



# Michon M. Spinelli

## Partner

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Michon is a trial lawyer focused on commercial litigation, employment law, and insurance bad faith, representing claims professionals and insurance brokers. She has extensive experience litigating professional liability, complex personal injury, wrongful death, product liability, landlord-tenant, premises liability, and real estate matters. Michon has successfully tried numerous cases to verdict in federal district courts and state courts throughout Nevada and California.

While at Santa Clara Law School, she completed externships in Vietnam and Singapore. Following law school, Michon served as a law clerk at the Second Judicial District Court, State of Nevada. After her clerkship, she handled complex trials from cradle to grave at a premier plaintiff's personal injury firm in San Francisco.

### PRACTICE AREAS

Business & Commercial Litigation  
Cannabis  
Employment  
Insurance Services  
Product Liability & Torts  
Professional Liability  
Trials

### ACCOLADES

Northern California Super Lawyers, Civil Litigation: Defense, 2023-2025  
President's Award, Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California and Nevada (ADCNC), 2023

### COURT ADMISSIONS

California  
Nevada  
USDC: Central District of California  
USDC: Eastern District of California  
USDC: Northern District of California

### EDUCATION

Michon serves on the Board of Directors of the Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California and Nevada, where she chairs the Women in Law Section. She previously served as the Chair of the Business Litigation, Property, and Education sections. She is also the California State Representative for the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel.

Michon teaches and presents legal training extensively. She directed a six-week training program for new lawyers and a law firm management program for the Association of Defense Counsel, a trial techniques class for the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel, an Intensive Trial Advocacy Class at the University of San Francisco Law School, and a class for Dependency and Delinquency Lawyers through the Bar Association of San Francisco. Michon also regularly presents to attorneys and judges through the McFetridge Inn of Court.

JD, Santa Clara University School of Law, *magna cum laude*, 2000

BA, University of Southern California, *magna cum laude*

### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Board Member, Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California and Nevada (ADCNC)

Vice Chair, Extra-Contractual Liability Section, Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC)

California State Representative, Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC)

Member, Professional Women's Forum Committee, Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC)

Member, Northern Nevada Women Lawyers Association (NNWLA)

Member, The McFetridge Inn of Court

Former Chair, Women in the Law Section, Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California and Nevada (ADCNC)

### Representative Matters

- Secured a settlement that was significantly less than the pre-trial demand during the trial of a wrongful termination and sexual harassment lawsuit of two restaurant employees. It was reached immediately after an impactful cross-examination of the plaintiffs by lead counsel, which established that the plaintiffs had given prior testimony in another matter which was inconsistent with claims being made in the current lawsuit.
- Twice won demurrers to a complaint filed by a minor plaintiff who alleged sexual assault by the company's founder. We then drew on those rulings to secure a very favorable settlement on behalf of the company.
- Won a summary judgment on behalf of a homeowners' insurer and its employees in a series of bad faith cases arising out of four water losses at an insured's home in a six-month time period. We convinced the judge to dismiss a minor plaintiff who sought treble damages for lack of standing.

- Secured a confidential settlement on behalf of a tech company which alleged that three of its former employees and the entity that hired them violated employment agreements, including theft of trade secrets and soliciting employees and clients of the tech company to move to the competing entity.
- Negotiated a significantly reduced settlement in an insurance bad faith matter after eliciting evidence that the plaintiff had withheld critical information related to his claim. The plaintiff alleged his insurance company wrongfully denied his claim and submitted a significant early settlement offer.

## Events

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### **Ropers Partners Attended the ADC 66th Annual Meeting**

December 17, 2025

The program brought together more than 300 defense attorneys, mediators, judges, and industry leaders to explore forward-looking legal topics, emerging practices and technologies, and timely insights shaping the future of the profession

### **Enrique Marinez, Todd A. Roberts, and Michon M. Spinelli Attended the FDCC 2025 Annual Meeting**

August 07, 2025

This week-long event featured advanced programming on excellence in practice and leadership, along with unforgettable excursions

### **Todd A. Roberts and Michon M. Spinelli Participated in the FDCC 2025 Winter Meeting**

March 06, 2025

This five-day event included FDCC committee meetings, insightful programs, fun activities, and exciting excursions

