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LAW FIRM BUSINESS

## Perkins Coie welcomes new employment partner in LA

*Jonesh Daryanani, known for handling high-profile clients, leaves Loeb & Loeb.*

**By Joshua Sebold**  
Daily Journal Staff Writer

**P**erkins Coie LLP brought labor and employment partner Jonesh G. Daryanani on board as a partner in the Los Angeles office Monday. He was most recently with Loeb & Loeb LLP, also as a partner in Los Angeles.

Daryanani joined Loeb & Loeb in 2004 and rose quickly, making partner in 2009, a few years before he turned 40.

Ronald A. McIntire, managing partner of Perkins Coie's office in Los Angeles, said Daryanani was a good fit because of his strong class action practice, which features a different set of clients than those served by the firm. He said the firm had been looking to add to its labor and employment group and was particularly enticed by Daryanani's

rapid ascent in the field.

"We are more senior here in L.A., and we've been looking for someone in the junior to mid-level partner range," McIntire said.

Daryanani has represented high-profile clients, including Los Angeles Lakers star Kobe Bryant and his wife, Vanessa, in a dispute with a former housekeeper who brought allegations of wrongful termination and unpaid wages in 2009. Bryant countersued, arguing that the housekeeper violated a confidentiality agreement by going to the media with the lawsuit, and both sides subsequently dropped their claims.

On behalf of American Idol Productions Inc., Daryanani persuaded the California Labor Commission to dismiss allegations brought in 2009 by personal assistants that they had been cheated out of overtime and meal-and-rest breaks. He also got a separate wrongful termination claim against the production company dismissed.

In addition to standard labor and employment work, Daryanani handles trade secrets and employee mobility litigation. He also

counsels clients about social media privacy.

Jason Yuen, president of legal recruiting firm Yuen Partners LLC who wasn't involved in Daryanani's switch, said there are many price-sensitive aspects of labor and employment work that would typically create incentives for partners to move to smaller firms, but that isn't the case here.

"It's an ironic move, because, although Perkins offers a much larger platform, my guess is that they can be more flexible with labor and employment billing rates."

McIntire said labor and employment isn't a central focus for the office but was an important service to be able to offer clients.

"Firmwide, it's also a practice we would like to keep alive to service all of our clients throughout the country," he said.

Ken Schwartz of legal recruiting firm Watanabe Nason LLC brokered the deal.

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