

Roy Z. Silva

Partner | Orange County

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Roy Silva serves as Co-Chair of Nossaman's Employment Group. He also has a unique practice within the Firm as a Discovery Referee/Special Master. His substantive areas of expertise include mortgage banking/lender liability, employment counseling and litigation, and appellate litigation. His employment law practice includes representing California employers in a broad variety of fields including skilled nursing, medical practices and trucking and transportation.

EXPERIENCE

- Served as a discovery referee in the celebrated Barbie-Bratz litigation; over a three year period, prepared more than 100 Discovery Master orders addressing virtually every type of discovery dispute and assisted the Court in multiple evidentiary hearings, in camera document reviews and trial-related tasks, including preparing a draft of the Court's Order awarding nearly \$200 million in attorneys' fees to the prevailing party.
- Obtained judgment for mortgage lenders at the pleading or summary judgment stage in various cases filed by borrowers in State and Federal Court alleging wrongful foreclosure. Successfully defended those judgments on appeal.
- Successfully defended wage and hour class actions involving multiple California skilled nursing facilities as well as clients in the trucking and transportation industry.
- Won summary judgment on behalf of employers in various single-plaintiff cases alleging age, race, and sex discrimination, wrongful termination, and other employment-based claims.
- Currently serving as the Discovery Master in high-stakes patent litigation involving some of the world's leading technology companies; closely involved in case management, oversees all aspects of discovery, referees depositions, and resolves all discovery motions.
- Obtained a unanimous ruling by Court of Appeal dismissing a taxpayer lawsuit that challenged the validity of a \$102 million settlement paid by a California County. *San Bernardino County v. Superior Court* (2015) 239 Cal. App.4th 639. The ruling was the first published decision to address key issues of California law involving taxpayers' ability to challenge contracts by cities and counties.
- Successfully compelled employees to submit their claims to arbitration and then defeated all of the employees' claims and obtained awards of attorneys' fees for the employer.
- Obtained dismissal of federal lawsuit against sitting president of foreign nation sued for alleged human rights abuses on the grounds of head of state immunity, *Habyarimana v. Kagame*, 821 F.Supp2d 1244 (W.D. Okla. 2011) and directed successful defense of appeal, resulting in a unanimous decision affirming the trial court's ruling. *Habyarimana v. Kagame*, 696 F3d 1029 (10th Cir. 2012).
- Persuaded the Court of Appeal to reverse a trial court's ruling and strike down a provision in an attorney-client retainer agreement that violated the rules governing members of the Bar. *Cannon & Nelms v. St. Andrews Development Corporation* (2016) 2016 WL 6944762.

- Obtained dismissal of an antitrust lawsuit filed against a hospital and anesthesia group by a physician whose staff privileges were terminated. Wrote a successful appellate brief resulting in a unanimous ruling that clarified key points of California anti-trust law. *Marsh v. Anesthesia Services Med. Group* (2011) 200 Cal.App.4th 480.

COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL

California Mortgage Bankers Association
Member, Board of the Federal Bar Association, Orange County chapter
J. Reuben Clark Law Society (LA & Orange County chapters)

PRACTICES

Employment
Discovery Referee/Special Master
Wage & Hour
Litigation
Class Actions & Multi-District Litigation
Appellate Practice
Commercial Litigation

EDUCATION

Columbia University School of Law, J.D., 1988
Brigham Young University, B.A., 1985, *cum laude*

LANGUAGES

Portuguese

ADMISSIONS

California
Colorado
U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit
U.S. District Court, Central District of California
U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
U.S. District Court, Southern District of California