

James Polish
Counsel, *Carlsmith Ball LLP*



Jim Polish has been a member of VICA for about ten years. He serves on VICA's Board of Directors, is a member of the Government Affairs Committee, and is a past co-chair of the Federal Issues Committee.

Polish began practicing law in 1973 with Ball Hunt Hart Brown & Baerwitz which merged with the Carlsmith firm to become Carlsmith Ball LLP. In 1994, he became Carlsmith's General Counsel, one of first general counsel for a law firm in the United States. Carlsmith was founded in Hilo, Hawaii in 1857. It has offices in Los Angeles, Honolulu, Hilo, Kona, Maui, Guam, and Saipan. Carlsmith was recently certified as a women, minority, and disabled veteran owned business enterprise. As general counsel, Jim works with lawyers in all of the offices. He also maintains an active diverse civil business litigation practice, including breach of contract, fraud, breach of fiduciary duties, copyright, and regulatory matters involving the California Public Utilities Commission. He practices before the state and federal trial and appellate courts.

Polish received his bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of California, Los Angeles, graduating magna cum laude. He received his law degree from UCLA in 1973 and was awarded order of the coif.

Polish grew up in the Valley. He lives with his wife and their Abyssinian cat, Makena, in Marina del Rey. His son is a high school teacher at Champs Charter School in Van Nuys.