

MICHAEL J. MORPHEW, ESQ.

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Counsel



With over a decade of experience as an employment litigator and legal counselor, Mike Morphew adeptly navigates clients through the legal landscape, including representing companies in discrimination, harassment and retaliation cases. Mike also specializes in class and PAGA representative actions and has considerable employment litigation experience representing employees and private sector business of all sizes in wage and hour cases. He also conducts detailed exposure analyses for individual, class, and PAGA representative actions, and has negotiated favorable individual, class, and PAGA action settlements. Mike also advises and counsels businesses on various employment-related matters, including workplace policies and procedures, best practices, arbitration agreements, and employee handbooks.

Earlier in his career, Mike gained valuable experience as a Judicial Intern for San Diego Superior Court Judge Judith F. Hayes. He also held an internship with the Center for Public Interest Law, where he was responsible for reporting on the Public Utilities Commission and Board of Accountancy activities and compliance with California statutory meeting requirements. He graduated Cum Laude from the University of San Diego School of Law, and he also completed the Pepperdine University School of Law Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution STAR program.

AWARDS & HONORS:

- Listed in Best Lawyers®, Ones to Watch (2025)
- Welsh Inn of Court (2017–2019)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- Casey Gerry Schenk Francavilla Blatt & Penfield LLP, San Diego, CA, Associate (August 2021 – November 2023)
- Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo, San Diego, CA, Associate (August 2019 – July 2021)
- The Markham Law Firm, San Diego, CA, Associate (November 2016 – July 2019)
- Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP, San Diego, CA, Staff Attorney (December 2015 – October 2016)

JUDICIAL COURTSHIP:

- Chambers of The Honorable Judith F. Hayes, California Superior Court; County of San Diego (May 2012 – December 2014)

EDUCATION:

- University of San Diego School of Law, San Diego, CA (J.D. December 2014)
- Pepperdine University School of Law, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution Malibu, CA, (Star Program, June 2013)
- University of Washington, Seattle, WA, (Bachelor of Business Administration — Concentrations in Information Systems and Human Resources, June 1997)

BAR ADMISSIONS:

- California
- United States District Court - Southern District of California
- United States District Court - Northern District of California
- United States District Court - Eastern District of California
- United States District Court - Central District of California

RECENT SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS:

- Updates on the Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA), Nukk-Freeman & Cerra P.C., Hot Topics in California Employment Law Webinar (January 2026)
- Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA), Nukk-Freeman & Cerra P.C., Hot Topics in California Employment Law Webinar (January 2025)

FLUENCY:

- Spanish

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