



**Reginald Roberts, Jr., Partner**

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Reginald Roberts, Jr. is a co-managing partner of Sanders Roberts LL.P His litigation practice focuses on employment matters, general liability defense, and business litigation cases. Mr. Roberts and his legal partner left the big firm practice to form a law firm of their own to deliver the highest quality legal representation, and vigorous advocacy, while also lending their skills to issues of social justice. In recognition of the superior legal work, and outstanding case results, in 2016 the Daily Journal selected Sanders Roberts LLP as one of the Top 20 Boutique Firms in California.

Mr. Roberts is a skilled trial lawyer, litigator and negotiator. Recently, within a time-span of only 16 months, Mr. Roberts tried cases in federal court, state court, and in the Office of Administrative Hearings. He achieves favorable results consistently for his clients including an employment matter in which he served as lead defense counsel for a religious institution in a multi-party employment dispute involving a prominent church, and a former pastor who accused the church of misconduct and sued for over \$20,000,000.00. He prevailed on an Anti-SLAPP motion effectively ending the case, and also recovered attorney fees for his client. Mr. Roberts has achieved similar success in wrongful death matters and cases with over \$1,000,000 at issue. Some of the results he obtained received favorable coverage in the media.

In recognition of his legal skill, outstanding case results, and vision to create and manage a recognized litigation firm, in 2013 the National Bar Association recognized Mr. Roberts as one of the Top 40 Under 40, an award given to the top 40 attorneys in the nation under age 40.

While approximately 95% of his practice focuses on defending corporations and other entities, his litigation and trial skills translate to the few cases wherein he promotes social justice through representing plaintiffs in employment, and civil right matters. Recently, Mr. Roberts and his law partner engaged in a federal jury trial involving the use of excessive force by police officers on an African-American family man. The Jury awarded over \$1,000,000 for his client and, following trial, Mr. Roberts negotiated a final resolution of \$2,100,000 dollars. Mr. Roberts has also resolved multiple employment matters wherein his clients were treated unlawfully because of their race or a disability, including recoveries of \$840,000, \$800,000 and several other resolutions of approximately half a million dollars each.

In July 2015, the Los Angeles Daily Journal profiled Sanders Roberts LLP in an article titled "Broad Reach, Grand Ambitions." The legal publication recognized the firm for its legal accomplishments and ambition as a rising boutique litigation firm in California. The firm counts among its clients Ford Motor Company, the Los Angeles Unified School District, the

African Methodist Episcopal Church, Inc., American Honda Finance, Corp., the Rising Realty Group and a host of other businesses and individuals.

In 1998, Mr. Roberts began his legal career working at a boutique litigation firm, Ivie, McNeill & Wyatt, in downtown Los Angeles where he defended both public and private sector clients in various litigation matters including employment cases, dangerous condition of public and private property cases, and personal injury cases ranging from trip and fall to wrongful death matters. There, he gained extensive experience litigating matters from start to finish in both state and federal courts. Mr. Roberts served as lead counsel in employment law cases, general liability defense matters, and in civil rights cases involving high profile police misconduct issues. Mr. Roberts served as lead counsel for plaintiffs in a case and garnered a recovery of over \$1,200,000 as a young attorney.

In 2006 Mr. Roberts joined Adorno Yoss Alvarado & Smith, a Florida-based law firm with over three hundred attorneys working in offices across the United States. While there, Mr. Roberts worked as lead counsel in numerous cases where he provided his clients with vigorous legal representation and consistently achieved favorable results. His litigation experience includes extensive pleadings and motions practice, depositions, case management and budget responsibilities, and presentations to executive boards. Mr. Roberts defended municipal and private clients in various tort liability claims, employment matters, in breach of contract actions, business disputes, and in insurance coverage disputes. He also represented private financial institutions in real estate litigation, and managed wrongful death and personal injury cases involving serious bodily injury. Mr. Roberts defended the City of South Gate successfully in a business litigation action seeking over \$10,000,000 in damages, and he preserved the victory on appeal.

Mr. Roberts has also served in an advisory capacity to public entities on issues including insurance coverage claims, legislative impact on municipal practices, and extending municipal powers to address gang violence. He has argued successfully insurance coverage issues to an insurance claims board and reduced his client's coverage costs by \$1,500,000.

### Experience

Employment advice and council, organize and litigate state and federal cases involving: Employment matters involving race discrimination, sexual harassment, wrongful termination, disability discrimination, teacher dismissals, executive compensation, best employment practices, and First Amendment issues; Business litigation cases regarding breach of contract claims, interference with business advantage, general business disagreements and representation of financial institutions in real estate disputes.

State trial experience

Federal trial experience

Office of Administrative Hearings

Labor Commissioner Hearings

Arbitration

### Education

J.D., University of Southern California Law School, 2000

B.A., Morehouse College, 1997

## Involvement

Southern California Minority Supplier Development Council, Minority Business Enterprise Input Committee (2016 – present)

\*National Bar Association

\*John M. Langston Bar Association

USC Gould School of Law Mentor

Morehouse College Alumni Association

## Speaking Engagements

Legal Panelist, California Employment Lawyer's Association, Diversity Outreach Summit, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, California, March 29, 2017.

Guest Speaker for KIPP Academy of Opportunity, Career Day, Los Angeles, California, March 10, 2017.

Guest Lecturer for USC class on "The Legal Profession" held at USC Gould School of Law, Los Angeles, California, February 24, 2017.

Guest Lecturer for USC Gould School of Law seminar, Stereotypes, Prejudice, and the Rule of Law, Los Angeles, California, September 13, 2016.

Legal Panelist for David v Goliath: How Small Firms Can Steal Big Law's Work at the LegalTech West Coast 2014 Convention, Los Angeles, California, June 24, 2014.

Reginald Roberts, Jr. served as a legal panelist for an employment law panel, "Mixed Motives," National Bar Association 33rd Annual Mid-Year Conference, St. Regis Monarch Beach Resort, Dana Point, California, April 5, 2013.

Legal Panelist on employment law practice, "Risky Business; Fundamental Employment Law Issues for the Smaller Employer" at the National Bar Association's Mid-Winter Conference, Nassau, Bahamas, February 14, 2013.

Legal Panelist on employment law practice at the National Bar Association's Small Firm's 87th Annual Convention, Las Vegas, Nevada, July 16-19, 2012.

Legal Panelist, "The Practice of Law and Motion," Motions for Summary Judgment and Summary Adjudication in Employment Matters: Navigating the Nuances of Employment Law, John M. Langston Bar Association, Langston Law Institute, December 3, 2010.

Legal Panelist, "Common Pitfalls of the Young Attorney," Employment Matters: Navigating the Nuances of Employment Law, John M. Langston Bar Association, Langston Law Institute, December 3, 2010.

*In 2013 the NBA recognized Mr. Roberts as one of the nation's top 40 lawyers under age 40.*

*In 2007 the Langston Bar Association recognized Mr. Roberts as its Member of the Year.*