

Joel Guerra

Associate | Sacramento

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Joel Guerra has experience handling employment litigation matters, including harassment, discrimination, retaliation, wrongful termination, and wage and hour claims. Joel also advises and counsels public and private employers on employment matters.

Prior to joining Nossaman, Joel clerked for Magistrate Judge Valerie Cooke of the U.S. District Court for the District of Nevada, where he worked on a wide variety of cases at all stages of litigation. In addition, he interned for Magistrate Judge Allison Claire of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California, and was selected as a Sacramento County Bar Association Summer Diversity Fellow at a Sacramento law firm specializing in labor and employment law.

As a law student, Joel served as Senior Articles Editor for the *UC Davis Law Review*, attained a tax law certificate, and received Witkin Awards for Academic Excellence (awarded to the highest grade in class) for Pension and Employee Benefits Law, Basic Finance for Lawyers, Pre-Trial Skills, and Mindfulness & Professional Identity.

EXPERIENCE

Disability Retirement Matters. Represent Sacramento County Employee's Retirement System on several administrative hearings before the Office of Administrative Hearings in which retirees seek enhanced disability retirement and/or service-connected disability retirement benefits.

Koszka v. California State Assembly. Defeated plaintiff's wrongful termination claims alleging disability-discrimination and retaliation under the Fair Employment and Housing Act, the California Family Rights Act, and California's whistleblower retaliation statute. The jury returned a verdict in favor of defendant on all eight causes of action.

HONORS & RECOGNITIONS

Witkin Awards for Academic Excellence

Scholarship, Schwartz/Levi Inn of Court, 2017

Olmos Scholarship, La Raza Lawyers Association, Central Valley Chapter, 2016

Fellow, Sacramento County Bar Association Diversity Fellowship Program, 2015

Judicial Intern, ABA Judicial Internship Opportunity Program (JIOP) and JRC-JTB Summer Judicial Internship Diversity Project, 2016

Semi-Finalist, ABA Regional Client Counseling Competition, 2017

COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL

Member, Sacramento County Bar Association, Litigation and Labor & Employment Section
Member, Schwartz/Levi Inn of Court
Member, Asian/Pacific Bar Association of Sacramento

PRACTICES

Employment

EDUCATION

University of California, Davis School of Law, J.D., 2017, Tax Law Certificate, Senior Articles Editor, *UC Davis Law Review*
University of California, Berkeley, B.A., 2013

LANGUAGES

Spanish

ADMISSIONS

California