



## → Anna S. McLean

### Partner

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Anna McLean is a partner in the Business Trial Practice Group. She is a Leader of the firm's Class Action Defense Team.

### Areas of Practice

Anna focuses on the defense of complex class actions, with particular emphasis on consumer products, consumer finance, food & beverage, and insurance. She regularly defends companies in state and federal courts with regard to alleged unfair business practices, product defect and warranty claims, and labeling and disclosure issues – as well as alleged violations of state and federal regulations. She has represented clients in matters before the CFPB and the CPSC.

Anna has particular expertise in the enforcement of consumer arbitration clauses in both state and federal courts.

Anna has received an AV® rating by Martindale-Hubbell®, the highest rating an attorney can receive for legal quality and ethics.

### Honors

Consumer Protection Editorial Advisory Board, *Law360*, 2022, 2023

### Experience

#### Representative engagements defending:

- Major food companies in consumer class actions involving labeling claims about protein, olive oil, color and additives.
- Major disk drive manufacturer in class action alleging consumer warranty and product defect claims. *In re Seagate Technology LLC Litigation*, 2019 WL 282369 (N.D. Cal.) (denying plaintiffs' second attempt at class certification).
- Major building products manufacturers and home builders in putative class actions alleging unfair business practices claims arising out of the use of allegedly defective building and plumbing materials. *g., Camenson v. Milgard Manufacturing, Inc.*, 2008 WL 2381904 (Cal. Ct. App. 2008) (upholding denial of class certification of homeowner claims alleging defective windows).

- Major banks, insurers and consumer finance companies in class actions in state and federal courts challenging force-placed insurance on automobile and home loans, including *Wahl v. American Security Ins. Co.*, 2008 WL 2444802 (N.D.Cal.).
- Major car rental companies in multiple state and federal class actions challenging fees, pass-throughs and refueling charges. Defeated class certification or prevailed on dispositive motion in four cases, including *Guerra v. Hertz*, 504 F. Supp. 2d 1014 (D. Nev. 2007).
- Major auto finance companies in consumer class actions challenging financing and leasing issues, including Toyota Financial Services, GM Financial, Nissan Motor Acceptance Corporation, Consumer Portfolio Services and Santander Consumer USA, among others. *E.g. In re Toyota Motor Corp. Unintended Acceleration Marketing, Sales Practices, and Products Liability Litigation*, 785 F. Supp. 2d 883, 904 (C.D. Cal. 2011) (granting motion to dismiss with prejudice); *AmeriCredit Financial Services, Inc. (now GM Financial)*, including *Bankston v. AmeriCredit*, 2011 WL 89730 (N.D. Cal.) (granting dismissal for lack of standing) and *Wright v. AmeriCredit*, 2010 WL 5058345 (S.D. Cal.) (upholding validity of notice and dismissing action).

## Articles

- *FDCA Preemption: A Powerful Tool for Defending Class Actions*  
*The National Law Review*, 04.01.2024
- *Implications of the USDA's New Organic Rule*  
*Food Manufacturing*, 03.21.2023

## Articles and Presentations

- "Navigating Ambiguity in Consumer Protection Law: Insights from *Bodenburg v. Apple*," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, August 4, 2025
- "The Supreme Court Gears Up to Resolve Circuit Split on Class Injury Requirements," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, June 11, 2025
- "The Ninth Circuit Criticizes Mass Arbitration Models," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, December 10, 2024
- "Ninth Circuit Issues Long-Awaited Montera Decision Applying New York General Business Law §§ 349 and 350, Confirming "Per Violation" Damages but Striking Prejudgment Interest," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, August 15, 2024
- "Supreme Court Holds that District Courts Must Stay – Not Dismiss – Actions Brought by Parties Subject to Binding Arbitration Agreements," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, May 23, 2024
- "FDCA Preemption: A Powerful Tool for Defending Class Actions," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, March 25, 2024
- "Ninth Circuit Slashes Exorbitant Attorney's Fee Award That Would 'Make the Average Person Shake Her Head in Disbelief'," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, June 28, 2023
- "Implications of the USDA's New Organic Rule," *FDA Law Blog*, May 25, 2023
- "Ninth Circuit Decision in *Live Nation and Ticketmaster's Favor* Highlights Subtleties of Drafting Enforceable Arbitration Provisions," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, March 1, 2023
- "High court says 'concrete' injury required for Article III standing for class members," *Daily Journal*, July 2, 2021

