Joel H. Siegal

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Title: Founding Partner

Law Offices of Joel H. Siegal 703 Market Street, Suite 801 San Francisco, CA 94103

Firm URL: www.LitigateForJustice.com

Position: Partner/Shareholder **Employment Status:** Full-Time

Bar Admit Year: 1984 Bar Status: Active

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Practice Areas: Personal Injury - General: Plaintiff (60%), Employment & Labor (20%), Elder

Law (20%) Birth year: 1956

Gender: M

Summary Statement:

For more than 25 years, Joel H. Siegal has represented seriously injured people and victims against powerful institutions, big corporations, insurance companies and governments. Mr. Siegal is no stranger to the courtroom, often litigating matters including auto accidents, personal injury, employment and labor law, fraud, medical malpractice, legal malpractice and elder abuse throughout California.

Mr. Siegal is a member of the Million Dollar Advocates Forum, an organization limited to attorneys who have won million and multi-million dollar verdicts and settlements. Fewer than 1% of U.S. lawyers are members.

After receiving his Bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Albany, he enrolled in Cornell University's prestigious School of Industrial and Labor Relations in New York City, a school established to focus on real-world workplace issues. After extensive travels around the globe, Mr. Siegal attended California Western School of Law in San Diego, where he obtained his Juris Doctor. He began his legal career as an apprentice to noted labor and civil rights lawyer Jerry Garchik.

After he was admitted to the California State Bar, he began working on one of the most significant civil rights cases ever to affect the Chinese Community in America - the Henry Liu wrongful death case. Mr. Siegal was involved in representing the family of Chinese journalist Henry Liu, who was assassinated at his home in Daly City, California, by agents of the DIB, the Taiwanese equivalent of the CIA. The case was ultimately heard before the U.S. Supreme Court



and was also profiled on the CBS show *Sixty Minutes*. *Liu v. Republic of China*, 892 F.2d 1419 (9th Cir. 1989) cert. denied 497 U.S. 1058 (1990).

Early in his legal career, Mr. Siegal served as an adjunct professor at San Francisco Law School. During this time, the daughter of one of his students was sexually molested at the Presidio Army Base Day Care Center. He represented several families whose children were also sexually assaulted and abused at the center by an army colonel with ties to the Church of Satan. Mr. Siegal was one of several plaintiffs' lawyers in the case, which involved 66 children. A plaintiffs' lawyers committee was formed, which included well-known San Francisco attorney Melvin Belli. This experience provided Mr. Siegal the opportunity to work with and befriend some of the most prestigious lawyers in Northern California.

While many of Mr. Siegal's cases are high-profile and strike a chord with the general public, he regularly handles cases not covered by the media but that still truly affect people's lives. His passion and commitment to public service is unwavering.

International Location Selection: Guatemala, India, Israel

Professional Web Page: www.LitigateForJustice.com

Bio/Professional URL: http://www.litigateforjustice.com/history-bio-joel-h-siegal.php

Find Me Online:

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Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/LitigateforJustice.JoelHSiegal

Linkedin: www.linkedin.com/pub/joel-h-siegal/0/317/80

Law School: California Western School of Law in San Diego, 1982

Languages Spoken:

English and Spanish

Bar/Professional Activity: Member, American Bar Association; Legal Advisory Board, The Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law; Million Dollar Advocates Forum

Pro bono/Community Service: The Louis D. Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law, Simon Weisenthal Center, Museum of Tolerance

Scholarly Lectures and Writings: 1987, Author, Power in the 90's: An Analysis of the Management of Pension Funds for the Attainment of Union and Public Interest Goals, Detroit College of Law Review

Verdicts and Settlements:

Case #1

Year: 2014

Mr. Siegal represented a 14-year-old African American student against St. Charles Borromeo School, a private elementary school operated by the Archdiocese of San Francisco. The student claimed he was subjected to vile and offensive racial bullying, name calling, and taunting by several classmates. The student's mother made numerous complaints to school administrators and officials, yet no effective plan to have the racial bullying cease was ever put into play. The behavior amplified to the point where several students participated in cutting a part of the student's dreadlocks and then throwing him in a recycling bin. Mr. Siegal settled the case for a significant confidential amount following a nine-hour mediation

Case Name: Mugisha M. v. St. Charles Borromeo School and the Archdiocese of San Francisco

Case# 2

Year: 2011

In a civil rights case, Mr. Siegal represented a Jewish student who was attending the University of California at Berkeley when she was attacked by a Muslim student. In her lawsuit, the 21-year-old student, Jessica Felber, alleged that UC Berkeley did not effectively deal with harassment and intimidation by radical Muslim radical and pro-Arab student groups, leading to "a dangerous, threatening and hostile environment." As a direct consequence of the case, UC Berkeley altered policies and procedures involved in student demonstrations on Sproul Plaza. Radical students were forbidden to carry realistic looking guns and precluded from blocking Sather Gate. As an indirect result of the case, the California Legislature passed HR 35, a resolution that encouraged university leaders throughout the State to combat a wide array of anti-Jewish and anti-Israel actions. As assemblywoman Linda Halderman R. Fresno stated, "California schools need to recognize that anti-Semitism is still a very real issue on college campuses around the state. It did not disappear with the end of World War II".

Case name: Felber v. UC Berkeley, et al.

Case # 3

Year: 2009

Joel H. Siegal represented the Plaintiffs, members of the Cojuangco Family, who were injured when their rented van was struck by a commercial truck along the Grapevine. The Plaintiffs are nationals of the Philippines and were vacationing in California. The van passengers suffered injuries ranging from compression fractures to soft tissue injuries, as well as emotional distress. Mr. Siegel settled the case for \$5,000,000.

Case name: Maria Cojuangco, et al., v. MXI Maumee Express/CV-266-383 (consolidated)

Case #4

Year: 2006

Mr. Siegal successfully represented a young woman who recently immigrated to America from Africa. She had been sexually assaulted by her parish priest, also a recent African immigrant. Through pretrial discovery, research, and the use of expert witnesses, including a prominent former priest and Vatican historian, Mr. Siegal established that although celibacy is a tenet of the church in Europe and America, it is not so in Africa, and that upon his arrival in the United States, the priest was not properly trained. Mr. Siegal obtained a favorably confidential settlement on behalf of the woman.

Case name: Doe v. Archdiocese of San Francisco

Case#5

Year: 2004

Mr. Siegal obtained a favorable settlement on behalf of a woman who claimed that she had been sexually assaulted by a doctor at University of California San Francisco (UCSF) Medical Center in 2002 while recovering from childbirth. While he was free on bail, the doctor committed suicide in April 2005 after pleading not guilty. In addition to Mr. Siegal's client, there were three other charges against the doctor for sexual misconduct between September 2001 and October 2002. The case raised questions about how quickly UCSF had responded to earlier accusations against the physician.

Case name: Patient v. UCSF

Educational Background: The State University of New York at Albany; Cornell University's School of Industrial and Labor Relations in New York City; California Western School of Law in San Diego

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