



SARAH
GOHMANN
BIGELOW
Of Counsel

Business Litigation
Employment & Labor
Intellectual Property

Seattle

P: 206.749.0500

F: 206.749.0600

sgohmann@fennemorelaw.com

SARAH GOHMANN BIGELOW

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of California, Los Angeles School of Law
- B.A., with Honors, University of Michigan

AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Business Litigation
- Employment & Labor
- Intellectual Property

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Defended startup and its founders against claims for misappropriation of trade secrets, usurpation of corporate opportunity and breach of fiduciary duty; obtained ruling entitling clients to indemnification from plaintiffs for attorneys' fees incurred, partial summary judgment rulings, and then favorable settlement.
- Undertook detailed analysis of possible conflicts issues for publicly-owned hospital, and prepared a conflict of interest policy for the board of trustees.
- Defended against claims for breach of contract relating to technology services; obtained favorable settlement.
- Defended California grower against class actions alleging wage and hour claims; following a successful motion to decertify certain subclasses and briefing on the infeasibility of a resolution of class claims by trial, obtained favorable settlement.

- Prosecuted claims on behalf of a bank for fraud, negligent misrepresentation and breach of contract against local fraudster who was subsequently convicted in federal court for his crimes; obtained temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, summary judgment and final judgment in favor of the bank.
- Defended a municipality against two former and one current employees' claims under Washington Law Against Discrimination for age, gender, and sexual orientation discrimination, retaliation, and hostile work environment; while client's motions for summary judgment were pending, case settled on confidential terms.
- Served as counsel to a special litigation committee formed to investigate and determine whether to prosecute derivative claims; advised committee throughout investigation, deliberative, and reporting process.
- Defended energy company against breach of contract claims and pursued counterclaims against contractor based on breach of contract and fraud; obtained favorable settlement prior to trial.
- Successfully defended client against claims that its venue violated ADA accessibility standards including securing a judgment in favor of the client on all claims after remand from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.
- After removing case to the United States District Court, defended multinational technology company against claims of employment discrimination and wrongful termination; obtained favorable settlement for company while its motion for summary judgment was pending.
- Defended third-party lender in a property dispute alleging unlawful dissociation, conversion, fraudulent misrepresentation and negligence; obtained favorable settlement for client.
- Defended county against claims brought by local landowners when their property was flooded during a storm; obtained favorable settlement for client before trial.
- Defended municipality against wrongful termination claims brought by former employees; won rulings by the trial court upholding the client's attorney-client privilege and work product protections and denial of appellate review; obtained favorable settlement.

AWARDS AND HONORS

- Washington Rising Star

ARTICLES AND PRESENTATION

- Lexis Nexis Practice Guide: Washington Contract Litigation, Contributor (LexisNexis/Matthew Bender 2015)

ADMISSIONS

- Washington
- United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- United States District Court, Western District of Washington
- United States District Court, Eastern District of Washington
- United States District Court, Northern District of California
- United States District Court, Central District of California
- United States District Court, Southern District of California
- United States District Court, Eastern District of California