

## Fakhimi & Associates

Labour and Employment law is a huge legal subject, and one which affects millions of people across the globe. Here, *Lawyer Monthly* speaks to Houman Fakhimi, partner of California firm of attorneys, Fakhimi & Associates, about this wide-reaching subject. Houman has over 12 years of experience in handling major labour and employment-related matters, as well as criminal defence, making him well-placed to provide expert comment on this legal area.



Houman Fakhimi

### Q Please introduce yourself and detail your areas of expertise.

Prior to re-establishing my private practice, I served as the General Counsel (GC) to SimpleTech Inc. (now known as STEC Inc.), a public company leader in the semiconductor field in general, and SSD devices in particular. As the GC to STEC I was involved in the company's every day affairs, sat in on the board meetings and oversaw the company's entire litigation portfolio. I am now the founding member of Fakhimi & Associates, a boutique firm dedicated to representing aggrieved employees. We handle individual and class action matters in all California and Federal courts.

### Q Please can you give me an overview of your firm?

Our firm was originally established in 1998 and although I took a five year hiatus while serving as the General Counsel to SimpleTech Inc., we re-established the firm again in 2006. My associates and I pride ourselves on being true trial lawyers. I have litigated cases throughout the state of California and in Nevada, and have been on both the defence and plaintiff side of some groundbreaking class actions matters. Our attorneys are fluent in Spanish, French and Farsi and we serve the entire Southern California community.

### Q Can you tell me about the recent transaction(s) you have been working on? Who you advised? What is your relationship with the company you advised?

In addition to my previous work as the GC to a public company, I also serve as the legal advisor to a few other local companies. In this capacity I advise my clients on such matters as employee-employer relations, collections, compliance with state and federal regulations and the drafting of agreements. We recently helped a client settle a major class action related to the use of zip codes in relation to credit card purchases. After we settled the matter, California's Supreme Court handed down a very damaging ruling which could have quadrupled the amount of our client's liabilities. Our fast actions resulted in the client saving hundreds of thousands of dollars.

We are true trial lawyers. I have tried cases up and down the state of California and pride myself on my attention to detail and commitment to achieving the best possible result for my client. We don't shy away from big challenges, we conquer them. **LM**

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