



Joanne E. Caruso

Partner

Joanne Caruso is a partner in Howrey's Los Angeles office and is a member of the firm's six-person Executive Committee. In 2006, Ms. Caruso was named one of the top 100 attorneys in California by the *Los Angeles/San Francisco Daily Journal* and from 2005 - 2010 she has been listed as one of "California's Top 75 Women Litigators" by the same publication. Ms. Caruso has been ranked by *Chambers USA* and has been recognized as one of Southern California's "Super Lawyers" in the area of Business Litigation. She has recently been named by *California Diversity* magazine as one of 2010's "Most Powerful and Influential Women in California."

Joanne E. Caruso

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ADMISSIONS

California
Connecticut
District of Columbia

EDUCATION

Boston College Law School (JD, 1986), *cum laude*

Boston College (BA, 1982), *magna cum laude*

Ms. Caruso represents Fortune 500 clients in all stages of federal and state court litigation throughout the United States. Her extensive commercial litigation experience includes complex commercial contracts, antitrust, unfair competition and unfair business practices, patent infringement matters, franchise relationships, real estate partnership disputes and insurance recovery. She has participated in numerous trials, mediations and arbitrations.

Ms. Caruso serves on the California Commission on Access to Justice. The 24 -member commission is made up of lawyers and judges as well as academic, business, labor and community leaders from across the State and was established to explore ways to improve access to civil justice for Californians living on low and moderate incomes.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- *AIMCO v. David L. Johnson, et al.* Lead counsel representing one of the nation's largest owner and operators of apartment communities in an arbitration before a panel of three arbitrators from the American Arbitration Association in Denver, Colorado. After a multi-day hearing and extensive post-hearing briefing, the panel found in favor of her client on all counts and awarded compensatory damages, ongoing injunctive relief and attorneys' fees and costs.
- *Caterpillar Inc., et al. v. California Air Resources Board.* Represented Caterpillar in a suit involving breach of settlement agreements and purported environmental and health impacts of mobile source emissions. Won an unprecedented trial verdict in which the court invalidated a regulation and declared that the regulation breached and constitutionally impaired settlement agreements, and that the regulation amounted to a forced recall in violation of law.

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- *International Paper/Masonite*. Served as trial counsel representing International Paper and Masonite Corporation in a case arising out of the refusal of insurance carriers to provide indemnification for damages paid to settle a nationwide product liability class action. Following a 13-week trial, the jury awarded International Paper \$383 million from 22 insurance carriers. The verdict was the second-largest by a California jury in 2003.
- *International Paper v. Wausau*. Acted as trial counsel in a case in which the trial team obtained a verdict of \$93 million for International Paper and Masonite Corporation. The \$93 million verdict followed a six-week trial, and included an award of \$68 million in punitive damages. This trial involved the claim that Employers Insurance of Wausau had breached its duty to defend.
- *National Corporate Tax Credit Fund v. David L. Johnson*. Served as trial counsel representing owner and syndicator of affordable housing against a developer. The case involved 20 separate, complex real estate partnerships. Obtained a jury verdict of more than \$6 million. This was the second successful jury verdict for the client against this developer. In a prior suit, obtained a jury verdict and judgment of more than \$6.1 million.
- *Corrie, et al. v. Caterpillar Inc.* Represented Caterpillar in an action alleging, among other things, violations of the Torture Victims Protection Act, RICO and the Alien Tort Claims Act relating to equipment Caterpillar sold to the Israeli government. Successfully obtained complete dismissal in district court, which was affirmed on appeal.
- *Housing Rights Center, et al. v. Confidential*. Represented plaintiffs in a housing rights discrimination action against a billionaire LA landlord. The case settled on the eve of trial. The court recognized the settlement as one of the largest ever obtained in this type of case and that there was a significant nonmonetary component and public benefit. Obtained one of the largest court-ordered award of attorneys' fees in this type of case.
- *Kruse Technology Partnership v. Caterpillar Inc.* Represented Caterpillar in a patent infringement case by an independent inventor alleging that Caterpillar's engines infringe a patent on low temperature combustion.

