

Michelle L. Cannon

Partner



Sacramento Office
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Overview

Michelle L. Cannon is a Partner in Lozano Smith's Sacramento office and co-chairs the firm's Labor and Employment Practice Group. For over 25 years Ms. Cannon has worked closely with a variety of public entities including school districts, county offices of education and community colleges. She is an active member in the Labor & Employment, Students, Community Colleges, Charter Schools and Litigation Practice Groups. Ms. Cannon has extensive experience in board governance, labor and personnel-related matters, student discipline, and charter school facilities. She was named to the Northern California Super Lawyers list each year from 2013 to 2020, and a Top Lawyer in Schools & Education by Sacramento Magazine from 2016 to 2020.

Ms. Cannon's practice focuses on representing public entity clients in the following areas:

- General governance
- Brown Act issues
- Conflicts of interest
- Public Records Act
- Labor and personnel-related matters
- Employee discipline and dismissal
- Collective bargaining
- Investigation of discrimination and harassment complaints
- Certificated and classified employee issues
- Student issues
- Title IX
- Student discipline
- First Amendment issues
- Search and seizure related to students
- Charter school issues
- Review of charter petitions
- Revocation of charters
- Charter school facilities
- Litigation
- Sexual discrimination
- Sexual harassment
- Wrongful termination
- 42 U.S.C. section 1983 claims
- Contract disputes
- Writs and appeals in both state and federal courts

Practices

Labor & Employment
Student
Litigation
Community Colleges

Charter Schools
Title IX

Education

J.D., University of the Pacific, McGeorge School
of Law

B.A., St. Mary's College of California

Admissions

California

Additional Experience

Michelle has worked extensively in the collective bargaining arena in various roles. These roles include, but are not limited to, working as a facilitator in Interest Based Bargaining, acting as lead negotiator in the creation of new contracts, and advising clients through impasse proceedings.

Ms. Cannon has also prosecuted numerous successful permanent certificated and classified termination proceedings. Ms. Cannon was recently published in the *Daily Journal* as a co-author of an article entitled "The Right to Education in California: It's for the Legislature to Decide Education Policy."

Presenter Experience

Ms. Cannon is a frequent speaker at workshops and CSBA and ACSA conferences. She regularly presents on topics such as sexual harassment prevention training, board issues, including the Brown Act and conflicts of interest, collective bargaining, discrimination, employee discipline and dismissals, student discipline, certificated employee lay off procedures, First Amendment issues, and charter schools.

Professional Affiliations

- Member, California School Boards Association
- Member, California Council of School Attorneys
- Member, Placer County Bar Association
- Member, Sacramento County Bar Association
- Member, California State Bar Association
- Member, Animal Legal Defense Fund

Education

Ms. Cannon received her law degree from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. She earned a B.A. from St. Mary's College of California. Ms. Cannon has received certification through ATIXA as a participant in Level 1 and Level 3 ATIXA Civil Rights Investigator Trainings.