



→ Kelly L. Hensley

Partner

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Kelly Hensley is a partner in the Labor and Employment Practice Group in the firm's Los Angeles office. She is the former Practice Group Leader of the firm's Labor and Employment Practice Group, serving from 2004-2023. She specializes in labor and employment counseling and wage and hour matters.

Areas of Practice

Compliance Audits. Kelly regularly conducts wage-hour and HR-related compliance audits for companies of all sizes. She helps clients create compliance programs designed to meet state and federal requirements.

Employment Counseling. Kelly regularly counsels employers in California and federal employment law, including employee hiring and discipline procedures, unfair competition matters, worker classification issues, leaves of absence, wage and hour law and employee severance and termination strategies. She has substantial expertise drafting employment agreements and policies such as employee handbooks, independent contractor agreements, confidentiality and non-disclosure agreements, sexual harassment policies, email and internet usage policies and employment-related forms.

Kelly advocates a proactive approach, counseling employers to evaluate their employment practices to minimize liability exposure. Her client-focused counsel is tailored to serve the long-term goals of each client.

Training and Investigations. Kelly frequently conducts training lectures and seminars on general human resources issues. She also assists with sexual harassment and other employment related investigations and implements effective employee discipline or exit strategies in response to those investigations.

Employment Litigation. In addition to her counseling practice, Kelly regularly represents clients in wage-hour class actions and matters before administrative agencies.

Honors

Leading U.S. Corporate Employment Lawyers, Lawdragon, 2020-2024

Labor and Employment, *Legal 500*, 2015-2019, 2023

Articles

- Chinese Outbound Newsletter - March 2013
03.11.2013

- An Employer's To Do List: A guide to keeping up with California's workplace laws
06.01.2004
- Labor Commission Rescinds Letter Addressing New Exemption Standards
07.10.2001

Labor & Employment Law Blog Posts

- "Labor Commissioner Issues FAQs for Supplemental COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Law," March 29, 2021
- "U.S. Supreme Court Rules That Title VII's Protections Extend to LGBTQ Employees," June 16, 2020
- "The City of Los Angeles Passes Worker Retention Ordinance for Certain Employers," May 12, 2020
- "Priority Hiring Required for Laid Off Workers of Covered Employers in Los Angeles," May 7, 2020
- "Los Angeles County Enacts Supplemental Paid Sick Leave Ordinance Effective Immediately," May 7, 2020
- "The City of Los Angeles Mandates Supplemental Paid Sick Leave Effective Immediately," April 8, 2020
- "Employee Privacy Forecast: Temperature Checks," March 25, 2020
- "California Issues Guidance on Conditional Suspension of California WARN Act Notice Requirements," March 24, 2020
- "Massachusetts Statewide Essential Services and Revised Gathering Order: What Employers Need to Know," March 24, 2020
- "Ohio's Statewide Stay At Home Order: What Employers Need to Know," March 24, 2020
- "Employers Must Consider the ADA and Other Disability Laws When Confronted With a Pandemic," March 13, 2020
- "What Employers Need To Know To Prepare For Coronavirus," March 2, 2020
- "Deadline for Compliance with New EEO-1 Form Stayed Indefinitely," August 31, 2017
- "Ramirez v. Dependable Highway Express: The Reasonable Accommodation of an Employee's Family," May 10, 2016
- "California's Computer-Related Exemption Is Modified", November 9, 2007

Corporate Securities Law Blog Posts

- "Employer That Reviewed Text Messages Violated Employee's Right To Privacy", September 8, 2008

Newsletters

- Co-author, *California Labor and Employment Alert Newsletter*

Media Mentions

Logging a String of Big Wins in Labor & Employment
Daily Journal, 02.09.2011

Speaking Engagements

Kelly has lectured throughout California and the nation on topics that include wage and hour law, discrimination issues, wrongful termination and sexual harassment.

Events

Employment Changes in the World of COVID-19

Clear Law Institute Webinar

07.01.2020

Getting Back to Business Webinar Series (Part 1)

Planning and Best Practices for Employers in a Changed Workplace

Webinar, 05.21.2020

Critical Employment Law Issues to Consider In a Turbulent Economy

For HR Practitioners and General Counsel

Grand Hyatt New York - Park Avenue at Grand Central Terminal, 06.12.2008

Memberships

- Member, Labor Law Section, Los Angeles County Bar Association

Podcasts & Webinars

Getting Back to Business Webinar Series: Session One

05.21.2020

Nota Bene Episode 77: Labor, Employment, and Immigration in a Pandemic World with Kelly Hensley, Denise

Giraud, and Greg Berk

04.15.2020

Practices

Labor and Employment

Labor and Employment Counseling

Affirmative Action

Employee Hiring/Discipline/Termination

Employment Agreements

Handbooks and Personnel Policies

Wage and Hour Regulations

Labor and Employment Litigation

Wrongful Termination

Wage and Hour Class Actions

Litigation

Class Action Defense

Healthcare

Industries

Healthcare

Hospitality

Retail, Fashion & Beauty

Education

J.D., Loyola Law School, 1988

B.A., University of California, Santa Barbara, 1985

Admissions

California