



**Leslie A. Pereira, Of Counsel**

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Ms. Pereira’s practice focuses on complex commercial litigation with a particular emphasis on insurance coverage litigation. She also has extensive experience advising and counseling clients regarding their insurance coverage and potential insurance claims. Ms. Pereira has successfully represented policyholders in obtaining insurance coverage for first-party property damage, business interruption losses, and a wide variety of third party actions. Her experience includes matters involving commercial general liability (CGL) policies, director and officer (D&O) liability policies, errors and omissions (E&O) policies, employment practices liability (EPL) policies, financial lines policies, media and internet liability policies, professional liability policies, environmental impairment liability (EIL) policies, pollution legal liability (PLL) policies, and reinsurance policies. She has also successfully litigated a variety of toxic tort matters, including claims alleging exposure to toxic mold.

Ms. Pereira joined Abelson | Herron in July 2005. Previously, Ms. Pereira was a senior litigator with Latham & Watkins (Los Angeles, CA), where she had worked since August 1995.

Ms. Pereira is a member of the California State Bar. She has been admitted to practice, *pro hac vice*, in numerous states outside of California.

**Highlights of Ms. Pereira’s experience include:**

- Represented malpractice insurer in litigation (including a resulting appeal) involving denial of benefits under professional liability policies. Trial court ruling resolved case in client’s favor; upheld on appeal;
- Represented automobile manufacturer and owner/operator of lead smelter in separate litigations seeking insurance coverage for environmental liabilities under CGL policies. Matters resolved favorably for clients;
- Represented corporate client in multiple mediations seeking insurance coverage for intellectual property liabilities under financial lines insurance policies. Claims settled favorably for client;

- Represented gasoline refinery in action filed against numerous insurance companies seeking coverage for fire damage and business interruption losses under first-party property policy. Case settled favorably for client before trial. Represented manufacturer defendants in toxic tort matters involving bodily injuries from alleged exposure to harmful substances. Cases favorably resolved by summary judgment in clients' favor;
- Represented furniture company in litigation involving failed implementation of computer software system. Case settled favorably before trial;
- Represented investment group plaintiff in litigation filed against corporation based on breach of lease guarantees. Case settled favorably before trial.

## Education

University of Michigan, J.D. *cum laude*, 1995  
First Place, Environmental Law Moot Court Competition  
University of Michigan, M.A. Journalism, 1992  
University of Michigan, B.A. Political Science, 1990

## Awards and Recognition

2006, 2007 "Rising Star" as selected by *Los Angeles Magazine* and *Law & Politics*

## Professional Activities

*Member*, California Bar  
*Member*, Los Angeles County Bar Association  
*Guest Lecturer*, "Insurance Law," UCLA School of Law  
*Co-Author*, "Turning Mold Into Gold," *The Recorder*, May 7, 2001  
*Co-Author* of article in *Urban Land Magazine*, June 2002  
re: California's regulation of toxic mold  
*In-House Instructor* to Industry, *California's Regulation of Toxic Mold  
And Insurance Coverage for Mold Liabilities*