

Eric M. Sefton

Counsel

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Eric Sefton's practice focuses on complex entertainment and commercial litigation, with an emphasis on disputes concerning film production and distribution, intellectual property licensing, and investment and cryptocurrency fraud.

Eric has experience representing plaintiffs and defendants at all stages of their cases, from pre-litigation advice through trial and on appeal. Across a wide array of cases, Eric works doggedly to advocate for his clients and advance their interests.

Eric graduated from UCLA School of Law where he was a Michael T. Masin scholar and co-chair of the Education Rights Clinic. While attending law school, he served as an extern to the Honorable Kim McLane Wardlaw of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and was an intern with the civil appellate staff at the United States Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Prior to attending law school, Eric worked at a financial services company, where he advised corporate clients about debt issuance and management of interest rate risk.

Clerkships

- Honorable Ivan L.R. Lemelle of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana
- Honorable Mary Beck Briscoe of the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

Awards

- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*, 2026, 2027

Services

- Litigation
- General Commercial Litigation
- Appellate Litigation
- Entertainment Litigation
- Intellectual Property Litigation
- Consumer Claim Defense
- Apparel & Accessories
- Artificial Intelligence
- Cannabis
- Crypto & NFTs

Bar Admissions

- California, 2017

Court Admissions

- United States District Court for the Central District of California
- United States District Court for the Northern District of California
- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

Education

- University of California, Los Angeles School of Law (J.D., *Order of the Coif*)
 - Harvard University (B.A., *magna cum laude*, 2010)
 - History with a secondary concentration in Economics and a Spanish Citation
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Publications

August 4, 2026

Before You Type That Into AI, Read This

In-House Connect

May 20, 2026

Practice Tips: Protecting Celebrity Likenesses in the Age of Generative AI

Los Angeles County Bar Association (LACBA) - LA Lawyer Magazine

April 6, 2026

AI Chatbots and Attorney-Client Privilege: New Risks

January 22, 2025

Relaunching Bet Tzedek's Small Claims Clinic

Representative Experience

Entertainment & IP Licensing Disputes

- Representing financier of a five-film slate in dispute with production company about misappropriation of production funds and manipulation of tax credit applications
- Represented film producers in dispute with former business partner about right to control production of film project
- Represented IP rights holder in dispute with licensee about royalty payments
- Represented IP rights holder in dispute with guarantor of license agreement about

royalty payments

- Represented apparel company in dispute with former European distributor about termination of exclusive distribution agreement

Investment & Cryptocurrency Fraud

- Represented victim of sim swap fraud in litigation to recover value of stolen cryptocurrency from cell phone carrier
- Representing victims of \$60 million investment fraud in litigation against network of investment and cryptocurrency companies
- Representing cryptocurrency platform in defense of class action alleging breach of contract and fraud
- Represented victim of mortgage wire fraud against bank for failure to implement appropriate cybersecurity measures
- Representing victim of wire fraud against bank for failure to implement appropriate Know Your Customer (KYC) and Anti-Money Laundering (AML) measures
- Represented fashion company against allegations of fraud in connection with issuance of Simple Agreement for Future Equity (SAFE)
- Obtained \$50 million default judgment against financial technology company on behalf of investor for fraud and breach of contract
- Represented biotechnology company in dispute with former fundraiser about ownership of the company and obtained dismissal of claims with imposition of monetary sanctions

Complex Business Disputes

- Representing owner of family real estate partnership in dispute with other partners about alleged breach of fiduciary duty and division of assets
- Successfully resolved dispute among board members of nonprofit about allegations of self-dealing and breach of fiduciary duty
- Successfully resolved dispute about ownership of real estate brokerage and division of commissions

Appellate

- Successfully petitioned for writ of mandate ordering tenant to expunge lis pendens in commercial real estate dispute
- Obtained order reducing excessive damages award by over \$22 million in toxic tort litigation

Administrative Law

- Represented cannabis company in administrative appeal from denial of annual license application