

Snell & Wilmer



Antonio K. Kizzie

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Main Bio

Antonio Kizzie is an experienced state and federal litigation, trial and appellate attorney with hundreds of cases and 10 state and federal civil jury trials as first chair under his belt. Antonio represents plaintiff and defendant; domestic and international; private individuals, corporations, and public entity clients in general commercial disputes and transactions; intellectual property, entertainment and technology litigation and transactions, including copyright infringement, trademark filings and cryptocurrency; personal injury and wrongful death; real estate; banking; white-collar defense; and civil rights matters. He also has substantial experience drafting, reviewing, and negotiating entertainment and general business transactions for large and small corporate and individual clients.

Antonio is licensed to practice law in California and Washington, D.C.; and has been admitted to all federal districts of California; the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; the U.S. District Court for Colorado and Washington, D.C.; and the U.S. Supreme Court. He has argued cases before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, California Supreme Court, and was lead trial and appellate counsel in a matter before the U.S. Supreme Court. Antonio also has substantial experience drafting and negotiating entertainment and general business transactions for corporate and individual clients.

After graduating from University of California, Los Angeles School of Law in 2011, Antonio served as a Volunteer Deputy City Attorney prosecuting DUIs for the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, Metropolitan Branch. He received his B.A. in legal communication magna cum laude from Howard University in 2008. In 2015, the National Bar Association named Antonio as one of the "Top 40 Lawyers Under 40." In 2022, Antonio was selected to join the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), a national association of more than 7,300 experienced trial lawyers and judges and consists of 96 chapters spread across all 50 states and the District of Columbia with a mission to foster improvement in the ethical and technical standards of practice in the field of advocacy to the end that individual litigants may receive more effective representation and the general public be benefited by more efficient administration of justice consistent with the traditional principles of litigation.

Representative Experience

- Served as lead counsel in 10 high-exposure civil jury trials (eight federal and two state) to verdict
- Served as lead counsel for the defense in a five-day complex multi-million-dollar real-estate fraud and § 1983 civil rights federal trial

- Served as lead counsel for the defense representing a public entity client in a multi-million-dollar severe personal injury and § 1983 civil rights trial
- Served as lead counsel for the defense representing a public entity client in a federal wrongful death and § 1983 civil rights trial
- Served as lead Ninth Circuit Appellate attorney and co-counsel on case before the United States Supreme Court regarding § 1983 liability for Miranda warnings
- Represented an internationally based client in a matter involving a business dispute with former production company partners
- Represented cryptocurrency purchaser in breach of contract arbitration
- Represented a national bank in its defense of several cases brought by plaintiffs involving allegations of financial fraud, breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duties and negligence
- Represented a public entity railroad client in premises liability matter
- Represented a public entity railroad client in its defense of numerous premises liability, wrongful death, and personal injury cases
- Argued before the California Supreme Court in a case involving real estate fraud and elder abuse
- Argued before the 2nd District of California Court of Appeal in a case involving the applicability of the Hague Convention and California laws of service to an internationally based party
- Represented an elderly plaintiff against a public entity for § 1983 civil rights violations
- Negotiated numerous agreements on behalf of entity and individual entertainment clients involving television, movie, new media, reality, streaming, and music projects
- Lead counsel on behalf of public entity, corporate, domestic, and international clients in over 100 state and federal cases involving commercial, intellectual property, personal injury, real estate, financial, and civil rights disputes
- Lead prosecutor in three DUI criminal trials to verdict

Education

- University of California, Los Angeles School of Law (J.D., 2011)
- Howard University (B.A., magna cum laude in legal communications, 2008)
 - Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Member
 - Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity, Member
- American Institute of Foreign Study, Granada, Spain (2007)

Languages

- Spanish

Professional Memberships & Activities

- American Board of Trial Advocates, Member
- Association of Southern California Defense Counsel, Member
- Beverly Hills Bar Association, Member
- Howard University Alumni Association of Greater Los Angeles, Member
- John M. Langston Bar Association, Member

- Los Angeles County Bar Association, Member
- Mexican American Bar Association, Member
- UCLA Alumni Association, Member
- UCLA Black Alumni Association, Member
- Black Entertainment and Sports Lawyers Association, Member

Representative Presentations & Publications

- "[10 Key Points of the Lummis-Gillibrand Crypto Bill](#)," Co-Author, Snell & Wilmer Legal Alert (June 16, 2022)
- "Constitutional Policing & U.S.C. § 1983 Liability," Presenter, County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, Special Enforcement Bureau (2021)
- "Know Your Rights," Panelist, Inland Empire Youth (2020)

Professional Recognition & Awards

- National Bar Association, "Top 40 Attorneys Under 40 Award" Recipient (2015)
- Howard University "Move Maker" Award Recipient (2019)
- John M. Langston Bar Association, President's Award Recipient (2013, 2015)
- City of Compton, Service Appreciation Award Recipient (2016)
- Twenty-Seven (27) "5-star" AVVO.com reviews

Community Involvement

- John M. Langston Board Association, Board Member (2009-2016)
- Los Angeles Food Bank, Volunteer (2010-2016)
- Boys & Girls Club of Metro Los Angeles, Volunteer/Karaoke Fundraiser Director (2016)

Previous Professional Experience

- Ivie McNeill Wyatt Purcell & Diggs, APLC, Senior Associate
- The Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, Deputy City Attorney
- Occhipinti Law Group, Law Clerk
- The Cochran Firm Los Angeles, Law Clerk
- Viacom/BET Networks Business and Legal Affairs, Law Clerk
- Creative Artists Agency, Intern
- California Lawyers for the Arts, Law Clerk

Bar Admissions

- California
- District of Columbia

Court Admissions

- United States Supreme Court
- United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit

- United States District Court, All Districts of California
- United States District Court, District of Colorado
- United States District Court, District of Columbia