

Arwen R. Johnson

Partner

Trial and Global Disputes



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Arwen Johnson is a commercial litigator who delivers results in high-stakes cases. She leads trials and regularly wins dispositive motions. Arwen's clients rely on her expertise in employment classification issues, discrimination and retaliation, sexual harassment, trade secrets, employee mobility, partnership disputes, copyright infringement and idea theft, the TCPA, defamation, attorney malpractice, and high net worth trust and estates litigation. They also count on her extensive knowledge of emergency and provisional remedies, the anti-SLAPP statute, class action procedures, and post-trial motions and appeals.

Arwen's publications and presentations include:

- Speaker, "Powerful Women in the Courtroom," Daily Journal's Women Leadership in Law Forum, May 2019
- Speaker, "*Epic Systems Corp. v. Lewis* and Its Aftermath and Impact on Class Action Waivers," Bridgeport Continuing Education, January 2019
- Speaker, "Launching Your Career: Keys to Success in a Law Firm," UCLA Law Women LEAD Summit, February 2017
- Author, "Navigating California's Parental Leave Laws," California Minority Counsel Program, June 2018 (with Noah Perez-Silverman)
- Author, "California's No Aid Clause and Religious Endorsement: *Davies v. County of Los Angeles*," California Minority Counsel Program, July 2016 (with Kimberly M. Singer)
- Author, "Overpriced Security? A Review of the SEC's Proposed Rulemaking on 'Pay-to-Play,'" American Bar Association's Fourth Annual National Institute on Securities Fraud, October 2009 (with David K. Willingham and Jeffrey H. Rutherford)

Matters

Won motion to compel arbitration on behalf of tech client of putative class action alleging misclassification of couriers and raising novel legal theories relates to COVID-19

Won nearly all claims tried to the jury in fraud, interference, and trade secret dispute between tech startup and government contractor

Won bench trial on claims involving an employee's entitlement to Labor Code penalties by securing

a nonsuit after the plaintiff's opening statement—including the client's attorneys' fees, a rare employer win

Won summary judgment in multi-million-dollar partnership dispute. The court's order specifically complimented the "excellent briefing," which ultimately led to a \$350,000 fee award.

Won summary judgment on behalf of the film studio and filmmakers behind the blockbuster film trilogy *The Matrix* in a copyright infringement lawsuit

Won a permanent injunction against the County of Los Angeles in federal court, thereby preventing an attempt to include an overtly religious symbol on the County Seal. This case was highlighted as a signature matter by *Law360*

Defeated wage-and-hour and disability discrimination class action allegations in a twenty-count action brought by a former employee of a film studio client

Won summary judgment in a major case brought against a large energy company by a real estate developer alleging \$50-100 million in lost sales

Defeated all claims at the pleading stage in multiple trust and estates litigations

Successfully prosecuted and defended multiple anti-SLAPP motions, at both the trial and appellate levels, resulting in complete victories

Favorably resolved multiple partnership dissolution actions and employment disputes on behalf of major corporations and small businesses

Credentials

EDUCATION

J.D., University of California-Los Angeles

B.A., Rice University, summa cum laude

ADMISSIONS

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Central District of California
California

CLERKSHIPS

Law Clerk, Hon. Dean D. Pregerson, U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

Law Clerk, Hon. Harry Pregerson, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

ASSOCIATIONS

Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles

California JNE Commission

ABA Leadership, Judicial Intern Opportunity Program (JIOP), Regional Co-Chair for Los Angeles Delegate, LACBA California Conference of Bar Associations

Vice President, Advisory Board of the Western Center on Law and Poverty (2013–2016)

California Women Lawyers

Recognition

First Amendment Award, ACLU Foundation of Southern California

2017

Daily Journal, Top 40 Under 40

2017

Fellow of the Legal Council on Legal Diversity

2018

Southern California Super Lawyers – Rising Star in Business Litigation

2013–PRESENT

Up-and-Coming 50 – Women Southern California Rising Stars

2015–PRESENT

Up-and-Coming 100 – Southern California Rising Stars

2015–PRESENT

Events

WEBINAR

March 18, 2021

Let's Talk Tech: What We Are Watching in 2021

News

IN THE NEWS

November 3, 2021 • Source: Law360 and Law Street Media

Arwen Johnson, Kelly Perigoe, Kathryn Running and Rachel Yeung counsel Netflix in a defamation dispute with Georgian chess champion Nona Gaprindashvili over her alleged portrayal in "The Queen's Gambit."

June 15, 2021 • Source: Southeast Takeaways

Joe Akrotirianakis and Arwen Johnson discuss how associates need to be intentional in managing their careers

RECOGNITION

October 13, 2021

Benchmark Litigation Recognizes King & Spalding as a Leading Litigation Firm

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