



**MICHELE B.
FRIEND**

Principal, Los Angeles

PRACTICE AREAS

- Commercial Litigation

PRACTICE FOCUS

Michele B. Friend is a Principal attorney in the firm’s Commercial Litigation practice group with over 20 years of experience in matters involving contracts, fiduciary duties, fraud, real estate, business dissolutions, employment, trade secrets, trademarks and trusts. Before practicing law, Ms. Friend was a licensed Certified Public Accountant at a national commercial real estate management company.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Successfully defended the President of a global manufacturing company accused of stealing Trade Secrets from a prior employer in a jury trial
- Won complete defense verdict and \$1.25 million judgment on cross-complaint in real estate partnership dispute trial
- Successfully defended the President of a family business in a widely publicized, \$650 million breach of fiduciary duty and fraud action relating to a billionaire’s estate
- Won arbitration against California Interscholastic Federation regarding school placement for high school sports competitions
- Resolved numerous breach of contract actions for businesses
- Resolved employment-related disputes for businesses and counseled clients with independent contractor and employee negotiations
- Counseled clients through real estate leases, CAM and landlord/tenant issues
- Resolved sibling disputes in family trust matters
- Provide general counseling for mid-size businesses and religious organizations

RECOGNITION

- Southern California Super Lawyer Rising Star
- Beverly Hills Bar Association Distinguished Leadership Award
- Beverly Hills Bar Association Lawrence J. Blake Award

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- You Can’t Take it with You: Trade Secret Protection and Enforcement

EDUCATION

- J.D., Cleveland State University - Cleveland-Marshall College of Law
- B.S., Miami University

ADMISSIONS

- California
- USDC Central District of California
- 9th Circuit Court of Appeals
- U.S. Supreme Court