



Maria C. Rodriguez

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Maria Rodriguez leads the labor and employment group in Los Angeles, counsels domestic and foreign corporations with regard to employment law compliance and mergers and acquisitions; and defends employment cases and class action litigation.

While Maria has extensive litigation defense experience and enjoys the strategic elements of litigating, she ultimately prides herself on being a trusted advisor to clients, and helping them avoid or resolve disputes and protect resources through proactive and strategic planning.

Understanding the needs of clients and the complexities involved in doing business in California, across the United States, and abroad, she works closely with clients in the sports, media and entertainment, technology, food and restaurant, airline, transportation and distribution, healthcare, and fashion industries. Maria is grateful her family ensured her fluency in Spanish, which is beneficial in her work with Spanish and Latin based clients.

Maria advises on and defends cases involving wage-hour, harassment, discrimination, wrongful termination, retaliation, breach of employment contract, unlawful business practices, non-solicitation, trade secrets and other employment-related cases. Client litigation victories include dismissals by way of early motions to dismiss, summary judgment and leveraging cases early to produce nuisance value resolutions. At trial, she has produced wins in multiple-plaintiff wage-hour, retaliation, discrimination and wrongful termination cases and achieved a defense verdict for her client in a high-profile, eight-week jury trial involving UNRUH civil rights claims brought by 26 plaintiffs against eight defendants.

Maria also defends employers in proceedings before governmental agencies, such as the Department of Fair Employment and Housing, the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission, the California Labor Commissioner, the US Department of Labor, the Department of Justice and city and state government agencies that enforce employment.