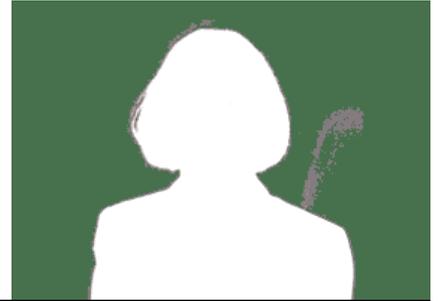


Kate Friend

Special Counsel

1999 Harrison Street
26th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 451-3300
kfriend@donahue.com



Practice Areas

- Litigation
- Employment
- Franchise

Overview

Kate is a special counsel in the firm's litigation department. She represents and advises clients in a variety of litigation and pre-litigation matters including trade secret misappropriation, wage and hour, unfair competition, business and corporate disputes, class actions, contractual and employment litigation, landlord-tenant, and commercial law.

An experienced litigator, prior to Donahue Fitzgerald, Kate practiced extensively in high-stakes, complex litigation, much of it in the toxic tort arena. She also defended clients in areas ranging from personal injury to construction defect to landlord-tenant; and represented individuals, numerous small businesses and Fortune 500 companies.

Professional & Community Affiliations

- Member, Labor & Employment Law Section, Alameda County Bar Association
- Member, Litigation and Labor & Employment Law Sections, California Lawyers Association

Bar Admissions

- California

Courts

- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California

Education

- **J.D.**, University of California College of the Law, San Francisco, 2000
- **B.A.**, University of Rochester, *cum laude*, 1997

Recent Articles/News

- [Current State of Play On Tariff Refunds](#)
- [AB-1228 Essentials: A New Minimum Wage for Fast-Food Chains and Avoiding the Prospect of Joint Franchisor/Franchisee Liability](#), October 2, 2023
- [California Supreme Court Confirms Retroactivity of ABC Test](#), January 20, 2021
- [New Law Related to COVID-19 on Paid Sick Leave and Family Emergency Care Leave Effective April 1, 2020](#), March 19, 2020
- [California Supreme Court Confirms Employer's Exit Searches Must Be On-The-Clock](#), February 26, 2020
- [Bills Already Pending to Amend AB-5](#), January 23, 2020
- [Get Ready for California's New Lactation Accommodation Law](#), October 21, 2019
- [Did Your Business Receive a PG&E Public Safety Power Shut-Off Notice? Don't be in the Dark about Employee Pay during Power Outages](#), October 15, 2019
- [Ninth Circuit Revives Off-the-Clock Claim Post-Troester v. Starbucks Corp.](#), September 3, 2019
- [New California Supreme Court Decision Holds Business Owner Cannot be Held Personally Liable on a Common Law Theory of Conversion Due to Failure to Pay Wages](#), August 21, 2019

Past Articles/News

- [Considerations for Businesses With Seasonal Hiring](#), August 8, 2019
- [New Court of Appeals Decision Calls Non-Solicitation Provisions Into Doubt](#)

Recent Speaking Engagements

- December 10, 2025, 2026 Annual Employment Law Update , Berkeley, CA, 94705

- December 09, 2025, 2026 Annual Employment Law Update , Virtual
- December 08, 2020, 2021 Annual Employment Law Update , Webinar
- December 03, 2020, 2021 Annual Employment Law Update , Webinar
- December 12, 2019, 2020 Annual Employment Law Update , San Rafael, CA
- December 10, 2019, 2020 Annual Employment Law Update , Walnut Creek, CA
- December 05, 2019, 2020 Annual Employment Law Update , Oakland, CA
- October 09, 2019, Employment Law for Non-Specialists , Alameda County Bar Association, Oakland, CA
- September 19, 2019, Onboarding and Termination 101 , Oakland, CA
- September 17, 2019, Onboarding and Termination 101 , Walnut Creek, CA

Past Speaking Engagements

- [2019 Annual Employment Law Update](#), December 06, 2018, Berkeley, CA