



Mary Michelena Monroe

Shareholder

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Practices & Industries

- Litigation
- Employment
- Government & Regulatory

Overview

Mary Michelena-Monroe helps clients navigate and resolve disputes. Whether preparing witnesses for depositions, working with employers and managers to develop and implement personnel solutions, or defending her client's interests before jury and judge, she keeps her clients informed and prepares them for what lies ahead.

With extensive experience representing public entities – cities, universities, and the like – in employment-related disputes, Mary brings a steady hand to quickly and efficiently resolve the personnel challenges her clients face. She has particular strengths responding to employee claims of wrongful termination and hostile work environment, including those based on protected classes such as race, age, sex, and disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In addition, Mary regularly resolves lawsuits addressing unreasonably dangerous condition of public property and other claims challenging immunity for municipalities and other public entities throughout California, often on demurrer or summary judgment

She also works with a number of private companies to resolve a wide range of complex business litigation. An experienced and committed litigation attorney, Mary brings a practical perspective to every matter she handles – large disputes and small litigation alike – from the time a complaint is filed through its successful resolution.

Mary is active in the community and the legal profession. She has completed, and participated as faculty of the National Institute of Trial Advocacy's Deposition Training Program and Advanced Trial Techniques Program, and sits on the Board of Directors for the California Minority Counsel Program. She's also a Speaker Representative for Guide Dogs of America; an Alumnae of National Charity League; and a Past Parent Board member of Mayfield Junior School and current Alumni Board Member for Mayfield Senior School.

Memberships

- Board of Directors, California Minority Counsel Program
- Speaker Representative for Guide Dogs of America
- Past Committee Member, California State Bar Committee – Council on Access and Fairness
- Alumni Board Member, Mayfield Senior School
- Past Parent Board member, Mayfield Junior School
- Alumnae, National Charity League

Education / Admissions

Education:

- J.D., Loyola Law School, 1989
- B.A. in Political Science, University of California, Los Angeles, 1986

Bar Admissions:

State Bar of California

Matters

Recent representative work includes:

- Successfully resolved through Summary Judgement a suit alleging Dangerous Condition of Public Property.
- Successfully resolved an “unsettleable” case filed against a large university and senior, high-profile executive for race and age discrimination.
- Obtained dismissal on demurrer of a claim of Dangerous Condition of Public Property against a municipal client.
- Negotiated agreement with Department of Fair Employment and Housing to accept attorney’s evaluation of case and dismiss matter without requested interviews of employees of national staffing firm.

Other Publications

PDF Articles:

ALVARADOSMITH CLIENT ALERT Comfort and Service Animals in the Work Place by M. MONROE

Public Speaking:

- California Minority Counsel Program 2013 Annual Conference Los Angeles
- Moderator –“Tooting Your Own Horn and Finding Someone to Lead the Parade”

Teaching:

- Former Faculty Member: National Institute of Trial Advocacy Deposition Training Program and Advanced Trial Techniques Program.

