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Vanessa Franco Chavez | Partner

Vanessa Franco Chavez earned her Juris Doctor from University of Arizona, James E. Rogers college of Law in 2009 and was admitted to the California State Bar that same year. Vanessa holds a B.A. degree in political science from the University of California, Los Angeles. Prior to joining KDG, Vanessa litigated for the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles and was also a staff attorney for the Eviction Defense Network in Los Angeles. Her practice at KDG concentrates on employment and class action litigation. Vanessa has served as lead counsel for individual and corporate clients in a wide range of civil litigation in federal, state, and administrative forums, including wage and hour, discrimination, harassment, wrongful termination, defamation, WARN Act, credit reporting, and contract disputes. She also regularly provides counsel and advice to clients' human resources personnel, managers, and executive teams on contract, employment, and wage and hour laws.

Practice Focus

Business, Employment, and Class Action Litigation

Bar Admissions

State Bar of California, 2009

Education

Bachelor of Arts, University of California at Los Angeles, 2001
Multiple Subject Teaching Credential, Los Angeles Unified School District, 2005
Juris Doctor, University of Arizona, James E. Rogers College of Law, 2009

Professional Associations, Community Involvement, and Leadership

Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance,
-Volunteer, 2015 – Present
-Board Member, 2019 – Present (Vice Chair)
Kern County Bar Association
-Board Member, 2022 – Present
-Judicial Appointments Evaluation Committee, Member, 2020 – Present
Association of Southern California Defense Council, Member, 2021 – Present
Goodwill Industries of South-Central California, Board Member (Secretary), 2017-2023
Leadership Bakersfield, Class of 2016
Junior League of Bakersfield, Member, 2012-2016
National Institute for Trial Advocacy, Participant, 2011 and 2015
Res Ipsa Loquitor, Editing Committee, 2013-2014
California Mock Trial, Volunteer Attorney Coach, 2012-2014
Eviction Defense Network, Board Member, Treasurer, 2012
Koreatown Tenant's Defense Network Clinic
-Volunteer 2010-2012
-Clinic Coordinator 2012

Professional Experience

Klein, DeNatale, Goldner, Cooper, Rosenlieb & Kimball, LLP, 2012 – Present
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles 2011-2012
Eviction Defense Network, 2009-2011
Los Angeles Unified School District, Teacher, 2002-2006

Languages

Conversational Spanish