



## DeAndrea Washington Discusses Importance of Legal Ops for NELC Conference

Spencer Fane attorney [DeAndrea Washington](#) spoke at the National Employment Law Council (NELC)'s Western Regional Conference on October 9 in Foster City, California. This Silicon Valley NELC gathering connected labor and employment law attorneys for a strong day of business development, continuing legal education, and collaboration among in-house and outside counsel.

During her session, The Growing Role of Legal Ops, DeAndrea and her fellow panelists discussed legal operations' increased function and importance in businesses. The panel explored the role of in-house counsel, the type of data Legal Ops collects, how outside counsel should adapt to the expansion of Legal Ops, and more.

At the firm, DeAndrea focuses her practice on a variety of labor and employment litigation matters. She provides preventive counsel and litigates employment disputes for public and private employers in federal and state courts, in arbitration, and before administrative agencies. She also advocates strongly for diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI in the legal field). A respected voice in firm leadership, DeAndrea serves on the Spencer Fane Executive and DEI Committees to advise on DEI initiatives that impact Spencer Fane strategy and culture at all levels.

Recently, DeAndrea was named a Talent Team Lead, an additional leadership role under the firm's new [organizational structure](#).