



Kellie S. Christianson is an experienced trial attorney who focuses her practice on employment law. She represents car dealerships and other small businesses in all aspects of employment and business litigation, including defending claims for wrongful termination, discrimination, harassment, defamation and unfair business practices. Kellie also counsels clients regarding human resources and employee relations issues.

In the courtroom, Kellie has obtained numerous successful judgments, binding arbitration awards, and settlements for her clients. She has represented car dealers in consumer class actions including a \$1.5 million judgment entered in favor of her client against a plaintiff class. She has also successfully argued before the California Supreme Court and Courts of Appeal and has represented clients before the Department of Fair Employment & Housing, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

REPRESENTATIVE SUCCESSES

- *Employee v. Trucking company* – Plaintiffs sued former supervisor for harassment and discrimination based on race, national origin and age. 14 day jury trial with judgment against plaintiffs.
- *Consumer v. Car dealership* – Arbitration agreements with class action waivers. Decision for dealership.
- Consumer class action pursuant to Auto Sales Finance Act and Consumer Legal Remedies Act. Unanimous decision for Car dealership, overturning Consumer v. Car dealership. Appellate case.
- *Employee v. Car dealership* – Plaintiff sues for wrongful termination in violation of public policy and whistleblowing. Three-day binding arbitration hearing resulting in a defense award.
- *Consumer v. Car dealership* – Plaintiff classes sued for alleged violations of Auto Sales Finance Act, Consumer Legal Remedies Act, Unfair Competition Law, and common law claims. Five-day bench trial, decision in favor of defendant, with \$1.5 million judgment against plaintiffs.
- *Employee v. Private University* – Plaintiff, CFO for Antioch University Southern California, sued for breach of contract and gender discrimination. The six-day jury trial resulted in a defense verdict.
- *Employee v. Goods Manufacturer* – Plaintiff sued for sexual harassment, wrongful termination, defamation and intentional infliction of emotional distress. Nonsuit on sexual harassment claims, wrongful termination verdict in favor of plaintiff, reversed on appeal.
- *Employee v. Car dealership* – Plaintiff sued for sexual harassment, intentional infliction of emotional distress and wrongful termination. One-day hearing, defense award with attorney fees awarded to the defense.
- *Employee v. Car dealership* – Plaintiff sued for wrongful termination in violation of public policy (whistle blowing). Nine-day hearing resulting in a defense award.
- *Battan v. Car dealership* – Plaintiff sued for race harassment and discrimination. Defense award.

INDUSTRY INVOLVEMENT

Professional Affiliations:

- National Association of Dealer Counsel

Contact Information

Email: kchristianson@wfbm.com
Office: (714) 634-2522
Fax: (714) 634-0686

Areas of Practice

- Employment Law
- Disability Discrimination
- Professional Liability
- Trial and Appellate Work

Education

- Western State University
College of Law, J.D.
- California State University,
Fullerton, B.A.

Admissions

- California

Speaking Engagements:

- “Arbitration Update: CFPB Rule-Making and Consumer Arbitration”
- “Class Actions and CLRA Claims”