HUSCH BLACKWELL

Joanna Rivers

ASSOCIATE

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OVERVIEW

Joanna focuses on labor and employment law.

Inspired by summers spent with her mother, a sheriff, at the Los Angeles courthouse, Joanna developed a deep passion for law. Joanna's interest in law was further fueled by her involvement in speech and debate, mock trial, and a semester at the public defender's office during her undergraduate studies. During law school, she participated in a mediation clinic, where she honed her skills in active listening, empathy, and communication. She also served as a summer associate at Husch Blackwell, conducting research on employment matters, reviewing contracts, and observing mediations.

Joanna's passion for labor and employment law is driven by a keen interest in trade secrets and non-compete agreements. She also defends clients in employment-related litigation. A judicial externship with the Arizona Court of Appeals provided her with valuable insights into the appellate and litigation processes, shaping her understanding of effective advocacy and the importance of clear, compelling legal reasoning.

Clients can expect Joanna to be efficient, reliable, and genuinely invested in their success. Known for her humility and dedication to continual learning, she stays informed about the latest legal developments and best practices. Joanna's perspective as a first-generation attorney and an African American woman also enriches her practice, allowing her to approach each case with empathy and insight.

Services

Employment Litigation Defense

Labor & Employment

Non-Competes & Restrictive Covenants

Trade Secrets & Business Information Protection

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Education

- J.D., Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
    - *Jurimetrics Law Journal*, Executive Editor
- B.A., Concordia University

Admissions

- Arizona

Community Leadership

Joanna serves on the social media team for her church, Valley Gate Church, and volunteers at various church events. She has also participated in Feed My Starving Children, packing meals for kids in developing countries.

2025 Pro Bono Champion

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