

Karine Hafuta, Esq.
EXPERIENCED MMJ/REPORTER & ATTORNEY
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EDUCATION

Bar Admission: California, May 2025, SBN: 362434

Southwestern Law School, Los Angeles, California

Juris Doctor, May 2024

Distinctions: Wildman/Schumacher Full Scholarship, 2021-24; *Senior Advocate*, Trial Advocacy Honors Program

California State University, Northridge, Northridge, California

Bachelor of Arts, Broadcast Journalism, May 2018

RELEVANT REPORTING EXPERIENCE

CBS Affiliate – KMTV 3 News Now, Omaha, Nebraska

Morning News Reporter, July-November 2019

- Pitched, edited, and wrote stories every day in a breaking news environment.
- Reported live numerous times every morning on breaking news, crime, features, events, politics, and sports.
- Reported for numerous platforms, such as social media and CBS affiliate news outlets.
- Investigated and gathered new information through interviews, research, and contacts.
- Introduced new angles to previous stories to keep viewers updated and informed.
- Covered Nebraska's first hemp farm as the state moved towards legalizing hemp farming.

ABC News, Glendale, California

Associate Producer, July 2018-June 2019

- Produced for *Good Morning America*, *World News Tonight with David Muir*, *20/20* and *Nightline*.
- Pitches stories daily, monitored social media feeds and made investigative calls upon breaking news.
- Collaborated with correspondents to write their stories and edit video.
- Wrote articles for ABC News Digital under short deadlines.
- Reported on national breaking news stories such as the Las Vegas mass shooting, Thousand Oaks mass shooting, and Poway Synagogue mass shooting.
- Produced for politicians, including members of Congress and worked closely alongside prominent news anchors during breaking news.

Valley View News, Northridge, California

News Anchor, January-May 2018

- Anchored weekly half hour news segments for the university's news channel and on cable television.
- Produced and reported on segments regarding DACA and its impact on immigrant families.
- Pitched, edited, wrote, and filmed weekly news stories for air.

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Alvandi Law Group, Newport Beach, California

Litigation Attorney, November 2025-Present

- Lead a top-producing personal injury and workers' compensation team averaging approximately \$900,000 in monthly settlements
- Direct a dedicated case team by assigning priorities, monitoring workflows, reviewing work product, and ensuring discovery, medical development, client communications, and filing deadlines remain on track.
- Manage a high-volume caseload of approximately 400 active matters from intake through settlement, trial, and post-award proceedings.
- Conduct and defend depositions, prepare clients and witnesses for testimony, and organize medical and documentary evidence, exhibits, trial briefs, and evidentiary objections.
- Represent injured workers before the California Civil Courts and the WCAB at a variety of hearings and trials.
- Negotiate settlements by evaluating permanent disability, future medical care, apportionment, liens, benefit exposure, and permanent disability advances.
- Counsel clients on case strategy, medical-legal developments, hearing preparation, and anticipated outcomes.

Abramson Labor Group, Burbank, California

Workers' Compensation Attorney, Law Clerk, April-November 2025

- Interviewed clients, drafted and filed Applications for Adjudication, Declarations of Readiness to Proceed, and petitions, and prepared clients and witnesses for depositions.
- Negotiated settlements and Stipulated Awards and developed case strategy through review of QME and AME reporting, contributing to a reported 20–30% increase in average settlement value.
- Maintained organized case files and tracked Labor Code, discovery, medical-legal, and hearing deadlines across a substantial caseload.

ADDITIONAL LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Sedaghat Law Group, Beverly Hills, California

Law Clerk, October 2024-December 2024

- Drafted discovery responses, memoranda, motions, and pleadings after interviewing clients and gathering supporting evidence; observed depositions and remote court proceedings.

Yukevich | Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, California

Law Clerk, June-August 2023

- Analyzed deposition transcripts, researched case law, and drafted memoranda, motions, and pleadings in support of the trial team.

Carpenter & Zuckerman, Beverly Hills, California

Law Clerk, August-December 2022

- Propounded and responded to discovery, coordinated depositions and court dates, obtained medical records, and managed assignments for multiple attorneys under deadline.

District Attorney – Crimes Against Peace Officers, Los Angeles, California

Volunteer Law Clerk, June-August 2022

- Organized discovery, evidence, exhibits, witness summaries, recordings, and courtroom presentations for trials, preliminary hearings, and law-and-motion proceedings.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND INTERESTS

Professional Affiliations: *Student Member*, Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles; *Student Member*, American Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists; *Student Member*, Consumer Attorneys Association of Los Angeles

Interests: Drumming, professional ballet (10 years), monitoring the stock market, weightlifting, jigsaw puzzles, and cooking pasta from scratch.