

Marissa N. Sinha

Of Counsel

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- **Services**

- Business & Commercial Litigation
- Litigation

Overview

Marissa Nebenzahl Sinha is a member of Hopkins & Carley's Litigation Department. Her practice focuses on business and corporate commercial disputes, construction, insurance coverage, and real estate litigation. She represents property owners, general contractors, and subcontractors in construction-related disputes, including defect, contract, and mechanics' lien claims. Ms. Sinha also represents policyholders, both individuals and corporate entities, in insurance coverage and bad faith disputes, including conflicts that arise in the context of ongoing construction and commercial litigation.

Prior to joining Hopkins & Carley, Ms. Sinha was a Litigation and Trial Attorney for most of her career, including over 10 years focusing on both first-party and third-party personal injury and property loss claims involving suspected insurance fraud. She has served as insurance defense counsel in hundreds of cases involving multi-million dollar claims, and being defended under commercial general liability policies. Ms. Sinha now focuses her coverage practice on representing policyholders. She has the unique ability to represent her clients in coverage disputes as well as any underlying litigation to which they relate. Ms. Sinha has also served as an Adjunct Professor and Director of Employer Relations at Santa Clara University School of Law.

Experience

- Obtained a defense verdict for a software developer client against allegations of fraud and breach of contract, and reached a post-verdict settlement for less than a fifth of the verdict on behalf of co-defendant clients, following a four week jury trial.
- Obtained a defense verdict for insurance company client against allegations of bad faith, following a small claims appeal court trial.
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Successfully defended a client against multi-million dollar personal injury allegations following a week-long jury trial. Client was awarded most of their costs and expert fees to defend the action.

- Won multiple summary judgments finding no liability of rental car companies for personal injury claims brought against the renters.
- Obtained summary adjudication of federal discrimination claims on behalf of peace officer client, resulting in removal to state court, and subsequent dismissal by plaintiff. Client obtained a significant award of attorneys' fees and costs to defend the action.

Insights

Speaking Engagements

- Ms. Sinha has given numerous educational seminars on behalf of various local bar associations and organizations dedicated to combatting fraudulent claims and litigation.
- Ms. Sinha's educational seminars are focused on educating attorneys and policyholders on relevant coverage issues that arise in the context of construction, real estate, professional liability, and employment litigation.

Professional Activities

- American Association for Justice (AAJ), Member
- Consumer Attorneys of California (CAOC), Member
- Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California, Past Member
- Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM Alliance), Past Member
- Northern California Fraud Investigators Association/Anti-Fraud Alliance (NCFIA/AFA), Past Member

Bar Admissions

- State Bar of California (2007)

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California

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Education

- J.D., University of San Diego School of Law
- B.S. (*magna cum laude*), Economics/ Management Science, University of California, San Diego