

Melanie Y. Kim

Associate

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Practice Areas

- Employment
- Litigation
- Trusts and Estates

Overview

Melanie Kim is an associate with a focus on Employment Law and Trust and Estates Litigation. In the area of Employment Law, she has helped represent clients in a variety of employment-related matters involving wage and hour, discrimination, retaliation, harassment, and wrongful termination claims, including under PAGA. She also advises clients with regard to drafting and updating employment policies and employee handbooks. In the area of Trust and Estates Litigation, she has helped represent clients in a variety of trust-related matters, including protecting the rights of beneficiaries in disputes over trust administration and accountings by trustees. She assists clients in all aspects of litigation, including pre-litigation investigation and resolution, discovery, motions practice, mediation, and trial preparation.

While in pursuit of her J.D., Melanie served as a Judicial Extern for the Honorable Jon S. Tigar of the United States District Court for the Northern District of California. She also worked as a Teaching Assistant for a Legal Reading and Writing course. During the COVID -19 pandemic, she volunteered for Berkeley Law's CARES Act Small Businesses Project, assisting small business owners applying for federal aid available through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Professional & Community Affiliations

- Board of Directors and Treasurer, Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, 2024
- Member, Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom, 2022-present

- Leader, Law Student Committee, Barrister's Club, Bar Association of San Francisco, 2019-2021
- Treasurer, Berkeley Law Queer Caucus, 2019-2020

Bar Admissions

- California

Courts

- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California

Languages

- English
- Korean

Education

- **J.D.**, University of California, Berkeley School of Law, 2021
 - Symposium Editor, Asian American Law Journal at Berkeley Law, 2019-2020
- **B.A.**, The University of British Columbia, 2017

Recent Articles/News

- [California Supreme Court Increases Potential Penalties for Unpaid or Unreported Missed-Break Premiums](#)
- [Supreme Court Rules California Arbitration Agreements Between Employers and Employees Are Enforceable as to Employees' Individual PAGA Claims](#)
- [Associate Melanie Kim Joins Donahue Fitzgerald](#)

Recent Speaking Engagements

- December 07, 2023, 2024 Annual Employment Law Update , Webinar
- December 05, 2023, 2024 Annual Employment Law Update , Webinar
- September 15, 2023, ACBA Labor and Employment 2023 Symposium: From Courtroom to Workplace: Preserving Diversity in Light of Recent Ruling on Affirmative Action , Alameda County Bar Association (ACBA)
- December 08, 2022, 2023 Annual Employment Law Update , Oakland, CA
- December 06, 2022, 2023 Annual Employment Law Update , Webinar