

# ***The Power of Collective Action to Address Workplace Sex Discrimination***

## **Legal Network for Gender Equity Webinar**

**February 2, 2023 at 3:00 pm ET**

### **Speaker List and Biographies**

(in alphabetical order by surname)

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**Katie Lubin Benson** (she/her) is a partner at Lieff Cabraser Heimann & Bernstein LLP in San Francisco specializing in securities class actions and derivative cases.

Katie recently represented several pension funds in shareholder derivative litigation against directors and officers of The Boeing Company alleging that they breached their fiduciary duty through their failure of oversight of the 737 MAX design and

development. The settlement included a \$237.5 million cash payment and extensive corporate governance reforms including a new board director, mandated director expertise, and an ombudsperson program to oversee airplane safety. Previously, Katie represented public pension funds in shareholder derivative litigation against Wells Fargo’s officers and directors arising from the sales practices scandal. In addition to her case work, Katie routinely participates in CLE programs about shareholder derivative litigation and class actions.



**Nora Cassidy** (she/her) is an attorney in Legal Aid at Work’s Gender Equity and LGBTQ Rights Program where she represents and supports workers who have faced harassment based on their sex, sexual orientation, gender, or gender identity. Through the Central Valley Workers’ Rights Project, Nora works in partnership with low-wage workers and community organizations to conduct outreach, education, and advocacy.

Nora received her B.A. in history from Carleton College and her J.D. from UC Irvine School of Law where she was a Public Service Scholar and participated in the Immigrant Rights Clinic. In law school, Nora worked at the ACLU of Southern California, California Rural Legal Assistance, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Prior to joining Legal Aid at Work, Nora clerked for Judge Kim McLane Wardlaw on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and Magistrate Judge Bruce McGiverin on the United States District Court for the District of Puerto Rico. Nora speaks Spanish.



**Jennifer Reisch** (she/her), Principal at Reisch Law, is a seasoned litigator and aspiring legal organizer based in Oakland, California who has dedicated her career to using creative legal advocacy to defend the rights of workers and advance economic, gender, and racial justice. Over her two decades of practice as a civil rights and employment attorney, she has counseled and collaborated with scores of individuals and organizations to challenge systemic discrimination, sexual harassment, wage theft, pay inequity, and other unfair practices in workplaces and other institutions across the country. She has extensive experience litigating in California state court and in federal courts and has successfully engaged with worker-led coalitions and organizations to inform and strengthen litigation strategy and to secure meaningful non-monetary relief in both individual and class action cases.

Prior to returning to private practice, Jennifer served as the Legal Director of Equal Rights Advocates for over eight years, where she played a key role in developing, passing, and implementing some of the strongest and most innovative pay equity and anti-sexual harassment laws in the nation, including the California Fair Pay Act of 2015 (SB 358) and the Property Service Workers Protection Act of 2016 (AB 1978). She has served on a number of state, national, and global task forces and advisory bodies relating to the prevention and elimination of workplace harassment and sexual violence, gender pay equity, and accommodation of pregnant workers. In addition to her extensive litigation and advocacy experience, Jennifer is also a teacher, who has designed and taught law school courses on issues facing low-wage workers, the human rights of immigrant workers, and representing Spanish-speaking workers. She is currently co-teaching and supervising the Gender Justice Team of students in the UC Irvine Workers, Law, and Organizing Clinic.



**Tyler Sprague** (she/her) is a staff attorney at the National Legal Advocacy Network. Growing up in a blue-collar household, Tyler witnessed first-hand the struggle to establish equitable work-environments and representation in her community. It is her mission to help shape the law in ways that will preserve and protect the rights of workers as a common good. Prior to NLAN, she graduated from Chicago-Kent College of Law and received a certificate in labor and employment law. At Chicago-Kent she was student Editor for the Employment Law and Policy Journal, Vice President of the Labor and Employment Law Society, and the first student to be elected to the board of the National Employment Lawyers Association. She was also a recipient of the Peggy Browning Fellowship where she dedicated her

efforts to addressing root-causes of unfair workplace issues through leadership development, base-building, and organizing.