



## Kelly M. Matayoshi

Partner

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Kelly Matayoshi represents a broad range of local and international companies to thoughtfully handle their complex business and employment litigation needs.

In her business litigation practice, Kelly focuses on products liability, contract disputes, breach of fiduciary duty, and other business disputes. She has a deep understanding of the consumer products industry, having many clients in this space. Kelly is national coordinating counsel for a flexible gas tubing manufacturer, where she handles every aspect of litigation, beginning with the notice letter that originates the case, through fact-gathering, working with experts, discovery, motion practice, negotiation, and settlement or trial.

Kelly also has extensive employment experience, effectively representing employers in state and federal court as well as numerous agencies on a range of causes of action including wrongful termination and class action wage and hour disputes. She has counseled clients through countless single plaintiff lawsuits, and aggressively defends them while always seeking opportunities to resolve them to her client's benefit. She has represented employers in the transportation and sales industries concerning issues arising under a variety of employment statutes and regulations such as exemptions, split shifts, meal and rest breaks, overtime, vacation, wage statements, deductions, and commissions.

She currently serves as the firm's Hiring Partner.

### Distinctions

- Benchmark Litigation, 40 & Under List - West (2025)
- 2024 Best Under 40 Award, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA)
- Lawyers on the Fast Track, 2024 California Legal Awards, *Law.com / The Recorder*
- 2022 Diversity Award, Barristers Club of the Bar Association of San Francisco
- 2021 Outstanding Barristers Award, Barristers Club of the Bar Association of San Francisco
- 2021 Minority Bar Coalition Unity Award, Barristers Club of the Bar Association of San Francisco
- *The Best Lawyers in America*: Ones to Watch in America - Commercial Litigation; Labor and Employment Law-Management; Product Liability Litigation-Defendants (2021-2023)
- Northern California *Super Lawyers Rising Stars* in Business Litigation (2015-2024)
- Laurie Miller Award for Public Service, ABA Section of Litigation (2018)

### Memberships and Affiliations

- President (2025), President-Elect (2024), Director (2016-2023), Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area
- Managing Director (2023-2024), Managing Director Designate (2022-2023), Section of Litigation, American Bar Association
- Member, UC Law SF Foundation Board of Trustees (2022- present)
- Member, Advisory Board, UC Law SF Center for Litigation and Courts (2021- present)
- Member, Elimination of Bias Committee, San Francisco Superior Court (2021- present)

### Services

- Business Litigation
- Consumer Products + Manufacturing
- Employment

### Education

- University of California College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings) (J.D., 2012)
  - *magna cum laude*; *Hastings Law Journal*; Thurston Society
- Wellesley College (B.A., 2008)

### Bar Admissions

- California

- President, Barristers Club, Bar Association of San Francisco (2020)
- President, UC Law SF Alumni Association Board of Governors (2019-2020)
- Committee Member, Membership & Marketing, Section of Litigation, American Bar Association (2020-present)
- Co-Chair, Labor and Employment Committee, Section of Litigation, American Bar Association (2017-2019)
- Co-Chair, Section of Litigation ABA Annual Meeting (2019)
- Member, San Francisco Leadership Team, Judicial Intern Opportunity Program, American Bar Association
- Member, Young Lawyer Leadership Program, American Bar Association

## Experience

### Visa Inc.

Defended Cybersource Corp., a subsidiary of Visa, against claims of fraudulent transfer, conspiracy to defraud, and declaratory relief in Los Angeles Superior Court and before the California appellate court.

### Ortiz v. Ghirardelli

Defended a wage and hour class action brought by hourly restaurant and retail employees for all California locations. The complaint included meal and rest break violations, unpaid overtime, non-compliant wage statements, unreimbursed business expenses, and PAGA claims. We resolved all claims prior to class certification through mediation, and the court approved the settlement.

### Correa v. Sabah International

Defended class action involving field service technicians who were required to drive company vehicles. The main claim centered on the compensability of time spent traveling from home to the various work sites (i.e. whether the technicians were “subject to the control” of Sabah during that commute). Ancillary claims include compensation for the completion of work reports, cell phone calls, and maintaining the company vehicle. All claims were settled at mediation, court approval is pending.

## Publications

June 29, 2021

### **The FASTER Act: What Companies Need To Know About the New Food Allergy Law**

*Food Safety Magazine*

April 21, 2021

### **New Restrictions on Sales and Delivery of E-Cigarettes and Vaping Products**

July 07, 2020

### **The Pandemic's Impact on Junior Attorneys and Diversity**

*BASF Legal by the Bay*

5/5/2016

### **San Francisco Enacts Nation's First Fully Paid Parental Leave Ordinance**

9/9/2015

### **California to Enact Strongest Equal Pay Law in Nation**

8/4/2015

### **Wineries Often Overlook Harassment Liability**

10/7/2014

**New California Law Holds Employers Liable for Labor Contractor's Wage Violations**

7/14/2014

**Supreme Court Clarifies Severance Payment Tax Rules**

3/28/2014

**Supreme Court Clarifies Tax Rules for Certain Severance Payments**

1/31/2014

**Construction ADR - A Comprehensive Resource from the Top Legal Minds in the Construction Industry**

11/18/2013

**New San Francisco Ordinance Requires Employers To Discuss Family Life Accommodations**

10/29/2013

**12 New Laws California Employers Need To Know**

8/1/2013

**Advancing the Right to Civil Counsel**

## Outside the Office

When Kelly's not at work, she does a lot of things to relax. She spends time hanging out with her wife and dog, as well as working out and reading fantasy novels.