COURTS & ADJUDICATIVE BODIES

- United States Supreme Court
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

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- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- United States District Court for the Central District of California
- United States District Court for the Northern District of California
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of California
- United States District Court for the Southern District of California
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas
- United States District Court for the District of Maryland
- United States District Court for the District of Columbia
- United States District Court for the Central District of Illinois

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Member, American Bar Association, Antitrust and Litigation Sections
- Member, State Bar of California, California Commission on Access to Justice and the Antitrust and Unfair Competition, Intellectual Property and Litigation Committees
- Member, Los Angeles County Bar Association
- Board of Governors, Membership Chair, Association of Business Trial Lawyers - Los Angeles Chapter (2002–2006)
- Member, Board of Governors, Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles (2002–2006)
- Member, District of Columbia Bar Association and its Litigation Section

PRO BONO

- *Washington Legal Clinic for Homeless v. Kelly*. Co-lead trial counsel in a trial in federal district court representing a legal service provider and a class of homeless families bringing federal constitutional claims against the District of Columbia.
- Represented numerous clients in *pro bono* matters, including homeless advocates and a class of homeless families in lawsuits against a municipal government; clients in domestic violence cases resulting in civil protection order for clients; clients seeking asylum; and clients in child custody matters resulting in custody for the clients.
- Served as firm representative to the Washington Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs (1987-1995).
- Served as the partner coordinator for a firm-established clinic at Georgetown University Hospital that offered *pro bono* services for HIV-positive patients (1994-1995).

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COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Break the Cycle, Member, Board of Directors
- Constitutional Rights Foundation, Member, Board of Directors
- St. Vincent de Paul Society, Member, Board of Directors and Treasurer
- Was an original member of Howrey's Partners in Education Committee that developed and established a partnership with a District of Columbia elementary school. Coordinated a tutoring and mentoring program. Spearheaded the Bancroft Conflict Resolution Training Program that trained 32 Bancroft Elementary students in methods of peaceful conflict resolution as part of the Bancroft Elementary Conflict Resolution Training Program.

PUBLICATIONS & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

ARTICLES

"Forum Shopping: Strategic Weapons and Rules of the Road For the First Battle in the Litigation War." *Institute for Corporate Counsel* (December 2008). Co-authored with Carolyn Woodson.

"Beyond the Back Nine." *Los Angeles/San Francisco Daily Journal* (June 1, 2006).

"Taking Effective Video-Taped Depositions and Using Them Effectively at Trial." *ALI-ABA The Practice Litigation Magazine* (August 2003). Co-authored with David Greenwald, Michael L. Turrill.

"Are You The Court Reporter? Deposition Practice from a Woman's Perspective." *ABA Woman Advocate Newsletter* (April 1998).

BOOKS

Successful Partnering Between Inside and Outside Counsel. West Group & ACCA (2000). Co-author, Chapter 62, "Expert Witnesses" (Robert L. Haig, ed.).

SPEECHES

"Mock Trial 2009 – Defining The Relevant Market for Satellite Radio." ABA Section of Antitrust Law, Washington DC (March 25 - 27, 2009). Article published for conference: "Closing Arguments in Antitrust Cases."

"Strategic Weapons and Rules of the Road For the First Battle in Global Litigation." *Institute for Corporate Counsel* (December 2008). Panelist.

"Privilege Work Product Doctrine." American Bar Association Section of Litigation Corporate Counsel Committee Annual Meeting, Carlsbad,

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CA (February 17, 2006). Panelist.

"Video Depositions At Trial - Help or Hindrance." Los Angeles County Bar Association (March 30, 2004). Panelist.

"Deposition Technology: Taking It To Trial." ABA Litigation Section's Annual Meeting (August 2003). Panelist.

"Strategies for Success Within Your Workplace." ABA Annual Mid-Year Meeting, Los Angeles, CA (February 6, 1999).

"Taking Action: Enforcing Your Intellectual Property Rights." The National Conference for Women Intellectual Property Professionals, San Francisco, CA (November 5, 1998).