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# **ETHAN W. SMITH**

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# BIOGRAPHY

Ethan is an associate in the firm's Employment and Labor Practice Group. Ethan assists on a variety of employment and labor disputes, including class actions. Ethan also provides support to the Business and Commercial Disputes Group.

During law school, Ethan served as an articles editor for the UC Irvine Law Review. He was also elected vice president of OUTLaw, UCI Law's LGBTQIA+ affinity group, and performed over 200 hours of pro bono service primarily supporting the legal needs of transgender individuals in Southern California. Ethan was a 2022 recipient of the BCLP Diversity Scholarship. Prior to law school, Ethan served as a legislative advisor in the Massachusetts State Senate where he specialized in legislation concerning education finance, disability policy, and labor and workforce development and assisted small businesses in complying with COVID-19 pandemic regulations concerning operations and reporting requirements.

## **CIVIC INVOLVEMENT & HONORS**

Orange County Lavender Bar Association, M. Katherine Baird Darmer Equality Award, 2022

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- California Lawyers Association
- Orange County Lavender Bar Association
- National Transgender Bar Association

#### ADMISSIONS

California, 2023

#### EDUCATION

- University of California-Irvine, J.D., 2023
- Berklee College of Music, B.M., cum laude, 2014

## **RELATED PRACTICE AREAS**

- Employment & Labor
- Cross-border Employment Issues
- Investigations
- Intellectual Property and Technology Disputes
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Regulation, Compliance & Advisory
- Class Actions & Mass Torts
- Business & Commercial Disputes

# **RELATED INSIGHTS**

#### Insights Sep 10, 2024

## Illinois employment law updates: AI restrictions, new protected classes, and more

The Illinois General Assembly and Governor JB Pritzker have been busy in 2024, enacting significant changes to existing statutes like the Illinois Human Rights Act (the "IHRA"), the Personnel Records Review Act (the "PRRA"), and the Right to Privacy in the Workplace Act (the "RPWA"), and enacting new laws that will impact employers

across the state. Employers should become familiar with these changes, and ensure their policies and practices are up to code.

Blog Post Jul 01, 2024 **California Private Attorneys' General Act (PAGA) Receives Significant Overhaul**