



## DAVID E. AMAYA

Partner

San Diego

858.597.9631

858.597.9601

### Service Focus

- California Class Actions and PAGA
- Class and Collective Actions
- Employee Leaves and Accommodations
- Employment Discrimination and Harassment
- Labor Relations
- Litigation and Trials
- Wage and Hour

### Industry Focus

- Energy
- Healthcare
- Hospitality
- Retail

## OVERVIEW

David Amaya is a partner in the firm's San Diego office and has devoted his entire legal career to representing employers. Fueled by a passion for workplace law and a competitive drive, he is a tireless advocate for his clients. He enjoys working with companies to develop creative and business-oriented solutions that resolve workplace issues while managing risk and remaining mindful of the client's bottom line.

David's practice focuses on the representation of employers in the healthcare and hospitality industries in both union and non-union settings. He also represents clients in a wide range of other sectors, from retail to transportation to education. He has defeated class certification efforts on several occasions, including at the appellate level in *Ricardo Acuna v. FS Hotels (LA), Inc.*, 2011 Cal.App.Unpub. LEXIS 6898 (2011). In 2015, he second chaired a trial team that obtained a complete defense verdict for a company against whom over \$20,000,000 in damages were sought. He has also won several anti-SLAPP motions resulting in awards of attorney's fees and costs for his clients.

Since 2016, David has been included in *San Diego Super Lawyers - Rising Stars*. David was also selected as a *San Diego Metro Magazine*, "40 under 40" Award Winner.

A native of Bucaramanga, Colombia, David grew up in a multi-cultural family. His love of soccer led him to a spot on the men's varsity soccer team at the University of California – San Diego. He was captain and president of the club soccer team while attending law school at Indiana University Maurer School of Law in Bloomington, Indiana, where he graduated *cum laude*, earned top brief writing honors in the school's Sherman Minton Moot Court Competition, and served as an Articles Editor on the *Federal Communications Law Journal*.

David's past legal experience includes stints at a large national full-service firm, the California Court of Appeal, and the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of California.

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## Credentials

### Education

- Indiana University Maurer School of Law, J.D., *cum laude*
- University of California, San Diego, B.S.

### Bar Admissions

- California

### Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

- U.S. District Court for the Central District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California

## Languages

- Spanish
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## Recognitions

- Included in *San Diego Business Journal's* Latino Leaders of Influence (2025)
  - Selected as *San Diego Business Journal's* Top 100 Leaders of Influence in Law (2024)
  - Included in *San Diego Super Lawyers - Rising Stars* (2016 - 2018)
  - *San Diego Metro Magazine*, "40 under 40" Award Winner
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## Affiliations

### Professional Activities

- San Diego County Bar Association

### Community Activities

- Court Appointed Special Advocate, Voices for Children

# INSIGHTS

News

Oct 13, 2025

San Diego Partner Honored Among SDBJ's 2025 Latino Leaders of Influence

News

Oct 29, 2024

Fisher Phillips Partners Honored in San Diego Business Journal's Leaders of Influence in Law 2024

**Insights**

**Aug 23, 2024**

California Supreme Court Rules Public Employers Are Exempt from PAGA: What Employers Need to Know + 4 Practical Tips

**Insights**

**May 23, 2024**

Appeals Court Hands Medical School a Win in Resident's Due Process Case: Key Takeaways and 6 Steps You Can Take Now

**Insights**

**Aug 4, 2023**

Workplace Law Update: 22 Essential Items on Your August To-Do List

**Insights**

**Jul 13, 2023**

California Appeals Court Provides Roadmap for Healthcare Employers to Defeat Discrimination Claims Over Vaccine Mandates