

MICHAEL LUDWIG

Employment Mediator

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Current Position:

LUDWIG MEDIATION

Ludwig Law PC

Los Angeles, California - August 2022 to Present

- **Independent Employment Mediator, August 2022 to Present:** Full-time employment mediator, with a focus on mediating employment disputes throughout California, including wage and hour class and collective actions, PAGA representative actions, and single/multi-plaintiff disputes (e.g., retaliation, discrimination, harassment and related torts, public policy violations, defamation, privacy rights, contract disputes, wage & hour, trade secrets misappropriation, and wrongful termination).
- **United States District Court, Central District of California Panel Mediator, August 2022 to Present:** Appointed by the United States District Court, Central District of California to serve on the Court's Mediation Panel.
- **Los Angeles Superior Court, Mediation Volunteer Panel (MVP), Inaugural Panel Member, 2024 to Present.**
- **Settlement Officer for Los Angeles Superior Court, March 2022 to Present:** Resolve Law LA Virtual MSC Program (conduct mandatory settlement

conferences for employment cases assigned to courts in the Stanley Mosk Courthouse).

- **C.C.R.D. Panel Mediator, August 2021 to 2023:** Panel Mediator for the California Civil Rights Department.

Involvement and Memberships:

- Inducted as a Fellow of The College of Labor and Employment Lawyers for the Class of 2024
- International Academy of Mediators, Mediator Mentorship Program Mentee
- ADR Section of Los Angeles County Bar Association, Executive Committee Member
- Southern California Mediation Association, Member
- Labor and Employment Section of the Los Angeles Bar Association, Member
- California Lawyers Association, Labor and Employment Section, Member
- Beverly Hills Bar Association, Member

Experience:

BLANK ROME, Los Angeles, California (Jan. 2010 – August 2022)

Partner – Labor & Employment (Jan. 2011 – August 2022)

Of Counsel (Jan. 2010 – Jan. 2011)

National Vice Chair Labor & Employment Practice Group (Jan. 2014 – Jan. 2017)

- Represented employers in all phases of complex wage and hour class action lawsuits in state and federal courts, including claims of employee misclassification, unpaid overtime under state law and the Fair Labor Standards Act, meal and rest period violations, wage statement violations, violations of the Private Attorneys General Act, and more.
- Represented employers in single and multi-plaintiff employment litigation and arbitration matters involving claims of wrongful termination, discrimination, retaliation, sexual harassment, trade secrets misappropriation, unfair competition, and wage and hour issues.
- First chair jury trial experience.
- counseled employers, including business owners, executives, and human resources personnel, on a wide variety of existing and developing employment laws such as equal pay, employee classification (including independent contractor vs. employee

and exempt vs. non-exempt), disability accommodations, harassment, leaves of absence, sick time, pay and timekeeping practices, workforce restructuring, restrictive covenants, protection of trade secrets, employee privacy, social media, compulsory arbitration, and labor relations.

- Provided guidance and practical solutions for employee relations matters such as hiring, terminations, performance management, progressive discipline, internal investigations, interactive process and reasonable accommodations, and reductions in force.
- Supervised national team of associate attorneys that authored regular “alerts” on employment law updates and developments that were sent to clients and published online (2011 to 2013)
- Frequent lecturer on employment law issues and developments.

KNEE, ROSS & SILVERMAN, Los Angeles, California (March 2003 - Jan. 2010)

Labor and Employment Attorney (moved with group to Blank Rome to start the labor and employment practice in their new Los Angeles office)

FOLEY & LARDNER, Los Angeles, California (July 2001 to December 2002)

Associate Attorney

SHEPPARD, MULLIN, RICHTER & HAMPTON, Los Angeles, California (Jan. 1995 - June 2001)

Labor and Employment Associate

MUSICK, PEELER & GARRETT, Los Angeles, California (Oct. 1994 – Dec. 1995)

Labor and Employment Associate

Summer Associate (1993)

Volunteerism:

U.S.D.C., Central District Panel Mediator (August 2022 to present)

CCRD Panel Mediator (August 2021 to present)

Los Angeles Superior Court, Resolve Law LA Settlement Officer (May 2022 to present)

Constitutional Rights Foundation (now Teach Democracy), Attorney volunteer to score trials, November 2022.

Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program, Appellate Attorney Volunteer
(Represent Veterans and VA claimants in their appeals before the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims) (April 2016 to December 2020)

Prisoner's Rights Pro Bono Advocacy, United States District Court for the Central District, Represented incarcerated individual in civil rights lawsuit. (2012 to 2013)

Bet Tzedek – Legal Name & Gender Marker Change Clinic (assisted California residents who were seeking recognition of a changed gender marker and/or who were seeking to change their legal name to conform to their gender identity) (2019)

Education:

University of Southern California Gould School of Law, Los Angeles, California, J.D. 1994
Graduated approximately top 13% in class.
Awarded Morris Pfaelzer Memorial Scholarship.
Senior Editor, Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal, 1992-1994.

Pepperdine Caruso Law School

Mediating the Litigated Case, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution (September 2020 to October 2020).

University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, B.S. 1991

Bachelor of Science, Computer Science.
Magna Cum Laude.
Phi Beta Kappa.
Dean's List; Golden Key Honor Society; Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society; and Dean's Scholarship.