assisting an organization that is integral to the success of

farmers," said Walter. "What Farm Bureau seeks to do in the promotion of California agriculture is important and critical to our economy and our way of life."

Their one message to our members? Know that you will have efficient representation.

At the end of the day, they just want what's best for their clients and for members of this community.

"My one piece of advice would be to not wait," said Walter. "Get your affairs in order as early as possible and don't wait until you need us to begin that process."

