



PRACTICE FOCUS

Deborah “Debbie” Petito is a Principal attorney in the firm’s Labor & Employment, Estates and Trusts and Litigation practice groups.

Ms. Petito has practiced in the labor and employment field for over 35 years. Her practice focuses on all types of employment matters, including employment litigation (discrimination, harassment and wage and hour) in federal and state courts, before state and federal agencies regulating wages and hours of employment and in arbitration proceedings, and labor matters (dealing with unions and union-related issues). She acts as an outside employment counsel to several companies in various industries providing advice on an ongoing basis. She also conducts investigations, provides general advice and counsel to employers on employee discipline and termination, wage and hour issues as well as other employment topics. Ms. Petito frequently speaks on labor and employment issues.

In her litigation practice, Ms. Petito represents individual clients and corporate entities, including non-profit corporations, in all types of trust litigation, including defending trustees in petitions to have them removed, challenging gifts to caregivers and last-minute amendments to trusts resulting from undue influence. In addition, she handles financial elder abuse matters and claims against an elder, trustee or beneficiary for unpaid wages by a caregiver.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Successfully settled two class action lawsuits against clients in 2022 in the early stages of the litigation saving the clients substantial fees and costs
- Conducted over 12 investigations of employee claims of discrimination and/or harassment during COVID.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Labor & Employment Legal Update, ADP, 2017
- Top 10 Mistakes Employers Make That Can Lead to Litigation, ADP, 2017
- Los Angeles Medical Group Management Associates, New laws for 2015
- Family & Medical Leave Policy in California - Guidelines for Integrating FMLA & CFRA Rules, SDP, 2014
- How to Legally Hire, Discipline and Fire Employees, SDP, 2013
- Social Media & Regulatory Agency Decisions That Affect Employment, SDP, 2013

EDUCATION

- Pepperdine University School of Law, J.D.
- University of California at Los Angeles, B.A., Honors

ADMISSIONS

- California

DEBORAH H. PETITO

Principal, Los Angeles



PRACTICE AREAS

- Labor and Employment Law