



Larry C. Drapkin

Partner, through his Professional Corporation



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legal expertise

Representation of employers in all areas of labor and employment law, including as lead counsel in a wide array of labor and employment litigation involving wrongful termination, whistleblower conduct, trade secret violations/unfair competition, discrimination harassment and retaliation, wage/hour class actions and related claims under the California Labor Code, labor arbitrations, National Labor Relations Board hearings and other litigation matters, administrative proceedings and investigations. Chief negotiator in numerous private and public sector collective bargaining negotiations. Extensive representation of employers in all aspects of traditional labor law, including representation issues, elections, unfair labor practice investigations/proceedings and related matters. Advise and counsel clients with respect to all aspects of federal, state and local laws impacting employers, including compliance strategies, dispute avoidance and negotiation of dispute resolutions.

representative matters

- Represented major supermarket in a whistleblower/retaliation lawsuit based upon complaints over safety and health issues. Successfully removed the case to federal court and obtained dismissal which was upheld by the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.
- Represented international technology company in a "bet the company" type dispute with 5 former executives. Obtained judgments against former employees and dismissals of all cross complaints.
- Represented technology company in the defense of a substantial sexual harassment/wrongful termination claim brought by a former key executive employee. The claims against the Company were disproven during the discovery phase of the litigation and the plaintiff's credibility became the major issue in the case. As a result, this matter was resolved through a highly favorable settlement which included a payment from the plaintiff to the

practice areas

labor & employment
employment litigation & counseling
labor litigation & counseling

admissions

California, 1981
U.S. District Court
Central District of California, 1981
Eastern District of California, 1981
Northern District of California, 1981
Southern Districts of California, 1981
U.S. Court of Appeals
Ninth Circuit, 1981

education

University of California, Berkeley School of Law, J.D., 1981
University of California, Berkeley, M.P.H., 1981
University of California, Santa Barbara, B.A., 1977; *Phi Beta Kappa*; *Highest Honors*

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Company.

- Obtained stipulated judgment for a computer products company against a competitor (and individual defendants) who raided and recruited employees subject to term employment agreements. Pursuant to the stipulated judgment, damages were paid, other remedial actions were taken and the competitor ceased all raiding.
- Successfully represented motion picture company in multi-million dollar merchandising claim. The case was arbitrated with over ten days of hearing and obtained a decision in favor of MSK's client.
- Successfully represented employers in numerous arbitrations, including contract interpretation disputes and wrongful termination issues.
- Chief negotiator for several collective bargaining agreements containing budget-related concessions and innovative resolutions of health insurance issues.
- Chief negotiator on several precedent-setting entertainment industry collective bargaining agreements.
- Representation of major motion picture studio and producer in lawsuit brought by screenwriter contending his screenplay entitled him to credits and compensation with respect to a well known motion picture. Successfully removed the case to federal court on preemption grounds and obtained summary judgment which was affirmed by the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.
- Represented television network in an extensive high profile government investigation involving alleged child labor law violations. Investigation was concluded with no enforcement action taken.

honors & awards

- Recognized by *Best Lawyers in America*® in the fields of:
 - Labor Law - Management (2012-2026)
 - Employment Law - Management (2012-2026)
- "Top 5% of lawyers in Southern California," *Southern California Super Lawyers* (2004-2006, 2009-2012, 2014-2024)
- "Leading Management Labor & Employment attorneys in California," *Who's Who Legal: California* (2009, 2010)
- AV® Preeminent™ Rating, Martindale-Hubbell

professional, business and civic affiliations

- Chair, MSK Labor & Employment Practice Group

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- Member, MSK Governing Board
- American Bar Association
- Los Angeles County Bar Association, Labor Law Section
- Co-Chair, TAGLaw Employment/Labor Law Specialty Group
- Operation Smile; Family Award for Excellence in Volunteerism, 2011
- Former member, Board of Directors of Visiting Nurses Association of Los Angeles, Inc.

headlines

37 MSK Attorneys Named Among *The Best Lawyers in America*® for 2026
Best Lawyers, August 21, 2025

34 MSK Attorneys Named Among *The Best Lawyers in America*© for 2025
August 15, 2024

12 MSK Attorneys Named to the 2024 Edition of Southern California *Super Lawyers*
January 10, 2024

38 MSK Attorneys Named Among *The Best Lawyers in America*© for 2024
August 17, 2023

15 MSK Attorneys Named to the 2023 Edition of Southern California *Super Lawyers*
January 10, 2023

16 MSK Attorneys Named to the 2022 edition of Southern California *Super Lawyers*
January 20, 2022

26 MSK Attorneys Named Among *The Best Lawyers in America*© for 2022
August 19, 2021

14 MSK Attorneys Named to the List of 2021 Southern California *Super Lawyers*
January 21, 2021

33 MSK Attorneys Named Among *The Best Lawyers in America*© for 2021
August 20, 2020

27 MSK Attorneys Named Among *The Best Lawyers in America*© for 2020
August 15, 2019



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MSK Attorneys Named to the List of 2019 *Southern California Super Lawyers*
January 30, 2019

The Best Lawyers in America© 2019 Recognizes 24 Attorneys from MSK
August 15, 2018

The Best Lawyers in America© 2018 Recognizes 24 Attorneys from Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP
August 15, 2017

MSK Attorneys Named to the 2017 List of *Super Lawyers*
January 20, 2017

The Best Lawyers in America© 2017 Recognizes 22 Attorneys from Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp
August 22, 2016

media mentions

MSK Attorneys Named to the List of 2016 Southern California Super Lawyers
January 20, 2016

23 Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp Attorneys Featured in *Best Lawyers*
August 2015

18 Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp Attorneys Named to the 2015 Super Lawyers Business Edition
November 21, 2014

Larry Drapkin Quoted in *Human Resource Executive Online*
November 19, 2014

Larry Drapkin Quoted in *The Washington Post*
September 16, 2014

The Best Lawyers in America© 2015 Recognizes 21 Attorneys from Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp and Names 2 Attorneys "Lawyer of the Year"
August 2014

Larry Drapkin Quoted in *Bloomberg Business*
July 10, 2014

Larry Drapkin Quoted in *Chicago Tribune*
April 30, 2014

26 MSK Attorneys Named to 2014 Southern California *Super Lawyers* List
January 2014



Larry C. Drapkin

21 MSK Attorneys Selected for *Best Lawyers in America 2014*
August 15, 2013

21 MSK Attorneys Selected for *Best Lawyers in America 2013*
August 24, 2012

25 Named to 2012 Southern California *Super Lawyers* List
January 23, 2012

Larry Drapkin Quoted in *Wall Street Journal* and *Investorplace.com*
September 22, 2011

MSK Attorneys Recognized Among "The Best Lawyers in America" for 2012
August 31, 2011

24 Named to 2011 Southern California *Super Lawyers* List
January 25, 2011

28 Named to 2010 Southern California Super Lawyers List
January 26, 2010

Larry Drapkin Featured in *Employment Law360*
November 10, 2009

Larry Drapkin Weighs In On Starbucks Executive's Non-Compete Agreement in *Ad Age*
October 12, 2009

Who's Who Legal: California 2009
March 23, 2009

29 Chosen to 2009 Southern California Super Lawyers List
January 30, 2009

publications

Are Noncompete Clauses Kaput?
2000

Employment Arbitration Agreements: Practical Considerations
September 1998

Employee Arbitration Agreements, Benefits and Compensation Solutions
June 1998



Larry C. Drapkin

events & speaking engagements

The Magic of Consumer Subscription Sales
February 23, 2016

How to Hire Your Competitor's Employees: A Trade Secret Perspective
2001