

Mark R. Phillips

PARTNER

Mark is a partner in the Litigation practice.



Industries

Media & Entertainment
Sports

Practices

Complex Litigation
Labor & Employment

Education

Indiana University School of Law JD,
2001
Brigham Young University BA, 1997

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Mark's work focuses on class action defense and labor and employment litigation - including suits for wrongful termination, defamation, discrimination, and wage and hour cases - as well as general commercial disputes. He also counsels employers on day to day employment matters and advises employers regarding new legal developments in the workplace.

Client Work

As a class action and employment litigator, Mark has successfully defended against class certification and won significant victories in a wide range of lawsuits in California, including a recent decision in the Central District of California titled *Wayne v. Biotech Research et al.* In that case, Judge A. Howard Matz denied the plaintiffs' motion for class certification, concluding the named plaintiffs and plaintiffs' counsel were unfit to represent the class. He has also been successful in defeating claims in a variety of employment-related cases, including claims for race and national origin discrimination, sex discrimination, sexual orientation discrimination, wrongful termination, wage and hour violations, whistleblowing, sexual harassment and defamation. Mark also applies his litigation experience to advising California employers in non-litigation settings.

Previous Work

Before joining Arent Fox, Mark was a partner at Hansen & Phillips LLP, a Southern California business litigation firm. He previously practiced at Paul, Plevin, Sullivan & Connaughton LLP, a leading San Diego employment firm. Additionally, he served as a law clerk for Judge Lawrence J. Block of the United States Court of Federal Claims.

Publications, Presentations & Recognitions

Mark's speaking engagements include:

- "A Challenge for Our Times: When Your Facility's Disruptive Behavior Problem Is Sexual Harassment," *Medical Staff Leaders and the Law* 2018, February 2, 2018
- "How Medical Staffs Should Approach Such High-Technology Wonders as Social Media and Texting," *Medical Staff Leaders and the Law* 2018, February 2, 2018
- "New Laws Affecting Wage & Hour/Class/Representative Actions," 2016 *California Employment Law Forum*, December 8, 2016
- "New Developments in Employment Law," 2015 *California Employment Law Review*, December 10, 2015
- "An Overview of Wage and Hour Class Actions in Today's Legal Climate," 2014 *California Labor and Employment Law Review*, December 4, 2014
- "The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act: What Employers Need To Know Now," 2013 *California Employment Law Review*, January 16, 2014
- "Employers and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act," 2012 *California Employment Law Review*, December 6, 2012

Mark's publications include:

- "Views How Supreme Court Justice Gorsuch could affect employers," *Employee Benefit News*, February 14, 2017

Bar Admissions

California

Court Admissions

US Court of Federal Claims