

# **Courtney D. Bhatt**

Associate

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## **Focus Areas**

Discrimination and Harassment Inclusion, Equity and Diversity Arbitration Labor Management Relations Higher Education

## **Overview**

Courtney D. Bhatt represents employers in the defense of federal and state employment law claims, including discrimination, harassment, internal investigations, and alternative dispute resolution. Further, Courtney represents and counsels employers in traditional labor law and labor relations matters including union organizing, collective bargaining, and unfair labor practice charges before the NLRB.

Courtney has extensive litigation and arbitration experience and has consistently obtained favorable results, including successful arbitration awards as first chair, summary judgments, and judgments upheld on appeal. She also has extensive experience conducting internal and external workplace investigations for private employers and public sector employers related to allegations of misconduct, including discrimination, retaliation, and sexual harassment.

Prior to joining Littler, Courtney practiced labor and employment defense at a Tier 1 regional law firm in Washington, and she also practiced business litigation and administrative law at a business law firm in Bellevue, Washington. While in California, Courtney practiced employment defense at a law firm in the Los Angeles area.

While at Dartmouth, Courtney received a Mellam Family Foundation Scholarship for outstanding community service and academic achievement, and served as a student judiciary board member of the Committee on Standards.



Courtney earned a Certificate in Dispute Resolution from the Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution.

## **Professional and Community Affiliations**

- Member, King County Bar Association
- Member, Association of Workplace Investigators

## Recognition

- Named, Rising Star, Washington, Super Lawyers, 2019, 2023-2024
- Named, Top 100 for Washington, The National Black Lawyers (NBL), 2024
- Named, Pro Bono Challenge Rock Star, Littler, 2024

#### **Education**

J.D., Pepperdine University School of Law, 2011 A.B., Dartmouth College, 2007

## **Bar Admissions**

Washington California

## Courts

- U.S. District Court, Western District of Washington
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Washington

## Languages

Spanish

## **Publications & Press**

Probing in Procurement – Recent Decisions May Prompt Review of Supplier Diversity Programs Littler ASAP March 13, 2024



# **Speaking Engagements**

"Leaving on a Jet Plane": What Employers Need to Know to Navigate Leaves of Absence Under Federal, State, and Local Laws in the Evergreen State SHRM South Puget Sound Chapter October 17, 2024

**My First IEP Workshop: An Intro to Special Education** Washington Autism Alliance August 1, 2024

Navigating New Employment Law Legislation: A Seminar for Nonprofit Leaders in Washington State 501c Services Group August 3, 2023

Student Safety: Laws and Liabilities National Business Institute (NBI), Seattle, WA September 12, 2019