



Laura E. Devane

Shareholder

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Practice Areas

Litigation and Trials
Arbitration
Class Action
Discrimination and Harassment
Handbooks and Policies

Overview

Laura E. Devane is a trusted advisor to employers across industries, with a focus on navigating complex workplace challenges through practical legal counsel and forward-thinking risk management. A significant portion of her practice is dedicated to advising on, drafting, and implementing arbitration agreements. Laura partners closely with clients to design and roll out tailored employment policies and agreements that align with business goals and legal compliance.

With extensive litigation experience, Laura regularly appears before California state and federal courts, as well as administrative agencies including the EEOC, DFEH, DLSE, and WCAB. Her litigation background gives her a valuable edge in crafting arbitration and dispute resolution strategies that mitigate risk and enhance enforceability.

Before joining Littler, Laura represented national and regional employers in high-stakes litigation, including multimillion dollar disputes involving restrictive covenants, trade secrets, and executive level employment claims. She has counseled clients from the earliest stages of a dispute through trial and appeal, equipping her with a 360-degree view of the litigation lifecycle.

Laura began her legal career as a judicial law clerk on the Wisconsin Court of Appeals. She has also contributed her time to pro bono efforts, including death penalty defense and housing court advocacy for underserved populations.

Professional and Community Affiliations

- Member, Fresno County Bar Association
- Member, Fresno County Women Lawyers

- Member, Fresno Women's Chamber of Commerce
- Board Member, Light House Fresno

Recognition

- Named, Ones To Watch, *The Best Lawyers in America®*, 2021-2025
- Named, Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers*, 2021-2023
- Recipient, *Minnesota Justice Foundation Public Service Award*

Education

J.D., University of Minnesota Law School, , *magna cum laude*

B.A., University of Minnesota,

Bar Admissions

California

Courts

California Supreme Court

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California

U.S. District Court, Southern District of California

U.S. District Court, District of Minnesota

Publications & Press

Shareholder Laura Devane Rejoins Littler's Arbitration Practice

Press Release

April 29, 2025

Ninth Circuit: "Transportation Exemption" Does Not Apply to Arbitration Clauses Between Corporate Entities or in Commercial Contracts

Littler ASAP

April 23, 2024

U.S. Supreme Court Clarifies When the Federal Arbitration Act's "Transportation Exemption" Applies

Littler ASAP

April 15, 2024

Littler Elevates 26 Attorneys to Shareholder to Kick Off the New Year

Press Release

January 2, 2024

California Supreme Court Holds Plaintiffs with Arbitration Agreements Retain Standing to Pursue Non-Individual PAGA Claims in Court

Littler ASAP

July 18, 2023

Ninth Circuit Eliminates Obstacles to Enforcement of Employment Arbitration Agreements in California

Littler ASAP

February 17, 2023

Supreme Court Permits Arbitration of Individual PAGA Claims

Littler ASAP

June 17, 2022

Best Lawyers in America© 2022 Edition Honors More Than 240 Littler Lawyers

Press Release

August 19, 2021

Best Lawyers in America© 2021 Edition Honors More Than 250 Littler Lawyers

Press Release

August 20, 2020

Events & Speaking Engagements

Supreme Impact: How the US Supreme Court's Arbitration Decisions May Change the Conversation About Adopting, Enforcing, and Winning at Arbitration

Littler Executive Employer Conference, Phoenix, AZ

May 9, 2024