

# Daily Journal

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## LABOR & EMPLOYMENT

Employment law has always represented a significant portion of legal work done in California. The practice has become even more crucial as California continues to build on its reputation as one of the nation's most employee-friendly states. As a result, some

of the nation's most sophisticated employment lawyers are based here. In this issue we highlight the very top practitioners in the field, and the cutting-edge cases they are handling across the state, the nation and even internationally.

— Editor's Note

### EMPLOYMENT DEFENSE

California lawyers companies turn to first



WENDY LAZERSON

Bingham McCutchen  
East Palo Alto

**Year in review:** Lazerson co-chairs Bingham's labor and employment group. Her clients include Fannie Mae, The Clorox Co. and Expedia Inc. She put to bed two consolidated class actions filed against client Bimbo Bakeries USA Inc. The cases, brought by route sales representatives in the federal courts in San Francisco and Los Angeles, alleged federal and state wage-and-hour claims, including a failure to pay overtime or allow meal-and-rest periods. As lead counsel for Bimbo Bakeries, Lazerson knocked out many of the claims on summary judgment. The rest were settled.

Lazerson scored a win in a single-plaintiff discrimination lawsuit, as well, in *Bobo v. Actelion Pharmaceuticals US Inc.* The case, filed in state court in Michigan, alleged race and disability discrimination, and Lazerson obtained a dismissal and blocked an appeal.

**Next challenge:** Lazerson continues to battle a wage-and-hour class action ongoing in federal court in San Diego against a large international client based on the East Coast.