

Samrah Mahmoud

Partner

Orange County

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Samrah is a commercial litigator who focuses her practice on class action defense, insurance coverage and bad faith litigation, and health care disputes.

OVERVIEW

Samrah is a commercial litigator who has successfully defended clients at all stages of a case, including at trial and on appeal. Samrah focuses her practice on litigating on behalf of health care companies and representing insurers in coverage and bad faith lawsuits. She also routinely defends companies against consumer class actions involving a variety of consumer protection statutes including, the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, the California Confidentiality of Medical Information Act, and California's Unfair Competition law. She represents clients in both state and federal court, as well as at arbitrations.

In addition to maintaining her practice, Samrah has taught several courses at UC Irvine School of Law, including Antitrust Law and an Introduction to California Federal Local Rules & Filings.

Samrah served as a law clerk to the Honorable Josephine L. Staton of the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California from 2012 to 2013. She was a member of the University of California, Irvine School of Law's inaugural class and a senior editor of the *UC Irvine Law Review*. During law school, Samrah externed for the Honorable Richard M. Aronson, California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, Division Three. Samrah graduated *summa cum laude* from Chapman University with a B.A. in psychology.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Class Action and Other High-Stakes Litigation

- Represented an international retailer in consumer and competitor class actions involving false advertising and unfair competition claims in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California and in San Francisco Superior Court.
- Represented a commercial retailer in a trademark dispute in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.
- Represented an international hotel operator in a fraud and promissory estoppel action in Ventura County Superior Court.
- Represented financial services company in defense of class action alleging violation of the Telephone

Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) based on calls allegedly made without consent.

- Represented regional bank based in the south /midwest in defense of class action alleging violation of the TCPA based on text alerts sent to alleged reassigned numbers.
- Representing bank based in Hawaii in defense of class action alleging violation of the TCPA based on texts sent through text banking system.

Insurance

- Represented an insurer in a coverage and bad faith action brought by a water district in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.
- Represented an insurer in a coverage and bad faith action in Hawaii District Court relating to an underlying construction defect/product liability lawsuit arising from the failure of a rooftop deck at a shopping center.
- Represented an insurer in a coverage and bad faith action in Orange County Superior Court, Complex Division, relating to underlying product defect class actions.
- Representing an insurer in a coverage and bad faith action in Los Angeles Superior Court related to underlying environmental actions.

Health Care Litigation

- Represented a health plan in a multiweek jury trial in Los Angeles Superior Court that resulted in a complete defense verdict; defeated a health care provider's breach of contract, breach of the implied covenant, and fraud claims; successfully defended the verdict on appeal.
- Represented a health plan in an action for breach of contract and fraud brought by a provider over commercial reimbursement rates in the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.
- Represented a health plan in Orange County Superior Court, Complex Division, in an action for breach of contract and unfair competition brought by an out-of-network provider over commercial reimbursement rates for emergency services.
- Represented a health plan in various arbitrations regarding reimbursement for Medicare claims.
- Representing a health plan in litigation brought by out-of-network providers over reimbursement rates in California state and federal courts.

AWARDS

- *Super Lawyers*[®]: "Rising Star," California (2019-2022)
- Finalist, 2023 OC Inspirational Women Leadership Awards, Los Angeles Times (2023)
- Finalist, 2022 Inspirational Women Leadership Awards, Los Angeles Times (2022)
- Nominee, Orange County Women In Business Awards (2020-2021)

TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Antitrust
- Business Litigation
- Class Action
- Health Care Insurance
- Insurance + Reinsurance
- Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA)

ALL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Antitrust
- Business Litigation
- Class Action
- Financial Services Litigation
- Health Care Insurance
- Insurance + Reinsurance
- Litigation + Trial
- Managed Care Payor Disputes, Investigations + Regulatory Counseling
- Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA)

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Board of Directors, Public Law Center (January 2021-present)
- Board of Directors, Federal Bar Association of Orange County (November 2019-present)
- Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference Representative, California Central District
- Past president, University of California, Irvine School of Law Alumni Association
- Former member, Women for Girls Member, Girls Inc.
- Public Law Center Advocates (2014-2016)

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- University of California, Irvine School of Law, J.D., *summa cum laude*, 2012
- Chapman University, B.A., *summa cum laude*, 2009

BAR ADMISSIONS

- California

COURT ADMISSIONS

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of California

CLERKSHIPS

- Hon. Josephine L. Staton, U.S. District Court, Central District of California, 2012-2013

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Presenter, "No Fishing Zone: Protecting Against Overly Broad Discovery in Insurance Bad Faith Actions," 2021

Insurance Bad Faith and Extra-Contractual Liability Seminar, July 2021.

