



## James A. Goodman

Member of the Firm

### Los Angeles

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**JAMES A. GOODMAN** is a Member of the Firm in the Employment, Labor & Workforce Management and Litigation practices, in the firm's Los Angeles office. Mr. Goodman's practice focuses on employment and business litigation.

Mr. Goodman's experience includes:

- Representing employers in both state and federal courts in all aspects of labor and employment law litigation, including wage and hour, wrongful termination, sexual harassment, and discrimination
- Successfully prosecuting and defending numerous unfair competition and trade secret actions involving employees moving from one company to another
- Representing employers in the financial services industry before the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority ("FINRA")
- Representing employers in arbitrations before the American Arbitration Association and JAMS

Recent representative cases:

- Served as lead counsel in the defense of a high-exposure meal period and out-of-state paycheck class action on behalf of a client in Los Angeles Superior Court. In July 2011, the court denied plaintiffs' motion for class certification, and the matter is on appeal.
- Represented the defendants in *Haberman v. Cengage Learning, Inc.*, 180 Cal. App. 4th 365 (2009), wherein the California Court of Appeal affirmed the trial court's grant of a summary judgment motion in a hostile environment sexual harassment case. This decision established a favorable precedent for employers defending hostile environment harassment cases in California.
- Defended an international financial services firm against a claim for defamation and interference with contract in a 30-day FINRA arbitration, wherein the claimant was awarded no relief.

- Represented BlackRock, Inc., in a defamation action wherein the court granted defendants' motion for judgment on the pleadings, and the judgment was affirmed on appeal. *Rudwall v. BlackRock, Inc.*, 2008 U.S. App. LEXIS 17895 (9th Cir. 2008).
- Defended Morgan Stanley in an age discrimination action. Summary judgment was entered on the age discrimination claim, and the dismissal of the age discrimination claim was affirmed on appeal. *Pugel v. Morgan Stanley*, 2007 U.S. App. LEXIS 4810 (9th Cir. 2007).
- Defended Morgan Stanley in a retaliation action that was tried before a jury in the United States District Court. The jury returned a defense verdict that was affirmed on appeal. *Reszetylo v. Morgan Stanley Dean Witter*, 2005 U.S. App. LEXIS 6375 (9th Cir. 2005).

Mr. Goodman co-authored the article entitled "Cross-Examination of a Wrongful Termination Plaintiff," which was published in the spring 1995 edition of *California Litigation*. He is a frequent speaker on the subject of trade secrets and unfair competition.

Mr. Goodman was also selected to the [Southern California Super Lawyers](#) list (2014 to 2016) in the area of Employment Litigation: Defense. His peers have selected him for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® (2020-2021) in the field of Litigation - Labor and Employment.

### **Education**

- Loyola Law School (J.D., 1979)
- University of Oregon (B.S., 1975)

### **Court Admissions**

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

### **Bar Admissions**

- California

### **Practice Areas**

- Business Litigation
- Class Actions
- Employment Litigation
- ERISA and Benefit Plan Litigation

- Trade Secrets & Employee Mobility
- Whistleblowing and Compliance

**Industries**

- Financial Services