

ASSOCIATE

Madeline M. Espedal

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Madeline M. Espedal is an associate in Best Best & Krieger LLP's Municipal Law Practice Group in the firm's Walnut Creek office. Madeline primarily represents public entity clients, whom she guides through all stages of litigation in state and federal court.

Prior to joining BBK, Madeline litigated personal injury, product liability, toxic tort, and wrongful death matters at a civil defense firm specializing in insurance defense. She also gained invaluable courtroom and trial experience serving as a public defender in her home county after graduating from law school.

Madeline holds a Juris Doctor degree from UC College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings). While attending law school, she was actively engaged in various leadership roles and extracurricular activities, including serving as Vice President of the Hastings Public Interest Law Foundation and Executive Senior Editor of the Hastings Women's Law Journal. Madeline also enjoyed supporting her peers' success in the classroom and was a Teaching Assistant for the Legal Research and Writing, Criminal Procedure, Civil Procedure, and Evidence courses.

Madeline grew up in the Bay Area where she currently lives with her family. She enjoys hiking, trying new recipes, and cheering on her favorite sports teams.

Accolades

- UC Hastings Honor Society, Top 15% of the Class of 2021
- CALI Excellence for the Future Award, Jurisprudence, 2020
- CALI Excellence for the Future Award, Evidence, 2019
- CALI Excellence for the Future Award, Trial Advocacy, 2019
- Witkin Award for Academic Excellence, Trial Advocacy, 2019
- Recognition for Best Oral Argument, Legal Research and Writing II (Moot Court), 2019

CORE PRACTICES

Municipal Law

Public Agency Litigation

EDUCATION & ADMISSIONS

Education

University of California College of the Law, San Francisco, J.D., cum laude

Boston University, B.A., philosophy and psychology, cum laude

Bar Admissions

California

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court, Central District of California

Thought Leadership

Publications

- “Pregnancy, Incarcerated: How Incarcerating Pregnant Women in the United States is Incompatible with Theories Justifying Punishment,” Hastings Women's Law Journal , November, 2020