



## → Brooke S. Purcell

### Partner

Four Embarcadero Center  
Seventeenth Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94111

T: +1.415.774.2939

F: +1.415.403.6064

[bpurcell@sheppardmullin.com](mailto:bpurcell@sheppardmullin.com)

Brooke Purcell is a partner in the Labor and Employment Practice Group in the firm's San Francisco office.

### Areas of Practice

Brooke takes a pragmatic approach to litigation that balances the need for a strong defense with business realities. Her practice focuses on defending employers in federal and state courts and before administrative agencies against claims of wage and hour violations, discrimination, harassment, retaliation, and wrongful termination. She also represents employers in wage and hour class actions and PAGA claims. Her clients range from small businesses to publicly traded companies, with a focus on technology, retail and hospitality industries. In addition to her litigation practice, Brooke frequently provides guidance and training to companies to maintain compliance with federal, state, and municipal laws and regulations.

Prior to law school, Brooke worked as a Legislative Assistant in the United States Senate and as a Professional Staff member on the United States Senate Commerce Committee.

### Honors

Northern California Rising Star, *Super Lawyers*, 2013-2018

### Experience

- Deposed plaintiffs in various matters.
- Managed investigations by the United States Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division and municipal entities.
- Prevailed in a wage and hour action brought to hearing at the California Division of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE) against an international technology company.
- Negotiated favorable settlement and full release of numerous cases, including wage and hour cases at the DLSE and various discrimination, harassment, retaliation and wrongful termination matters.
- Briefed successful Motion to Dismiss in a state-wide meal and rest break case in the Eastern District of California against national food processing company, which postured the case for favorable settlement.
- Developed strategy for and managed the collection of declarations of putative class members in state-wide meal and rest break case venued in the Eastern District of California.
- Obtained multiple insufficient evidence findings from the California Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH).

- Successfully defeated motion to strike counterclaim in trade secret and breach of contract matter.
- Prepared successful motion to transfer venue in discrimination and harassment matter for national grocery store chain.
- Deposed numerous medical experts in various discrimination cases.
- Defended person most knowledgeable depositions for retail, technology and manufacturing companies.

## Articles

### Labor and Employment Law Blog Posts

- "California Municipalities Move Closer to Requiring Hazard Pay for Grocery and Pharmacy Workers," January 8, 2021
- "San Francisco Surpasses Other Jurisdictions and Enacts Expansive COVID-19 Related Paid Sick Leave," April 20, 2020
- "Additional Paid Leave for Some San Jose Employees Under the COVID-19 Paid Sick Leave Ordinance," April 16, 2020
- "Complicating Simplicity: Ninth Circuit Requires Separate Stand-Alone Documents for Employment Background Checks," February 6, 2019
- "Department of Labor Offers Employers Clarity By Resuming Its Practice of Issuing Opinion Letters," April 25, 2018

## Speaking Engagements

Speaker, "Breakfast with your Labor Lawyer- San Francisco," Sheppard Mullin Spring 2018 Seminar Series, April 17, 2018

Panelist, "Navigating the Security Litigation Storm," Retail Risk and Claims Managers Round Table Meeting, Oak Brook, July 2013

Panelist, "How to Lose 25 lbs. and Learn a Foreign Language by Using Structured Settlements," USLAW Client Conference, Tucson, April 2013

## Events

California Labor & Employment Law Update  
Webinar, 04.21.2021

Labor & Employment Update – What Retailers Need to Know  
Webinar, 01.28.2021

Webinar With Your Labor Lawyer - San Francisco  
Spring 2020 Seminar Series  
Webinar, 04.21.2020

Third Thursday Emerging Company Webinar Series  
COVID-19 Related Employment Law Developments and An Overview of Recent Changes in California  
Employment Law  
Webinar, 04.16.2020

Labor and Employment Law Update  
Sheppard Mullin Chicago, 11.28.2018

## Memberships

Bar Association of San Francisco  
Marin Bar Association

## Podcasts & Webinars

Labor & Employment Update – What Retailers Need to Know  
01.28.2021

## Practices

Labor and Employment  
Labor and Employment Counseling  
Employee Hiring/Discipline/Termination  
Employment Agreements  
Handbooks and Personnel Policies  
Harassment Investigation and Training  
Labor and Employment Litigation  
Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation

## Industries

Food and Beverage  
Hospitality  
Retail

## Education

J.D., University of San Francisco Law School, 2008  
B.A., Tufts University, 1999

## Admissions

California