

Rachel H. Leonard

Partner
Walnut Creek, CA
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PRACTICE AREAS
Business Litigation + Counseling
General Liability

EDUCATION
Golden Gate University, JD, 2005
Franklin and Marshall College, BA, 2001

BAR ADMISSIONS
California
US District Court, Central District of California
US District Court, Eastern District of California
US District Court, Northern District of California
Oregon

Overview
Rachel Leonard has practiced law since 2006 and has considerable experience in all aspects of civil litigation, from claim inception through trial, defending parties in personal injury, premises liability, and various other general liability matters.

Rachel formerly served as a prosecutor for the Contra Costa District Attorney's Office, where she tried numerous criminal jury trials to verdict. In addition to her trial experience, Rachel has extensive experience in law and motion practice, including targeted and successful motions for summary judgment, written discovery, depositions, discovery, oral argument, settlement conferences, mediations, and arbitrations. This significant litigation experience enables Rachel to efficiently identify the strengths and weaknesses of each case and realistically evaluate damages. Her considerable trial experience enables her to recognize which cases are appropriate for trial and which should be resolved.

As an active member of the Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California and Nevada, Rachel has served on the Board of Directors since 2019 and is presently the second vice president, in line to become president of the organization in 2028.

In her free time, Rachel practices kickboxing, runs, reads, is the commissioner of her daughter's softball league, and coaches her daughter's softball team. In conjunction with serving as the commissioner of the league, in 2025, in a pro bono capacity, Rachel ensured that girls' softball obtained equity in field access by successfully advocating for this access in the city where she resides.

Involvement
+ MG+M National Law Clerk Program, Walnut Creek Local Program Lead, 2026
+ Associate Mentor at MG+M since January 2026
+ Presented MG+M training sessions for first-year associate litigation program in 2025 and National Law Clerk Program in 2025 and 2026
+ Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California and Nevada, Second Vice President, 2026; Secretary-Treasurer, 2025; Board Member at Large, 2020–2024; Member, 2019–present
+ Contra Costa County Bar Association, Women's Section, Co-

President, 2022; Immediate Past President, 2021; President, 2020; Vice President, 2018–2019; Board Member, 2018

+ Association of Southern California Defense Counsel, Member, 2024–present
+ Acalanes High School Instrumental Music Boosters, Board Member, 2025–present
+ Lafayette-Moraga Youth Association (LMYA), Softball Commissioner and Board Member, 2022–present; Swim Team Director, 2024–2025; Swim Meet Director, 2021–2023
+ Youth Softball Coach, 2021–present

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