



Monisha A. Coelho

Shareholder

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Practices & Industries

- Litigation
- Transactions

Overview

Monisha Coelho helps clients – from entrepreneurs and startups to multinational corporations – resolve business disputes and real estate matters in state and federal court litigation, mediations, and arbitrations.

She has particular strengths defending and prosecuting claims on behalf of companies in the technology, biotech, hospitality, and residential healthcare industries, handling breaches of contract, technology theft, privacy and confidentiality issues, shareholder and corporate mismanagement complaints, partnership disputes, antitrust claims, and general business matters. Her recent work includes defending a technology company against a competitor's claims of trade secret theft and price-fixing, litigating claims between majority and minority shareholders, resolving partnership disputes between hotel owners and managers, and representing companies in various breach of contract and non-performance lawsuits.

In addition, Monisha helps lenders, borrowers, real estate developers, commercial landlords/tenants, and property owners resolve a wide variety of commercial and residential real estate matters, including hard money and traditional loan disputes, foreclosure cases, lawsuits between commercial landlords and tenants, title fraud, and developer disputes.

Dually-licensed in India and California, Monisha has successfully guided clients through US-India cross-border legal matters, including setting up business operations and market entry in both countries, negotiating commercial contracts, resolving US-based litigation and arbitration, and handling India-related real estate matters. Recent representations include helping US tech and renewable energy companies set up operations in India, assisting Bangalore-based biotech and pharma companies to set up subsidiaries in the US, negotiating corporate guarantees between a US lender and a Mumbai company, and resolving disputes between New Delhi garment exporters and US buyers over unpaid invoices and breaches of contract. Monisha works with a network of trusted professionals in India and the US to assist her clients on various matters.

Monisha is regularly invited to speak at Los Angeles Bar Association events with other senior attorneys and judges. She has guest lectured at the UCLA School of Law, USC School of Law, and Loyola Law School. She was the updates editor for the chapter on Federal Jurisdiction in the highly respected legal treatise, *Civil Procedure Before Trial*, published by Continuing Education of the Bar. An article she co-authored with two sitting judges of the Los Angeles Superior Court on resolving discovery disputes was featured on the cover of the Los Angeles Lawyer magazine. In addition, Monisha is the author of *Fundamentals of an American Lawsuit (For Business)*, a primer on how lawsuits progress in American courts from case initiation until trial, written for business owners.

Committed to the legal profession and to social change, Monisha is active in the Los Angeles legal community. She is currently Chair of the Litigation Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association, working closely in that role with state and federal judges to support the efforts of the court system and increase collaboration between the judiciary and attorneys. She has been appointed to LACBA President's Advisory Commission on Women in the Law since 2018 and is the Diversity Chair of the American Bar Association's International Litigation Committee. Monisha serves on the Advisory Board of the University of California, Riverside Extension's Design Thinking Executive Program. A former Board Member of the South Asian Network (SAN) and the St. Joseph Worker Program, West Coast, she supports education for low-income students in Los Angeles, India, and Africa.

Outside the office, Monisha is an avid hiker in the local Santa Monica Mountains, an amateur runner, a sailor, and a season subscriber to the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Memberships

- Chair, Litigation Section, Los Angeles County Bar Association
- Vice Chair, Section of International Law, American Bar Association
- Appointed to the Los Angeles County Bar Association President's Advisory Committee on Women in the Legal Profession
- Diversity Chair, American Bar Association, Section of International Law, International Litigation Committee
- Former Board Member of the South Asian Network (SAN)
- Former Board Member of the St. Joseph Worker Program, West Coast
- Former Vice President of the LACBA Trial Practice Inns of Court
- Former Member of the California Senate Taskforce on Equity and Diversity

Education / Admissions

Education:

- L.L.M., M&A, Securities Regulation, Corporate Transactions, University of Southern California Gould School of Law, 2009
- L.L.M., International Trade Law, International Civil Litigation, International Arbitration, University of San Diego School of Law, 2001
- L.L.B., University Gold Medal, University of Bombay Government Law College, India
- B.A., Economics & Commerce, St. Xavier's College, Mumbai, India

Bar Admissions:

- State Bar of California
- State Bar of Maharashtra, India

Accolades

- 2019, Women's History Month Honoree, Los Angeles Country Bar Association
- 2017-2020, Southern California "SuperLawyers," Business Litigation
- 2017 and 2019, Nominee for "Leaders in Law Award," *Los Angeles Business Journal*
- 2017 and 2019, Nominee for the Women's Summit Award, *Los Angeles Business Journal*
- 2016, featured on the cover of the *Los Angeles Lawyer Magazine*

Other Publications

- *Key Developments in Indian Arbitration Law*, American Bar Association, Section of International Law – Year in Review, 2018:52.
- *Streamlining Discovery*, Los Angeles Lawyer Magazine, co-authored with The Hon. Samantha Jessner, Los Angeles Superior Court, The Hon. Amy Hogue, Los Angeles Superior Court, and Laura Wirth, Esq.
- *The Use of International Conventions in Domestic Indian Cases*, American Civil Liberties Union, International Civil Liberties Report, 131 (2001).

Recent News

- [WEBINAR RECAP Relief Loans: Next Steps Under the Paycheck Protection Program and Other Financial Assistance to Help You Stay in Business](#)
- [U.S. Federal Reserve Announces Main Street Lending Program for Small and Mid-Sized Businesses](#)
- [CLIENT ALERT: Financial Assistance for Businesses & Individuals During COVID-19](#)
- [CLIENT ALERT Understanding the “CARES Act” Loan Options: A Q&A for Business Owners](#)
- [Main Street Lending Program Adds Third Loan Program: The Main Street Priority Loan](#)
- [Q&A for Commercial Landlords and Tenants: Tips on Negotiating Leases & Addressing Lender Issues](#)
- [Federal, California, and Los Angeles Region Moratoriums on Evictions, Rent Increases, and Mortgage Foreclosures](#)
- [SBA Releases Paycheck Protection Program Loan Forgiveness Application and Instructions](#)
- [Navigating California’s and Los Angeles County’s Eviction and Rent Increase Moratoriums During COVID-19: Updates for Commercial & Residential Landlords and Tenants](#)