Valerie Holder

Counsel

San Francisco

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OVERVIEW

Valerie defends highly regulated clients in a range of key disputes and investigations. As former assistant general counsel for one of the largest banks in the U.S., she provides practical, business-minded guidance to business leaders on operations and mitigating litigation risk.

Valerie first-chairs mediations and arbitrations before JAMS, FINRA, AAA, and the Maritime Arbitration Association, as well as trials in state court. She has handled a variety of litigation and appeals in connection with commercial and residential mortgages, securities transactions, employment, class-action, and maritime/cargo matters.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Acted as lead counsel in numerous FINRA arbitrations involving alleged securities violations.
- Product owner and liaison for early customer dispute resolution workflow for a large financial services client.
- Advised and represented clients in the maritime industry on matters involving the operation and management of vessels, including representing vessel owners, charterers, and managers in cargo claims (claims based in contract), personal injury/Jones Act claims, and casualties.
- Represented large financial institutions in all aspects of foreclosure related litigation including prosecution of judicial foreclosures, post-foreclosure evictions, and litigation defense.
- Advised clients on matters pertaining to residential home mortgages, compliance with federal regulations, and bankruptcy proceedings.

AWARDS

- *Super Lawyers*, Rising Star (2013-2020)

TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Anti-Money Laundering
- Regulatory Investigations, Strategy + Enforcement

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- Securities Investigations + Enforcement

ALL AREAS OF FOCUS

- Anti-Money Laundering
- Banking + Financial Services Regulation
- Financial Services
- Litigation + Trial
- Regulatory Investigations, Strategy + Enforcement
- Securities Investigations + Enforcement

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Volunteer, Milo Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit rescue (2024-present)
- Trustee, Washington State Bar Foundation (2017-2018)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Assistant general counsel/vice president, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., 2021-2025
- Court extern, Hon. Christine Quinn-Brintnall and Hon. C.C. Bridgewater, Court of Appeals, Division II, 2009
- Legal intern, In Pacta, 2009
- Intern, International Business Relations, Hyundai Engineering and Construction, Seoul, South Korea, 2008

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- Seattle University School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*, 2010, Trustee Law Scholarship, 2007-2008; CALI Excellence for the Future Award in Legal Writing II, Spring 2009; Sungkyukwan-Fordham Law Exchange Program, Seoul, South Korea
- University of Washington, B.A., *Dean's List*, 2006, Jody Deering Nyquist Writing Award for Original Undergraduate Theory and Practice

BAR ADMISSIONS

- California
- Washington

PUBLICATIONS

- Author, “Foreclosure Process: ‘Debt Collection’ Under the FDCPA,” *USFN Report*, Spring 2014.