

Michael E. Brewer

Office Managing Shareholder

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Focus Areas

Litigation and Trials Class Actions Wage and Hour Retail Discrimination and Harassment

Overview

Michael E. Brewer practices exclusively in the area of labor and employment law, defending employers in cases, including class and collective actions, that involve:

- Wage and hour claims
- Alleged sexual harassment
- Discrimination
- Retaliation
- Wrongful termination
- Employment-related torts

Michael regularly appears in state and federal courts and before various governmental agencies including the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Department of Labor, the Department of Labor Standards Enforcement, the Employment Development Department, and the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing. He has specific experience with:

- Title VII
- The Americans with Disabilities Act
- The California Fair Employment and Housing Act
- Wage payment provisions of the California Labor Code

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Michael also routinely counsels clients on:

- The proper handling of termination and discipline decisions
- Workplace accommodation issues
- Litigation avoidance
- Leaves of absence
- All other aspects of personnel management

With his advice, he strives to balance business realities with the need to ensure compliance with constantly-evolving federal and state labor laws. In addition to his representation of employers in specific matters, Michael provides training to management in all aspects of employment law and frequently speaks before business and professional associations throughout California.

Michael's clients include national retailers, hotels and employers in the real estate and title industry.

The office managing shareholder of the Walnut Creek office, Michael is active in the firm's Complex Litigation and Jury Trial, and Retail practice groups.

Professional and Community Affiliations

- Member, Labor and Employment Law Section, State Bar of California
- Member, Board of Directors, Contra Costa County Bar Association
- Former President, Employment Law Section, Contra Costa County Bar Association
- Member, Labor and Employment Law Section, Bar Association of San Francisco
- President, Northern California Employment Roundtable

Education

J.D., University of Colorado Law School, 1995

B.A., University of California, Los Angeles, 1990

Bar Admissions

California

Courts

- U.S. Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California

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Publications & Press

San Francisco's New Employee Scheduling Law a Bellwether for Retail, Other Industries Bloomberg BNA Daily Labor Report December 18, 2014

San Francisco Ordinance Imposes New Burdens on 'Formula' Retail Employers

Littler Insight December 9, 2014

Littler Taps Michael E. Brewer to Lead San Francisco and Walnut Creek Offices

Littler Press Release September 24, 2014

Employer Mandated Wellness Initiatives: The Continuum from Voluntary to Mandatory Plans

Littler Report April 25, 2008

5 Must-Have Employment Defense Motions in Limine

Contra Costa Lawyer August 1, 2007

Mike Brewer Comments on Sexual Harassment Claim Against Warner Bros.

InsideCounsel June 28, 2006

California Supreme Court Approves Raunchy Talk as Part of the "Creative Workplace" Environment

Littler Insight April 24, 2006

Michael Brewer Warns Employers About the Implications of RICO Violations if the Supreme Court Says Companies Can be Held Liable

San Francisco Business Times March 17, 2006

Michael Brewer Comments on How RICO Warnings Can Affect Employers

East Bay Business Times February 3, 2006



Michael Brewer Warns Employers of the Dangers of Not Having an Up-To-Date Communicable Illness Policy in the Event of a Bird Flu Pandemic East Bay Business Times January 13, 2006

Then and Now: The California Supreme Court Rules Corporate Officers and Directors Were Not Personally Liable for Non-Payment of Wages, but Individual Defendants Are Now At Risk Littler Insight August 18, 2005

Speaking Engagements

2017 Bay Area Breakfast Briefing - Walnut Creek Walnut Creek, CA January 20, 2017

The 2014 Employment Law Update: The Year in Review and What to Expect in 2015

Littler Mendelson, San Francisco, CA December 5, 2014

California Employment Law Update Contra Costa Industrial Association May 2011

Employment Law and Tax Update Presidio Bank March 2011