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Press Release

Akerman Continues Record Los Angeles Expansion with Employment Partner Marissa Alguire

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Firm Further Enhances Litigation and Counseling Capabilities for California Employers

Akerman LLP, a top 100 U.S. law firm serving clients across the Americas, continued its rapid growth of the Los Angeles office with the hiring of partner Marissa Alguire in the Labor and Employment Practice Group. Alguire is the sixth management-side employment lawyer to join Akerman's Los Angeles team since January, expanding the office's bench strengths in all aspects of California employment law. Nationwide, headcount for Akerman's Labor and Employment Practice Group has more than doubled in size from 21 to 50 lawyers since 2016.

"We continue to experience high client demand for talented employment counsel in California, a market that requires creative solutions to navigate its complex regulatory framework," said Eric Gordon, chair of the Labor & Employment Practice Group. "Marissa's arrival represents a wonderful addition to our capabilities in this space, thanks to her significant litigation and counseling experience involving employers in various sectors, including technology, entertainment, retail, hospitality and healthcare."

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Alguire represents employers in all aspects of employment litigation, with an emphasis on defending clients against claims of harassment, discrimination, wrongful termination, retaliation, wage and hour and PAGA issues, and class actions, before federal and state courts and in arbitration. She also defends clients in proceedings before the Department of Fair Employment and Housing, the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the U.S. Department of Labor and the Employment Development Department.

Alguire also provides day-to-day advice and counseling to employers on a wide variety of employment issues, including employment policies and procedures, internal investigations, accommodation requirements, leaves of absence, wage-and-hour compliance, employment agreements, discharge and discipline, reductions in force, disability access laws and manager and employee training. She speaks regularly on best management practices. Alguire also provides AB1825 Sexual Harassment Prevention Training and is fluent in Spanish.

Alguire joins Akerman's Los Angeles office at a time when it has nearly tripled since 2015, reaching 37 lawyers and business professionals now located at the <u>CalEdison DTLA</u> to accommodate continuing growth. In addition to her, the team welcomed Zoe Bekas.

About Akerman LLP

Akerman LLP is a top 100 U.S. law firm recognized by *Financial Times* as among the most forward thinking firms in the industry. Its more than 700 lawyers and business professionals collaborate with the world's most successful enterprises and entrepreneurs to navigate change, seize opportunities, and help drive innovation and growth. Akerman is known for its results in middle market M&A and complex disputes, and for helping clients achieve their most important business objectives in

the financial services, real estate, and other dynamic sectors across the United States and Latin America.

Akerman's Labor and Employment Practice Group defends employers throughout the United States in all types of litigation under federal, state and local employment laws, including the Fair Labor Standards Act. Adept at class and collective actions defense, the group represents clients in connection with employment law compliance, collective bargaining and NLRB proceedings, ADA public access, global workforce issues, immigration, and non-compete and trade secret advice.