



RILEY BALESTRERI

Ms. Balestreri is an employment attorney at Holden Law Group and represents employers and businesses in a variety of employment law matters.

Legal Experience

Ms. Balestreri has been working in the legal industry for 10 years. Included in Ms. Balestreri's experience is a background in criminal defense (working at Public Defender offices in various counties and private criminal defense firms during and after law school) and in representing regional and national business with employment-related matters. Ms. Balestreri grew up on an almond ranch in the central valley of California, with parents who owned and operated a small business. Her unique upbringing and targeted work experience, make her a zealous and knowledgeable advocate for employers navigating California's stringent requirements. Currently, Ms. Balestreri focuses her practice on advising and representing employers in all aspects of employment law and in all stages of litigation.

Prior to joining Holden Law Group, Ms. Balestreri, worked at Saber Law Group – a San Francisco, boutique law firm, specializing in the defense of California businesses and employers. While at Saber, Ms. Balestreri litigated harassment, discrimination, wrongful termination and retaliation claims, as well as wage and hour class and collective actions, including PAGA. Ms. Balestreri has civil trial experience and has second-chaired a FEHA Pregnancy Discrimination trial against a nonprofit domestic violence shelter. In the 4-week bench trial, conducted in the middle of COVID-19, the defense successfully secured a complete defense verdict on all remaining causes of action. Ms. Balestreri has also assisted in appellate litigation and briefing, including the affirmation of the pregnancy discrimination trial court ruling.

Activities and Interests

In her free time, Ms. Balestreri loves to hang out with her husband and two sons, loves to go hiking, backpacking and camping all over California, and is a sucker for a good road trip. Ms. Balestreri is also an avid writer, reader and painter.

Education

J.D. Thomas Jefferson School of Law
2017

Graduated law school in 2.5 years, due in part to extensive work experience

Moot Court Vice Chair 2017

CALI Excellence Award for
Critical Race Theory 2017

B.A., Political Science and Pre-Law
California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo
2015

Cal Poly Women's Club Volleyball

Employment History

Holden Law Group
2024 – Present

Saber Law Group
2019 – 2024

Barr & Doud Attorneys
2018-2019

Stanislaus Public Defender
2018



holden
LAW GROUP

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RILEY BALESTRERI

San Diego Public Defender
2016-2017

The Law Office of Marc S. Kohnen
2017

Warren & Burstein
2016

The Law Office of Jim Bishop
2014

Bobbitt, Pinckard, & Fields Law Associates
2014