### **Enrique Marinez, Michon M. Spinelli, and Kirill M. Devyatov Attended the ADC's 65th Annual Meeting**

December 09, 2024

The event brought together over 300 defense attorneys, mediators, judges, and industry representatives to discuss cutting-edge topics in the legal system and gain insights into emerging practices and technologies

## **Spiros E. Fousekis, Michon M. Spinelli, and Ropers Majeski Were Proud to Sponsor the 31st Annual ADC Golf Tournament**

September 09, 2024

The event featured great golf on a beautiful course accompanied by comradery among ADC members, friends, and guests

## **Enrique Marinez, Michon M. Spinelli, and Kirill M. Devyatov Were Proud to Be a Part of the Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California and Nevada 64th Annual Meeting**

December 09, 2023

Ropers Partner Michon M. Spinelli was presented with the ADC's 2023 President's Award at the event

## **28th Annual ADC Golf Tournament**

*Association of Defense Counsel*

September 24, 2021

Ropers Majeski was proud to sponsor the 28th Annual ADC Golf Tournament

## News

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## **Ropers Majeski Attorneys Selected to 2025 Northern California Super Lawyers & Rising Stars Lists**

June 30, 2025

Congratulations to the Ropers attorneys selected to the 2025 Northern California Super Lawyers and Rising Stars lists

## **Ropers Majeski Attorneys Selected to 2024 Northern California Super Lawyers & Rising Stars Lists**

June 26, 2024

Congratulations to our Northern California attorneys who are recognized in the 2024 Northern California edition of Super Lawyers

## **Ropers Majeski Partner Michon M. Spinelli Honored With the ADC's 2023 President's Award**

December 08, 2023

Ropers Majeski congratulates our Partner and dedicated member of the Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California and Nevada, Michon M. Spinelli, for this well-deserved recognition

## Ropers Majeski Attorneys Recognized Among the 2023 Northern California Super Lawyers & Rising Stars

*Super Lawyers*

June 27, 2023

Congratulations to our Northern California attorneys who are recognized in the 2023 Northern California edition of *Super Lawyers*

## San Francisco School of Law's Intensive Advocacy Program (IAP)

*San Francisco School of Law*

June 06, 2017

Michon M. Spinelli spoke to students about effective advocacy

## Speaking Engagements

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### Michon M. Spinelli Presented ADC Webinar on Civil Code Section 231.7 and Strategic Jury Selection

December 17, 2025

The session focused on the application of Section 231.7 to civil cases

### Michon M. Spinelli Moderated a Panel at the FDCC 2025 Winter Meeting

March 03, 2025

The panel, "Treading Carefully – Sustaining Diversity While Managing Legal Risks in Today's Corporate Environment," explored the growing trend of corporations and professionals publicly distancing from diversity initiatives while continuing internal efforts to maintain a diverse and equitable workforce

### Michon M. Spinelli Led BASF Webinar on Direct and Cross-Examination

November 20, 2024

The virtual program offered valuable guidance on conducting effective direct and cross-examinations, as well as strategies for handling expert and percipient witnesses during trial

### Todd A. Roberts Presented FDCC's 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award to Brigadier General Michael I. Neil

March 07, 2024

Todd honored the 2024 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient during the FDCC Winter Meeting

### Michon M. Spinelli Participated in a Panel for Judicate West's MCLE Week

January 30, 2024

Ropers Partner Michon M. Spinelli joined the webinar on preparing for a successful mediation

## **Michon M. Spinelli and Ropers Majeski Were Proud to Participate in the Association of Defense Counsel of Northern California and Nevada Summer Session 2023**

August 28, 2023

Michon M. Spinelli moderated an informative session on how to respond to greedy and opportunistic requests from a plaintiff's attorneys

## **Generational Effects on Juries and Litigation Outcomes**

*AM Best*

November 14, 2022

Ropers partner Michon Spinelli joined AM Best for a webinar discussing Generational Effects on Juries and Litigation Outcomes

## **Legal Year in Review**

*Ropers Majeski*

May 13, 2015 - May 28, 2015

Ropers Majeski partners present a Year in Review