



Benjamin R. Buchwalter

Special Counsel

bbuchwalter@fbm.com

San Francisco: 415.954.4791

Ben Buchwalter specializes in working with companies to manage and mitigate employment law risks to achieve their business goals. He has deep experience defending companies in single-plaintiff and class and representative action lawsuits related to discrimination, retaliation, harassment, leaves of absence, wage and hour compliance, and requests for accommodations. Through his experience defending companies of all sizes in litigation and as an in-house employment attorney, Ben always strives to understand what is most important to his clients in order to reach the best company-tailored resolution of disputes.

In addition to helping companies achieve their litigation goals, Ben is passionate about advising employers on pragmatic and proactive employment programs to help California employers “see around corners” and establish measures tailored to their goals and culture to minimize unacceptable risks. When disputes arise, he offers an experienced and steady hand toward resolving conflicts and, when necessary, vigorously defends his clients in federal and state courts and arbitrations and before administrative agencies.

Ben served as a law clerk to the Honorable Larry R. Hicks of the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada. He also served as a judicial extern to the Honorable Charles R. Breyer of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California and as a law clerk in the San Francisco Federal Public Defender’s Office.

Publications

April 23, 2024

California’s Estrada Decision and Impact on Employers and PAGA Claims

HR Daily Advisor

March 1, 2024

Navigating California’s New Rebuttable Presumption Law

March 1, 2024

Navigating California’s Workplace Violence Prevention Law

March 1, 2024

Employment Law Symposium Recordings & Articles

January 30, 2024

Trial Courts’ Tool Box Doesn’t Include PAGA Manageability Authority

Daily Journal

January 18, 2024

California Employment Law Updates: What to Look Out for in 2024

January 4, 2024

SB 699 and AB 1076: California Enacts Further Prohibitions on Noncompete Agreements

Daily Journal

Services

- Employment

Education

- University of California College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings) (J.D., 2014)
 - . cum laude
 - . Editor-in-Chief, Hastings Law Journal
- Haverford College (B.A., 2008)

Bar Admissions

- California

Clerkships

- U.S. District Court (Nevada), Larry R. Hicks

Outside the Office

Ben enjoys cooking, running, American & African history and literature, and consuming podcasts on news, TV, and films. Ben lives in Oakland, California, where he is often found trying to corral his two wonderful kids.