- Speaker, UCI Law Guest Speaker Series, Fall 2020.
- Speaker, "TCPA: Why Can't You Meet Me in the Middle?," Berkeley Research Group LLC Webinar, June 4, 2020.
- Lecturer, "Introduction to California Federal Local Rules & Filings," University of California, Irvine School of Law, Winter Session, 2019-2024.
- Lecturer, "Antitrust Law," University of California, Irvine School of Law, Fall 2017.
- Presenter, "Judicial Clerkships," University of California, Irvine School of Law.

PUBLICATIONS

- Co-author, "California Supreme Court Confirms Vertical Exhaustion Rule Applies Before Depletion of All Primary Coverage," *Troutman Pepper*, July 2, 2024.
- Co-author, "Ninth Circuit Rejects Retroactive Consent for Recording Website Users," *Troutman Pepper*, June 14, 2022.
- Co-author, "California Supreme Court Confirms Call-Recording Statute Applies to Parties and Nonparties Alike," *Troutman Pepper*, April 12, 2021.
- Co-author, "*Pinto v. Farmers Insurance Exchange*: California Appellate Court Confirms Juries Must Specifically Find Insurer Acted Unreasonably in Bad Faith Failure to Settle Cases," *Troutman Pepper*, March 22, 2021.
- Co-author, "Pitfalls in Class Settlements," *FBA/OC*, Fall/Winter 2020.
- Co-author, "COVID-19 Insurance Class Actions Face Certification Hurdles," *Law360*, May 7, 2020.
- Co-author, "Calif. COVID-19 Class Actions: Early Trends and Key Defenses," *Law360*, April 23, 2020.
- Co-author, "Ninth Circuit Issues Ruling on Insurers' Rights and Obligations Regarding Suspended Corporate Insureds," *Troutman Sanders*, March 16, 2020.
- Co-author, "No Fishing Zone: Protecting Against Overly Broad Discovery in Insurance Bad Faith Actions," *Lexology*, February 21, 2020.
- Co-author, "5 Complications That Can Derail a Class Action Settlement," *Law360*, February 21, 2020.
- Co-author, "*Roes v. SFBSC Management, LLC*: Ninth Circuit Reverses Class Settlement Approval and Outlines More Exacting Standard for Class Action Settlements," *Troutman Sanders*, January 8, 2020.
- Co-author, "Lessons for Calif. Health Payors From 2019 Filing Trends," *Law360*, January 8, 2020.
- Co-author, "*Keodalah v. Allstate*: Washington Supreme Court Nixes Statutory Bad Faith Claims Against Employee Adjusters," *Troutman Sanders*, October 8, 2019.
- Co-author, "Searching for a Solution to Surprise Medical Billing in Calif." *Law360*, August 26, 2019.
- Co-author, "Special Requirements of the Central District Local Rules," *FBA/OC*, Spring/Summer 2019.
- Co-author, "California Federal Filings: Ten Key Differences Among the Districts," *Orange County Lawyer*, May 2019.
- Co-author, "Seven Key E-Filing Tips for Attorneys Practicing in Federal Court," *The Recorder*, January 28, 2019.
- Co-author, "6 Ways Teaching a Law School Class Can Benefit Lawyers," *Law360*, July 10, 2017.
- Co-author, "Magistrate Judge Karen E. Scott," *FBA/OC Newsletter*, Fall 2016.
- Co-author, "Q&A With Magistrate Judge Douglas F. McCormick," *Federal Bar Association, Orange County Chapter Newsletter*, pp. 15-18, Winter 2015.
- Author, "Determining the Appropriate Framework for Commuting Accommodations Under the Americans With Disabilities Act," 2 *C. Irvine L. Rev.* 1023 (2012).

MEDIA COMMENTARY

- Mentioned, "14 Appointed as Lawyer Representatives to the Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference," *Daily Journal*, October 31, 2025.
- Quoted, "Colo. Clash on Insurance Adjuster Liability Concerns Industry," *Law360*, January 28, 2022.
- Quoted, "Ransomware Victims' Coverage Hopes Surge With Ind. Ruling," *Law360*, March 22, 2021.
- Quoted, "Insurance Cases to Watch in the 2nd Half of 2020," *Law360*, July 6, 2020.
- Quoted, "4 Insurance Rulings You May Have Missed This Spring," *Law360*, May 8, 2020.
- Mentioned, "In Case You Missed It: Hottest Firms and Stories on Law360," *Law360*, February 28, 2020.
- Quoted, "Wash. Justices Ax Bad Faith Suit Against Allstate Adjuster," *Law360*, October 3, 2019.