HUSCH BLACKWELL



# Michael G. Nordon


**SENIOR COUNSEL**

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**OVERVIEW**

## Michael represents California's largest health plan payors in high-stakes litigation and regulatory matters often involving reasonable value disputes, breach of contract lawsuits, and bad faith actions brought by medical providers and health plan members.

His practice focuses on disputes arising from complex healthcare payment and coverage frameworks, where regulatory requirements, reimbursement methodologies, and commercial obligations intersect.

Michael litigates healthcare matters from case inception through trial, managing all phases of litigation strategy, pleadings, discovery, dispositive motions, and pre- and post-trial proceedings. As a trial attorney, Michael has taken cases to verdict in jury and bench trials, including recently second chairing a team to a jury verdict in favor of a health plan client in a bad faith and breach of contract dispute.

Michael brings a deep understanding of California healthcare law and the regulatory framework governing health plan payors. He develops litigation strategies tailored to client objectives and provides candid, practical guidance on early resolution, dispositive motion practice, mediation, and trial strategy, helping clients evaluate risk and position matters effectively for early resolution or through trial, depending on the client's objectives and the case strengths and weaknesses. While Michael and his team have taken cases to trial, he is also experienced in securing pre-trial wins for

## Industry

Healthcare

## Services

Class Action Defense

Commercial Litigation

ERISA & Employee Benefits Litigation

Healthcare Litigation

Healthcare Regulatory & Compliance Counseling

Litigation & Alternative Dispute Resolution

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health plan clients, including early dismissal, summary judgment victories and defeating class certification.

Prior to joining Husch Blackwell, Michael litigated in the Los Angeles office of a large national law firm. In addition to his deep knowledge of the healthcare space, Michael has litigated high-stakes commercial litigation disputes, and lawsuits arising in the white collar, entertainment, technology, government, and employment industries. This background enables him to develop creative legal strategies for health plan clients.

Clients value Michael's responsiveness, attention to detail, and disciplined management of complex litigation dockets. He is known for sound judgment, the ability to think critically as issues evolve, and for keeping matters organized and moving efficiently in high-volume environments, including through and after trial.

## Experience

- Second-chaired a three-week breach of contract and bad faith jury trial in Alameda County Superior Court, resulting in a defense verdict for health plan client.
- Third-chaired a one-week bench trial in Beverly Hills Superior Court involving a reasonable value dispute brought by an out-of-network provider against a health payor client, resulting in a complete defense verdict.
- Third-chaired a three-week bench trial in San Francisco Superior Court involving contract claims arising from disputes between California water suppliers and transporters.
- Successfully defeated class certification in a matter brought against a health plan client involving coverage determinations.
- Successfully defeated class certification in a dispute against a health plan client related to termination notices after members' nonpayment of premiums.
- Obtained summary judgment for a health plan client on standing grounds in a coverage-related dispute.
- Obtained summary judgment for a health plan client involving interpretation and enforcement of a coordination of benefits provision of a member's evidence of coverage.
- Successfully demurred claims brought by an out-of-network provider alleging retaliation arising from purported underpayments.

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## Experience

- Successfully represented a single mother of three in her asylum application after fleeing dangerous living conditions in Mexico.
- Successfully obtained special immigrant juvenile status for youth clients after fleeing dangerous country conditions in El Salvador and abandonment by their father.

## Recognition

- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*
  - Health Care Law, 2026 and 2027
- Human Rights First, 2025 Pro Bono Star Award
- California Lawyers Association, 2024 Jack Berman Award of Excellence

## Education

- J.D., University of Southern California Gould School of Law
  - Hale Moot Court Honors Program
  - Mediation Clinic
  - Peer Student Mentor
  - Student Bar Association, Awards Chair
  - Jewish Law Students Association, 1L Representative, Social Chair
- B.A., University of California, Los Angeles
  - Political Science, minor in Film and Television
  - *cum laude*
  - Dean's Honors List
  - Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity, Chapter President

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## Admissions

- California
- U.S. District Court, Central District of California
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of California

## Community Leadership

Michael is deeply committed to pro bono advocacy, particularly in matters involving asylum and Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS). His work has focused on helping vulnerable individuals and families seek safety and stability in the U.S., including representing asylum applicants in immigration proceedings and assisting clients pursuing humanitarian forms of relief.

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