

Aaron H. Jacoby

MANAGING PARTNER, LOS ANGELES

Aaron is the Managing Partner of Arent Fox's Los Angeles office and leads the firm's Automotive practice.



Industries

Automotive

Practices

Complex Litigation

Education

University of San Francisco School of Law
JD, 1988

University of California, Santa Cruz BA,
1983

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Los Angeles

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Aaron is one of the most forward-thinking lawyers in the automotive sector, focused on cutting-edge and disruptive developments, including autonomous vehicles, ride sharing, online sales, and direct manufacturer sales. His practice includes federal and state regulatory matters, government investigations, class actions, business litigation and transactions. Aaron's exclusive automotive industry focus enables him to counsel clients on a wide variety of operational, regulatory, business and litigation issues and offer pragmatic solutions for the legal challenges they face.

Managing Automotive

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Recognitions

Aaron was recognized by the *Daily Journal* as one of the "Top 100 Lawyers" in California in 2009, 2010 and 2017. In 2011, the *Daily Journal* also selected the automotive industry practice group as one of the "Top 5 Practices" in California.

Aaron has been recognized in *Chambers USA* in 2012 through 2019 in the category Transportation: Road (Carriage/Commercial). He has also been recognized as a leading attorney by *Super Lawyers* magazine.

Client Work

Aaron represents many of the industry's largest companies in a wide variety of regulatory, litigation and business matters nationally. Representative highlights of his work include:

- Defending auto industry clients before federal and state agencies, including the Federal Trade Commission
- Serving as special counsel in consumer fraud class actions.
- Advising one of the largest public companies in the world on the automotive regulatory components of its multi-billion dollar acquisition of the nation's then largest privately held retail automotive group.
- Working with a prominent private equity fund in the formation of a joint venture for the acquisition of its first retail automotive dealerships.
- Assisting one of the largest automotive retail groups in Mexico with the expansion of its U.S. footprint.
- Providing professional witness analysis and testimony in unfair business practice matters.
- Leading franchise litigation on behalf of dealers.
- Directing regulatory mapping for federal and multi-state licensing and business practices related to:
 - Autonomous vehicle technology.
 - Legal and regulatory implications for online automotive retailers.
 - Multi-state retail operations.
 - Technical drafting advisor for state regulations defining auto industry markets.

Professional Activities

Aaron is a member of the Los Angeles County Bar Association and the National Association of Dealer Counsel. He also serves as counsel to a variety of industry associations.

Publications, Presentations & Recognitions

Aaron has been ranked nationally by *Chambers USA*, in California by the *Daily Journal*, and has been listed in Southern California *Super Lawyers* magazine.

Aaron speaks and writes frequently regarding issues affecting the automotive industry. His articles and presentations include:

- "Chinese Investor Relations Presentation," Los Angeles, CA, November 29, 2018
- "Ethics and Regulations: Who's at the Wheel?," Los Angeles World Affairs Council's "Future of the Automobile" Conference, Los Angeles, CA, May 3, 2018
- "Disruptive Influences in the Car Industry," National Automobile Dealers Association Floor, Las Vegas, NV, March 23, 2018
- "Framework Agreements: The Financial Impact & Legal Issues," National Association of Dealer Counsel Fall Conference 2017, Chicago, IL, October 23, 2017
- "Privacy, cybersecurity, connected cars and driverless vehicles," *Westlaw Journal Automotive*, November 29, 2016
- "Disruption and The Future of the Automotive Industry," Southern California Honda Dealer's Conference, Santa Barbara, CA, July 23, 2016
- "Current Buy-Sell Environment," 3rd Annual Dealership Buy/Sell Summit, Las Vegas, NV, March 30, 2016

- “Auto Distribution: Current Issues & Future Trends,” FTC Workshop: Auto Distribution: Current Issues & Future Trends, Washington DC, January 19, 2016
- “Automotive Industry Legal Update: Recalls, Pay Plans, and Top Issues Facing Dealers,” Southern California Honda Dealer’s Conference, Newport Beach, CA, July 11, 2015
 - “Recall Madness,” National Association of Dealer Counsel’s Fall Conference, Chicago, IL, October 27, 2014
 - “Internet Advertising and Marketing,” National Association of Motor Vehicle Boards and Commissions’ 2014 Fall Workshop, San Diego, September 18, 2014
 - “Recent Automotive Legal Trends: Technology, Recalls, Lawsuits & Arbitrations,” Southern California Honda Dealer’s Conference, Newport Beach, CA, July 12, 2014
 - “CFPB activity should be a lesson for auto lending industry,” *Daily Journal*, co-written with Melanie Joo, June 30, 2014
 - “Heroes, villains and Tesla’s dealer battles,” *Daily Journal*, April 18, 2014
 - “What is an Autonomous Vehicle (AV)? Google’s prototype,” New Motor Vehicle Board’s 10th Industry Roundtable, Sacramento, CA, March 14, 2013
 - “Avoid Fraud and Embezzlement in Your Dealership,” NADA Convention & Expo 2013, Orlando, Florida, February 8-11, 2013
 - “‘Subtle’ Conflict of Interest in US-China Dispute at WTO,” *Daily Journal*, co-written with Nancy Noonan, October 8, 2012
 - “International Dealerships,” National Association of Motor Vehicle Boards and Commissions’ 2012 Fall Workshop, Alexandria, VA, September 20, 2012
 - “2012 Legal Forms and Update,” GM CFO 20 Group Conference, Dana Point, CA, July 2012
 - “The Arent Fox and AAS New Laws Workshop,” Universal City, CA, June 19, 2012
 - “Class Action/Employment,” 2012 8th Annual NADC Member Conference, Scottsdale, AZ, May 1, 2012
 - “Woman Will Win in Small Claims Court, California Honda,” *VOA News*, February 8, 2012
 - “Forward Trends with Dealer Presence on the Internet: Third Party Web Portals vs. Regulatory Hurdles,” 2011 National Association of Motor Vehicle Boards and Commissions Fall Workshop, Reno, NV, October 2011
 - “Class Action Webinar,” May 26, 2011
 - “Class Action Lawsuits: Proactive and Reactive Measures,” 2011 National Association of Dealer Counsel Annual Member Conference, Chicago, IL; April 4, 2011
 - “Manufacturer/Distributor Pressure to Upgrade Facilities,” New Motor Vehicle Board’s Industry/Attorney Roundtable, Sacramento, CA; March 30, 2011
 - “Dealership Acquisitions and Due Diligence,” Los Angeles, CA, November 3, 2010
 - “Risk Management,” Annual Conference of National Alliance of Auto Dealers Advisors, Dana Point, CA, November 1, 2009
 - “The Future of UNICAP Compliance,” *Transmission*, co-written with Robin C. Gilden, October/November 2009
 - “From Old to New – Regulation in a Post-Economic Collapse World,” Annual Conference of the National Association of Motor Vehicle Boards and

