



## MICHAEL CHAIT

Of Counsel

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Business Litigation  
Intellectual Property  
Employment & Labor

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### MICHAEL CHAIT

#### EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Southern California Law School
- B.A., *cum laude*, University of Washington

#### AREAS OF PRACTICE

- Business Litigation
- Intellectual Property
- Employment & Labor

#### REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- ***BNSF Railway Company v. Thomas Clark***. Represented railroad to address a medical examiner's attempt to use statutory procedure to avoid disclosure of key materials; obtained writ of mandate on summary judgment, preventing medical examiner's use of the procedure, which was affirmed by the Washington Supreme Court.
- ***Chumbley, et al. v. Snohomish County***. Represented property owner alleging violations relating to permitting of adjacent property's water treatment system in landslide zone; obtained ruling from Court of Appeals holding that Land Use Petition was timely and County was not preempted from enforcing land disturbing activities and critical areas ordinances.
- ***Bartz v. Burlington N. Santa Fe, LLC***. Represented railroad in wrongful death action; obtained dismissal on the pleadings, with the Court of Appeals affirming, as an issue of first impression, that statutory immunity applied to injuries to trespasser occurring upon a railroad bridge or trestle.
- ***Rossich v. BNSF Railway Company***. Represented railroad in claims by former employee of retaliation in violation of Federal Railroad Safety Act, alleging termination for reporting an injury; obtained defense verdict after three week jury trial in United States District Court.
- ***Global Direct Components, LLC v. Lippert Components, Inc.*** Represented RV component manufacturer in lawsuit alleging misappropriation of trade secrets; obtained defense verdict following three week jury trial.

#### AWARDS AND HONORS

- ACLU of Southern California – First Amendment Award
- Public Counsel – Pro Bono Award

## ARTICLES AND PRESENTATION

- A Second Bite at The Apple: State Law Wrongful Discharge Claims, NARTC Special Litigation Conference, presenter, 2018
- Social Media & Privacy: Building Your Online Presence and Protecting Your Digital Assets, California Club, panelist and moderator, 2014
- Michael Chait, Susan Ross, and Sarah Taylor Wirtz, Tips for Conducting an Internal Investigation, MS&K Corporate Alert, 2014
- Michael Chait and Susan Kohn Ross, Cybersecurity Update – How Are You Impacted?, MS&K Corporate Alert, 2014
- Michael Chait, Steps to Protect the Identity of Your Secret Source, Lexology, 2013

## PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- Trustee of the Board, Washington Trial Defense Lawyers
- Chair, Court Rules Committee, Washington Trial Defense Lawyers
- Chair, Court Rules and Procedures Committee, Washington State Bar Association
- Member, National Association of Railroad Trial Counsel
- Member, Federal Bar Association of the Western District of Washington
- Jury Diversity Task Force, Washington State Minority and Justice Commission
- Member, Phi Beta Kappa

## ADMISSIONS

- Washington
- California
- 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, Central District of California
- United States District Court, Northern District of California
- United States District Court, Southern District of California