



Natalie Garcia Lashinsky

PARTNER

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OVERVIEW

Natalie is a creative and driven litigator guiding clients through all phases of commercial litigation at a national level in state and federal courts.

From complaint to verdict, Natalie's advocacy includes aggressive discovery strategy, taking and defending depositions, pre-trial motion work, and trial preparation for optimal and customized client legal solutions. Manufacturers, premises owners, contractors, suppliers, retailers, and insurance companies rely on her defense in complex claims of product liability, premise liability, construction defect, mass toxic tort, pharmaceutical, and other general liability issues. Natalie has worked closely with Fortune 50 and Fortune 500 companies and small businesses, among other clients. She is well-versed in collaborating with medical and scientific experts, including pulmonologists, internists, cardiologists, radiologists, economists, and industrial hygienists while defending client cases.

In addition to her focused practice on toxic tort matters, clients value Natalie's prior litigation background in general business disputes, real estate claims, and labor and employment matters. Additionally, before beginning her legal career, Natalie worked as a senior commercial real estate research analyst specializing in the Chicago Business District. This unique viewpoint often helps her see different perspectives and strategies when partnering with cross-functional teams to identify the best solutions for moving clients forward.

Natalie previously served as co-chair of the firm's Asian, Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern, & North African Employee Resource Group, where she collaborated with firm leaders on diversity, equity, and inclusion matters.

Industries

Manufacturing
Technology
Transportation

Services

Asbestos Litigation
Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
Product Liability
Toxic Tort

Experience

PRODUCT LIABILITY

- Defended a medical device company in an action where a nurse was allegedly injured by a malfunction of a robotic surgical system. Natalie filed a key motion in limine to exclude the plaintiff's experts that were to opine as to the purported malfunction, while simultaneously filing a summary judgment motion. As a result of the motion in limine that was granted, the likely outcome of the summary judgment motion would also be granted. Thus, the parties favorably resolved on the eve of the hearing.
- Defended talc supplier in personal injury matter in seven-week jury trial in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. Obtained mistrial judgment.
- Represents global automotive parts manufacturer and specifically manages over 50-70 California litigation matters to achieve the client's business objectives in the most efficient and economic manner possible.
- Defended pesticide/herbicide manufacturer in high profile personal injury matter involving a minor child in the Superior Court of California, County of Solano. Less than one week before voir dire was to commence, obtained a dismissal following recent rulings on motions in limine and Sargon motions regarding plaintiffs' experts.
- Defended national auto parts retailer in personal injury matter in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. Obtained a writ judgment for a stay on trial proceedings from the California Court of Appeals based on undue prejudice and violation of due process rights due to rigid COVID-19 restrictions implemented by the court. Obtained favorable resolution prior to the resumption of new trial.
- Defended pharmaceutical company in personal injury matter regarding popular cosmetic filler involving high-profile medical provider co-defendant in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. Obtained early dismissal from plaintiff through tactical negotiations and early discovery.

Experience

- Defended toxic substances abatement vendor for allegations regarding multiple violations of the California Health and Safety Code (HSC), which would subject client to thousands of dollars in penalties. Obtained favorable resolution from tactical negotiation discussions with California's Department of Toxic Control Substances (DTSC).
- Defended window manufacturer in construction defect matter in the Superior Court of California, County of Stanislaus. Obtained favorable resolution at mediation.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

- Defended real estate owner/developer in wage claim and employment matter in a five-day trial in the Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco. Obtained favorable outcome where plaintiff was awarded less than .6% of the potential liability.
- Defended small business owner in a three-day trial in the Superior Court of California, County of San Francisco, where the client faced \$1M in potential liability. Obtained defense verdict.
- Represented homeowner in contractual dispute based on fraudulent business practices of a general contractor in a five-day trial in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, Northern District of California. Obtained plaintiff's verdict for full award of damages sought.
- Defended national arts and crafts retailer in a personal jury matter involving an extremely sympathetic elderly plaintiff in the Superior Court of California, County of Alameda. Through tactical negotiations and discovery, the matter was resolved for 75.2% less than plaintiff's original demand, saving the client costs and fees on pre-trial work-up and expert retention.
- Defended online e-commerce company in arbitration claim before the American Arbitration Association, where client faced damages that were 232 times higher than the original transaction. Obtained a dispositive ruling dismissing claimant's claim in its entirety.
- Represented international non-profit organization in a dispute involving accounting and potential misappropriation of funds by fiscal sponsor. Obtained favorable resolution recovering misappropriated funds through strategic settlement discussions.

Experience

- Represented public transport company in its defense of personal injury matters in high-risk jurisdictions in California.

REAL ESTATE

- Represented property owners in a supplemental tax assessment appeal in the County of Santa Clara based on an increased valuation on a commercial property transfer. Through tactical negotiations and discovery, a stipulation was reached with the Office of the Assessor, County of Santa Clara to decrease the valuation by 26% of the purported fair market value, saving the client thousands of dollars annually in property taxes.
- Represented big-box retailer in real estate matter in Overland Park, Kansas where neighboring company unlawfully infringed on property rights. Through swift negotiations, offending party ceased unlawful activity and restored property damage.
- Defended small business owner in a real estate matter alleging a breach of purported lease agreement in the Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo. Obtained favorable resolution at mediation.

Recognition

- National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) Prospective Partners Program, 2022
- Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) Fellows Program, 2022
- Foundation for Filipina Women's Network, Global FWN100™ "Most Influential Filipina Women in the World," 2021
- National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) Leadership Advancement Program, Fellow, Class of 2020-2021
- Northern California Super Lawyers, Rising Star, 2021-2023

Education

- J.D., Thomas Jefferson School of Law
 - Moot Court Honor Society: Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition, American Bar Association National Moot Court Competition
 - Asian Pacific American Law Student Association, President
- B.A., University of Illinois at Chicago
 - Political Science
 - with Distinction
 - University of Illinois Board of Trustees, Two-Term Student Trustee

Admissions

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

Community Leadership

Natalie is committed to giving back to her community and is particularly focused on volunteering her time in schools and educational institutions.

She currently serves on the school board for Our Lady of Mt. Carmel School in Redwood City, California, one of the San Francisco Bay's oldest institutions, where she advises the administration on recruitment, marketing and community outreach. Natalie has also been active at her alma mater, where she has previously served on the University of Illinois at Chicago Alumni Board and as Vice President of the University of Illinois Asian American Alumni Network.

*Contact Natalie to set up an in-person consultation by appointment in the Oakland office.



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