



MICHELE C. ATKINS

Michele's practice focuses on defense of complex litigation, including claims of medical and other professional liability. She has represented a wide variety of healthcare providers and has tried their cases before civil juries and professional disciplinary boards.

Practice

- Medical Professional Liability Defense
- Licensing and Disciplinary Actions
- General Civil Litigation
- Appeals
- Criminal Defense

Representative Cases

- Defense verdict in a wrongful death lawsuit alleging premature discharge resulting in death two days later
- Defense verdict for large hospital in medical malpractice lawsuit where the allegation was that hospital staff caused median nerve injury leading to permanent disability.
- Defense verdict for two trauma surgeons in medical malpractice lawsuit where it was alleged that the surgeons failed to identify a peroneal tendon injury leading to permanent disability.
- Defense verdict for Public Hospital District in medical malpractice lawsuit where plaintiff/patient suffered traumatic brain injury.
- Defense verdict for family practice physician in medical malpractice lawsuit where allegation was delayed diagnosis of colon cancer.
- Multiple successful professional disciplinary board trials where allegations were of sexual and other unprofessional misconduct.
- Multiple criminal trials.

Education

- University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, J.D., 1999
- University College of London, England, Completed program in international law, Summer, 1997
- California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California, B.S., Social Science, 1995

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Admitted to Practice

- Washington State
- California State
- United States District Court – Western District of Washington, Northern District of California
- Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

Professional Experience

- Fain Anderson VanDerhoef Rosendahl O'Halloran Spillane, PLLC, Principal/Owner, 2015 – Present
- Fain Anderson & VanDerhoef, PLLC, Member, 2009 – 2015
- Fain Anderson & VanDerhoef, PLLC, Associate, 2002 – 2009
- McIntyre & Barns, Associate, 2002
- San Francisco Public Defenders Office, 1999 - 2001

Professional Memberships

- American Bar Association
- Washington State Bar Association
 - Health Law Section
- California State Bar Association
- Washington Healthcare Risk Management Society
- Washington Defense Trial Lawyers Association

Publications & Presentations

In addition to being asked to be a presenter on a wide-variety of topics in the health care arena, in her “first life” as a criminal defense attorney in San Francisco, Michele was one of four featured attorneys in the PBS documentary, “Presumed Guilty”

Honors & Awards

Named a “Rising Star” by Washington Super Lawyers on five occasions