Blaine H. Evanson

Partner

bevanson@gibsondunn.com
T: +1 949.451.3805
Orange County Los Angeles



Blaine H. Evanson is a partner in Gibson Dunn's Appellate and Constitutional Law Practice Group. He has represented clients in matters before the Supreme Court of the United States, in every federal circuit court of appeals, and in several state appellate courts. He has experience across a broad array of industries and subject matter areas, at all stages of litigation. He regularly joins trial teams in the lead up to trial to assist with complex briefing, strategy, and preservation of issues for appellate review.

Blaine is ranked by *Chambers USA* for California appellate litigation. *The Best Lawyers in America* named Blaine Orange County's "2026 Lawyer of the Year" in appellate practice. *Benchmark Litigation* named him a 2025 "Future Star," and previously included him in its 2019 "40 & under Hot List." *The Daily Journal* recognized Blaine among its 2024 "Top Trade Secrets Lawyers," and *The World Trademark Review 1000* has named him a leading copyright and trademark lawyer. *Law360* named Blaine one of five national appellate "Rising Stars" under 40 in 2018, and *Euromoney* named him the "Best in Litigation: Appellate" under 40 that same year. Blaine has been consistently listed in the appellate practice section of *The Best Lawyers in America* and as a *Southern California Super Lawyer*. And he is a member of the California Academy of Appellate Lawyers, an election-only organization devoted to excellence in appellate practice.

Recent representative matters include:

- Persuading the Supreme Court to grant certiorari and then reverse an award of non-taxable expenses on behalf of a software support provider in a complex copyright infringement action.
- Convincing the Oregon Court of Appeals to reverse a class action wildfire verdict against an electric utility company, which had resulted in over $1 billion in jury verdicts.
- Securing post-trial vacatur of a $238 million compensatory and punitive damages award and a new trial on liability, in a retaliation case brought against a shipping and logistics company.
- Securing post-trial vacatur of an $83 million punitive damages award in the largest age discrimination verdict in American history.
- Prevailing before the First, Third, and Ninth Circuits, and the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, on the scope of the Section 1 exemption to the Federal Arbitration Act, on behalf of multiple gig economy platform companies.
- Prevailing before the Sixth Circuit in a sex and race discrimination case brought against an automobile manufacturer.
- Obtaining a new trial on damages and reversal from the Federal Circuit on the eligibility of patent claims under Section 101 in a case where a jury had awarded $533 million for patent infringement.

Capabilities

Appellate and Constitutional Law
Class Actions
First Amendment and Free Expression
Intellectual Property
Labor and Employment
Litigation
Media, Entertainment, and Technology
Technology Litigation
Trials

Credentials

Education

Columbia University - 2006 Juris Doctor
Brigham Young University - 2003 Bachelor of Science

Admissions

California Bar

Clerkships

US Court of Appeals, DC Circuit, Hon. A. Raymond Randolph, 2006 - 2007

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- Securing mandamus relief from the Fifth Circuit directing the district court to transfer venue in a complex trade secret and copyright infringement case.
- Convincing the Eleventh Circuit to affirm summary judgment in a challenge to a gig economy platform's insurance coverage.
- Convincing the Ninth Circuit to affirm dismissal of a complaint against a technology company asserting claims under the Alien Tort Statute and Torture Victim Protection Act.
- Convincing the California Court of Appeal to reverse summary judgment in a complex contractor dispute brought against the City of Monterey.
- Obtaining reversal from the Third Circuit of a $36 million judgment against an insurer based on the district court's erroneous interpretation of an asbestos exclusion.

Before joining the firm, Blaine served as a law clerk for Judge A. Raymond Randolph of the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit. He graduated from Columbia Law School, where he was a James Kent Scholar and a Senior Editor on the *Columbia Law Review*. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Information Systems from Brigham Young University.

Blaine is a member of the California bar and is admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of the United States, all thirteen Circuits of the United States Courts of Appeals, and the United States District Courts for the Northern, Central, and Eastern Districts of California and the Eastern District of Michigan.

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