

# **KIRA A. SCHLESINGER, ESQ.**

3936 E. DESERT COVE AVENUE, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85028

TEL: (602) 615-6013 • E-MAIL: KIRA@KASELAW.COM

## **Education:**

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES, SCHOOL OF LAW, GPA: 3.37**

Activities: Journal of International Law and Foreign Affairs; Moot Court

Teaching Assistant: Legal Writing;

Clinical Programs: Trial Advocacy; Depositions & Discovery.

1999

**JURIS  
DOCTOR**

**UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR, GPA: 3.98**

With Highest Distinction (top 3%);

James B. Angell Scholar (perfect scholarship two or more semesters);

Class Honors (1995, 1996);

Phi Beta Kappa; Phi Kappa Phi; Golden Key National Honor Society.

1996

**BACHELORS  
OF ARTS  
HONOR'S  
DEPARTMENT**

## **Relevant Legal Experience:**

**KOELLER, NEBEKER CARLSON & HALUCK, LLP, Phoenix, Arizona**

Class action litigation involving mortgage fraud, TARP funds, and wrongful foreclosures. Lead counsel on breach of contract, construction defect, forgery, fraudulent conveyance and conversion litigation.

2008 – 2009

**ASSOCIATE  
LITIGATION**

**LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGARD & SMITH LLP, Phoenix, Arizona**

Day-to-day responsibility for litigation involving premises liability in both residential and commercial settings, professional liability including failure to disclose, indemnification and breach of contract. Also involved with coverage, bad faith and punitive damages actions related to first-party personal and commercial lines. Instrumental in settling litigation arising from a high-profile cases. Sole responsibility for negotiations and settlement conferences. Managed complex matters utilizing sophisticated technology to facilitate litigation. Mediation and trial experience.

2005 – 2008

**SENIOR  
ASSOCIATE  
LITIGATION**

**BARGER & WOLEN, LLP, Irvine, California**

Responsibilities consisted of case handling for state and federal disability insurance litigation, including fraud, bad faith, breach of contract, punitive damages, unfair business practices, ERISA and RICO. Analyzed coverage issues. Developed discovery plans, propounded and responded to discovery, reviewed medical records and conducted depositions of medical experts, parties and percipient witnesses. Extensive law and motion practice included summary judgment motions. Assisted with trial preparation, negotiated settlements, drafted post-trial submissions including appellate briefs.

2001 – 2004

**ASSOCIATE  
INSURANCE  
LITIGATION**

**CASE, KNOWLSON, JORDAN & WRIGHT LLP, Los Angeles, California**

Represented clients in a wide variety of business issues including commercial transactions and leases, environmental issues, fraud, RICO, commercial unlawful detainer, and collection. Research and draft motions, law and motion appearances, depositions.

2000 – 2001

**ASSOCIATE  
BUSINESS  
LITIGATION**

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**Admissions and Affiliations:**

- Admitted: California State Bar (1999); Arizona State Bar (2005); United States District Court for the Central District of California (1999); United States District Court for the Southern District of California (2001); United States District Court for the District of Arizona (2005); Nevada Board of Realtors (1982).
- Affiliations: Commission Member: Women and Minorities in the Law (2009); Maricopa County Bar Association (2008); Defense Research Institute (2001-2007); American Bar Association (2005-2007); Volunteer Lawyer's Program (2005-2007); Arizona Women Lawyers Association (2005-2006).

**Reported Cases and Articles:**

- Cases: *Provident Life and Accident Ins. Co. v. Van Gemert*, 262 F.Supp.2d 1047 (C.D.Cal., 2003); *Waggener v. UNUM Life Ins. Co. of America*, 238 F.Supp.2d 1179 (S.D.Cal.,2002).
- Articles: "Disability Cases: The Requirement for Regular and Appropriate Care," For the Defense, May 2004, Defense Research Institute; "Mediating the Insurance Bad Faith Claim while Avoiding Claims of Ongoing Bad Faith," Federation of Defense Corporate Counsel, FDCC Presentation, Fall 2005; "Negotiation Strategies and Tools: A Primer," LBBS American Family Seminar, Winter 2005.