Agencies, Charlotte, NC, October 4, 2009

- "Auto Industry Best Practices/Litigation Risk and Prevention," Los Angeles, CA, September 22, 2009
- "Senate Bill 424, a Ray of Hope," *Transmission*; July/August 2009
- "The Bankruptcy Weekly," *National Association of Dealer Counsel*, co-written with Lawrence A. Katz, Stephen K. Gallagher, Victor P. Danhi, Melanie S. Joo, and Kristen E. Burgers, July 22, 2009
- "Auto Dealers' Uphill Battle," *Daily Journal*, July 20, 2009
- "What a Difference a Year Makes / New Opportunities in the Auto Industry," Southern California Honda Dealers Conference, July 17, 2009
- "The Bankruptcy Weekly," *National Association of Dealer Counsel*, co-written with Lawrence A. Katz, Melanie S. Joo, and Kristen E. Burgers, July 15, 2009
- "The Bankruptcy Weekly," *National Association of Dealer Counsel*, co-written with Lawrence A. Katz, Kenneth J. Murphy, David C. Meyer, Kristen E. Burgers, and Melanie S. Joo, July 8, 2009
- "The Bankruptcy Weekly," *National Association of Dealer Counsel*, co-written with Lawrence A. Katz, Rebecca M. Aragon, Kristen E. Burgers, and Melanie S. Joo, July 1, 2009
- "The Bankruptcy Weekly," *National Association of Dealer Counsel*, co-written with Lawrence A. Katz, Kristen E. Burgers, and Melanie S. Joo, June 24, 2009
- "The Bankruptcy Weekly," *National Association of Dealer Counsel*, co-written with Lawrence A. Katz, Melanie S. Joo, Kristen E. Burgers, and Kenneth J. Murphy, June 17, 2009
- "The Bankruptcy Weekly," *National Association of Dealer Counsel*, co-written with Lawrence A. Katz, Dana C. Nifosi, Stephen K. Gallagher, Kristen E. Burgers, and Melanie S. Joo, June 10, 2009
- "The Bankruptcy Weekly," *National Association of Dealer Counsel*, co-written with Lawrence A. Katz, Michael J. Volpe, and Kenneth J. Murphy, June 3, 2009
- "Bankruptcy, Employment and Franchise Issues," Greater New York Auto Dealers' Association, May 7, 2009
- "Dealers Beware: The Employee Free Choice Act and the RESPECT Act," *Dealer Magazine*, Vol. 16, No. 1, co-written with Michael J. Volpe and Shaffin A. Dato, January 2009
- "Class Action Assessment & Prevention - Avoid the Lights Out Lawsuit" complimentary webinar, May 21, 2008
- "New York Legislature Takes Aim at Dealership Pay Plans," *DealersEdge Car Dealer Insider*; May 15, 2008
- "Dissecting the LAW® 553-CA Retail Installment Sale Contract," National Association of Dealer Counsel, Irvine, CA, February 28, 2008
- "Dealer Education as a Complement to the Agency's Regulatory Role," Fall Workshop of National Association of Motor Vehicle Boards and Commissioners, Portland, ME, October 21-24, 2007
- "Class Action Litigation," Colorado Dealer Management and Leadership Summit, Denver, CO, August 15, 2007
- "Class Action Litigation Resulting from Non-Disclosure," National Auto Industry Defense Counsel Meeting, Baltimore, MD, November 10, 2006
- "Class Action Litigation," Recreational Vehicle Dealers' Association Meeting, Rancho Mirage, CA, November 8, 2006
- "F&I Menus and the Car Buyer's Bill of Rights," *Transmission*, October 26, 2006

"Pause in Auto Lease Action About to Come to an End," *Los Angeles Daily Journal*, August 18, 2006

- "California Car Dealers Brace For Continuation of Auto Lease Test Case," *DealersEdge Car Dealer Insider*, August 15, 2006

Bar Admissions

California

Court Admissions

US District Court, Northern District of California

US Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit

US District Court, Central District of California