



Kathleen M. Benton

PARTNER

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RELATED SERVICES

- Environmental & Toxic Tort

OFFICES

- Dallas
- Los Angeles
- Walnut Creek

OVERVIEW

Katie Benton is a partner in the Los Angeles, Walnut Creek and Dallas offices of GRSM. She specializes in toxic tort matters and has defended national clients, including premises owners, manufacturers, and retailers of construction, automotive, and industrial products.

Katie manages complex national dockets, while always ensuring her clients remain informed of the progression of each case, defense strategies, and tactics for identifying opportunities to obtain early dismissals. She prides herself on her effective communication skills with clients, in the courtroom, and in the form of written motions and briefs. Katie's experience extends to all phases of complex civil litigation, including numerous trials, as well as obtaining favorable settlements and securing dismissals on behalf of her clients. Ms. Benton also frequently appears in court to argue discovery motions, summary judgment and adjudication motions, and motions in limine.

In law school, Katie was an editor for the Pepperdine Law Review and received multiple awards for her

legal research and for her publication: *Can Copyright Law Perform the Perfect Fouette?: Keeping Law and Choreography on Balance to Achieve the Purposes of the Copyright Clause.*

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Trials

- Cami Bivert v. Caterpillar, Inc., et al.
- Parga v. Caterpillar Industrial, Inc., et al.

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- California
- U.S. District Court, Eastern, Northern, Southern, and Central Districts of California

Memberships

- Central City Association
- American Bar Association
- State Bar of California

Education

- J.D., Pepperdine University School of Law, 2009
 - Certificate, Straus Institute for Dispute Resolution
 - Winner, Vincent S. Dalsimer Moot Court Competition (2009)
 - Note & Comment Editor, *Pepperdine Law Review* (2008 – 2009)
 - Sorensen Award for the Best Student Law Review Article (2008)
 - Order of the Barristers
- B.A., *magna cum laude*, History & Political Science, University of Southern California, 2006
 - Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society
 - Dean's List
 - Dean's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research
 - Honors in History for Thesis (*Union, Nation, and State: Uncovering the Nationalism of Abraham Lincoln*)