- "Nominal damages sufficient for Article III standing; dissent warns of 'major expansion' of courts' role," *Daily Journal*, March 17, 2021
- "Supreme Court to Address Class Action Standing in Ramirez Case: To Recover, Must Absent Class Members Establish Actual Injury?" *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, December 29, 2020
- "Ninth Circuit Fuels More Efficient Nationwide Class Settlement," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, June 19, 2019
- "Are credits coupons? The Ninth Circuit Says Yes in Calculating Total Value of Class Action Settlements," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, October 17, 2018
- "Ninth Circuit Slams the Brakes on Nationwide Class Action Settlement; Choice of Law and Reliance Are Bumps in the Road," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, February 1, 2018
- "Dancing On Their Own: The California Supreme Court's Decision in *McGill v. Citibank, N.A.* that Class Action Waivers Do Not Apply to Claims for Public Injunctive Relief under California's Consumer Protection Laws," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, April 7, 2017
- "No Proof Necessary: SCOTUS Rules Defendant's Notice Of Removal Under CAFA Need Not Include Evidence of The Amount In Controversy," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, December 18, 2014
- "Top Five Tips For Minimizing The Risk of Class Action Litigation," *Class Action Defense Strategy Blog*, June 16, 2014
- "The Contract Is King: The U.S. Supreme Court's Two Recent FAA Decisions," *Bloomberg BNA*, September 27, 2013
- Bridgeport Continuing Education, 2013 Class Action Litigation & Management Conference, August 22-23, 2013, "Arbitration: Assessing the Impact on Class Action Litigation"
- "The Ninth Circuit Holds That The TCPA Prohibits Automated Calls Even When They Do Not Refer To Any Specific Good Or Service," *Class Action Defense Strategy Law Blog*, October 31, 2012, reprinted in 19 *Association of Business Trial Lawyers Report*, San Diego, Winter 2012
- "Ninth Circuit rejects class action settlement, clarifies standards for cy pres remedies and plaintiff counsel's attorneys' fees," *Class Action Defense Strategy Law Blog*, July 19, 2012
- Interviewed in Class Dismissed, *The California Lawyer*, April 2012
- Q&A With Sheppard Mullin's Anna McLean, *Law360*, July 6, 2011
- The Recent Assault on Consumer Arbitration Clauses, Lexology, Association of Corporate Counsel, October 2, 2009
- ABA Antitrust Section, Consumer Protection Committee Spring 2008 Meeting: "California Schemin', Unfair Practices and False Advertising in California"
- Product Liability Roundtable Discussion, *The California Lawyer*, December 2007
- Bridgeport Continuing Education 2006 Class Action & UCL Litigation Conference, May 2006, Recent Developments in UCL Case Law
- CLE International Class Actions Conference, February 2006, Impact of the Class Action Fairness Act
- New Federal Law re Multi-State Class Actions, February 18, 2005
- CEB, Continuing Educating the Bar, April 2003, Unfair Business Practices - B&P Code §17200 and Beyond

- Practising Law Institute, Unfair Competition Claims 2002: California Section 17200's Impact on Corporations Everywhere, August 2002
- Glasser Legalworks Seminars, Litigation & Resolution of Complex Class Actions: Product Liability/Mass Tort Developments & Medical Monitoring Class Actions, January 2002

## Media Mentions

Law360's 2023 Consumer Protection Editorial Advisory Board  
*Law360*, 05.03.2023

Class Action Group Of The Year: Sheppard Mullin  
*Law360*, 02.07.2023

Law360's 2022 Consumer Protection Editorial Advisory Board  
*Law360*, 04.20.2022

Seagate Hard Drive Consumers Denied Class Cert.  
*Law360*, 07.06.2018

## Speaking Engagements

Moderator, "Emerging UCL Issues," California Lawyers Association, January 12, 2023

## Events

Navigating Food Labeling Litigation & Regulatory Hurdles in 2025 and Beyond  
Webinar, 10.14.2025

2025 FDLI Annual Conference  
Washington, DC, May 15-16, 2025

Annual Class Action Law Forum  
Trends and Hot Topics in Class Actions  
University of San Diego, 03.12.2024

Class Action Threats in 2023 And Beyond - A Webinar Series  
Webinar Series, 2023

Arbitration and Class Action Waivers: A Vision of a Classless Society  
Class Action Threats in 2023 and Beyond - A Webinar Series  
Webinar, 10.03.2023

Project General Counsel Workshop  
Sheppard Mullin - Los Angeles, 11.14.2019

UCLA Law Women LEAD CLE on Challenges to Eliminating Bias in the Workplace  
Sheppard Mullin San Francisco  
01.25.2018

UCLA Law Women LEAD Mentor Circle on Positioning Yourself to Transition to an In-House Legal Department  
Sheppard Mullin San Francisco  
02.11.2016

UCLA Law Women LEAD Mentor Circle on Women Litigators  
Sheppard Mullin San Francisco, 07.23.2015

MCLE Credit Crunch  
01.27.2015

## Memberships

Fellow, American Bar Foundation

Member, American Bar Association

Admitted, State Bar of California

Admitted, State Bar of Texas

Member, Bar Association of San Francisco

Treasurer, Association of Business Trial Lawyers Board of Governors

## Podcasts & Webinars

Navigating Food and Dietary Supplements Labeling Litigation & Regulatory Hurdles in 2025 and Beyond  
10.14.2025

Arbitration and Class Action Waivers: A Vision of a Classless Society  
10.03.2023

Class Action Threats Facing the Consumer Finance Industry in the Age of COVID  
06.25.2020

## Practices

Litigation

Class Action Defense

## Industries

Automotive

Construction

Financial Services

Food and Beverage

Transportation

## Education

J.D., UCLA School of Law, 1989, *UCLA Law Review*

B.A., University of California, Berkeley, *with high distinction*

## Admissions

California

Texas

## Additional Office

Dallas