



## Lisa I. Carteen

### Counsel

515 South Flower Street,  
Forty-Second Floor  
Los Angeles, CA 90071-2223

D 213.430.3624

F 213.430.3409

[lisa.carteen@tuckerellis.com](mailto:lisa.carteen@tuckerellis.com)

With more than 25 years of experience representing individuals and corporations, Lisa Carteen provides expert cutting-edge advice to resolve a broad range of disputes, including business litigation, employment, and intellectual property matters.

A tireless client advocate, Lisa offers the highest level of strategic counseling paired with finely tuned litigation skills to resolve matters as efficiently and effectively as possible. Leveraging the advantage of her multi-disciplinary perspective, she assists clients in solving problems, creating opportunities, and achieving business objectives. Lisa uses investigations, witness interviews, and depositions to synthesize the client's story and effectively convey it to judge and jury.

A significant part of Lisa's practice is focused on employment counseling and litigation. Lisa has substantial experience defending employers in cases involving claims of wrongful termination, harassment, discrimination, retaliation, and unpaid commissions. She has litigated a wide range of class action wage and hour disputes, including matters involving independent contractor classification, off-the-clock work, meal and rest break violations, overtime, and claims brought under the Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA).

Lisa's litigation practice has provided her with valuable insight into how to avoid disputes from the outset by helping clients navigate risk and stay out of court. Lisa handles matters involving trade secrets, unfair competition, business torts, and real estate litigation. She prioritizes early case assessment and efficient resolution strategies—while remaining a formidable advocate when trial is required. In 2024, she served as lead trial counsel for a Fortune 100 client, securing a complete victory for the client in a jury trial involving the sale of computer software to a multinational corporation.

For many clients, Lisa takes a proactive approach to litigation avoidance by becoming an active part of the client's human resources team and advising on regulatory and legal matters. Lisa regularly counsels management on hiring, termination, accommodations, and the drafting and enforcement of employment and independent contractor agreements, including confidentiality and separation agreements.

In the intellectual property arena, Lisa has considerable experience advising clients on the development, protection, and enforcement of patents, trademarks, trade dress, and copyrights. She approaches IP litigation with an eye toward innovation, cost-efficiency, and business value, representing clients ranging from early-stage companies to established global brands.

Lisa is a Southern California native who enjoys taking in live music and finding balance and focus on the water through rowing.

### **Education**

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- Campbell University School of Law (J.D., 1998)
- University of Southern California (B.A., cum laude, 1993)

### **State Admissions**

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- California, 1999
- North Carolina, 1998

### **Federal Admissions**

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- United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- United States District Court, Central District of California
- United States District Court, Eastern District of California
- United States District Court, Northern District of California
- United States District Court, Southern District of California
- United States District Court, Eastern District of North Carolina
- United States District Court, Western District of North Carolina

### **Service Areas**

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- Business Litigation
- Intellectual Property
- IP Litigation
- Labor & Employment
- Trade Secret Litigation
- Health & Life Sciences
- Privacy & Data Security

### **Experience**

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- Negotiated royalty-free license agreement for corporate client after it was accused of infringing IP rights concerning a children's book and motion picture
- Defeated request for emergency injunctive relief to leverage Fortune 50 e-commerce company's early dismissal in trade secret and copyright infringement lawsuit
- Lead counsel in real estate cases involving option agreements, purchase/sale of real property, major commercial lease disputes, and boundary and nuisance disputes
- Represented cryptocurrency miners/owners in blockchain technology litigation, which resulted in successful involuntary bankruptcy action against defendants
- Obtained marketable title to commercial properties for Fortune 100 bank in real estate foreclosures and related litigation throughout California
- Successfully defended international company in class action antitrust lawsuit that accused client of using multi-award winning website to restrain competition in the online gaming market
- Represented shoe manufacturer in trade dress infringement, dilution, and unfair competition action; obtained favorable judgment for client, which states client owns distinctive trade dress in its footwear and packaging
- Defended and obtained a jury verdict for a publicly traded accounting services provider
- Successfully defended financial services company during administrative trial before the Office of Administrative Hearings; developed innovative defense strategy that enabled client to maintain its finance lenders license, which the Department of Corporations sought to revoke on the basis that the client was engaging in allegedly unlawful practice regarding consumer loans
- Obtained favorable settlement for manufacturer of aerospace components in action concerning misappropriation of trade secrets and unfair competition
- Successfully settled case for home furnishings designer brought to enforce designer's copyright ownership rights in design against its competitor
- Obtained title to commercial property and favorable settlement for retail client through early mediation in action involving client's exercise of its option to purchase property
- Defended major financial services company against fraud allegations; negotiated dismissal of entire action during early mediation with no concessions to plaintiff

## **Publications & Events**

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### **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

- “Free Speech Issues for the LGBTQ Community in 2023,” Tucker Ellis In-House Counsel Summit (October 2023)
- “We’re Not in Kansas Anymore, Are We? Operating in Multiple States May Mean Big Differences in Employment Laws,” Tucker Ellis In-House Counsel Summit (October 2022)

### **PUBLICATIONS**

- “[New California Employment Laws for 2024: What Employers Need to Know](#),” Tucker Ellis Client Alert (January 2024)
- “[New California Employment Laws for 2022: What Employers Need to Know](#),” Tucker Ellis Client Alert (December 2021)
- “[New California Employment Laws for 2021: What You Don’t Know May Hurt You](#),” Tucker Ellis Client Alert (December 2020)

### **Honors**

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- Southern California Super Lawyers Rising Stars® (2006-2011)

### **In the Community**

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- *Law360*, 2023 California Editorial Advisory Board
- American Bar Association
- The State Bar of California
- Member, Los Angeles County Bar Association, Labor & Employment Section
- North Carolina Bar Association
- The Society for Human Resources Management (SHRM)
- Member, California Supreme Court Historical Society
- Former Judicial Extern for the Honorable W. Earl Britt, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of North Carolina