Jessica Stender

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Jessica Stender joined Equal Rights Advocates (ERA) in 2015. As Senior Counsel for Workplace Justice & Public Policy, Jessica leads ERA's policy advocacy with a focus on sexual harassment, pay and pregnancy discrimination and represents workers in employment discrimination cases. Jessica coordinates the Stronger California Advocates Network, a statewide network of organizations and coalitions promoting policy reform to improve the economic security of women and families in California. She serves as Co-Chair of the Women's



Rights Committee of the American Bar Association's Section on Civil Rights and Social Justice and Co-Chair of the Policy Committee of the National Taskforce on Tradeswomen Issues, and is a member of the Policy Committee of the national Equal Pay Today campaign. In 2018, Jessica was named one of the Top Labor & Employment Lawyers in California by the Daily Journal.

Prior to joining ERA, Jessica served as Legal Director of Centro de los Derechos del Migrante, Inc. (Center for Migrants Rights), a transnational migrant workers' rights organization based in Mexico. There, Jessica advocated on behalf of low-wage migrant workers in U.S. courts and before U.S. government agencies and worked with U.S.-based advocates to facilitate representation of migrant worker clients in Mexico.

Prior to joining CDM, Jessica was a Civil Rights Fellow at the public interest class action firm Goldstein, Borgen, Dardarian & Ho, where she represented workers in civil rights and employment class action cases. Jessica graduated from U.C. Berkeley School of Law in 2009, where she served as Senior Executive Editor of the Berkeley Journal of Employment and Labor Law and Co-Chair of the Boalt Hall Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild. Before law school, Jessica worked as a paralegal at Friends of Farmworkers in Philadelphia, providing legal assistance to migrant farmworkers throughout Pennsylvania.