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**ATTORNEY MEGAN MACY PROVIDES EXPERT ADVICE IN AUGUST 2011 ISSUE OF
SPECIALEDCONNECTION**

Megan Macy, Shareholder in Lozano Smith's Sacramento Office, was quoted in the August 25, 2011 issue of the LRP Publication [SpecialEdConnection®](#) in an article entitled, "Use 6 Expert Tips to Get in Front of Facility Access Issues".

The article summarized key steps to ensure that a building or facility is accessible to individuals with mobility impairments.

The main steps that the article discussed were as follows:

- Notify the public and students about accessible features.
- Periodically review facility accessibility.
- Consider benefits of door-opening devices.
- Assess recreation areas.
- Design at least one single-user restroom.
- Post signage about accessible entrances near drop-off zones.

Megan Macy was quoted in the article stating, "From a planning perspective, schools need to look ahead and make sure they understand state and federal standards when constructing new facilities or modernizing older facilities, which is where a lot of issues come up."

Macy also went on to say, "We find that facilities issues tend to be a prime area for class action lawsuits against school districts, especially if there is a pervasive problem, such as noncompliant ramps, throughout district schools," and that such actions "put districts at substantial risk in terms of the costs associated with defending that kind of litigation and attorneys fees that mount on the other side."

"We encourage schools to have an independent expert regularly conduct audits to evaluate older facilities in particular and outline changes that need to be made," she said. "This way schools can get ahead of the problem."

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