



LABOR & EMPLOYMENT

WILLIAM WHELAN

Partner, Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith, LLP

William Whelan, partner with **Solomon Ward Seidenwurm & Smith, LLP**, won the 2019 *Leaders in Law* award in the labor and employment category. Whelan's practice focuses on labor and employment issues, primarily on behalf of management. He has successfully represented medical groups, manufacturers, retailers, nonprofit employers, religious institutions, a school of law and financial institutions in obtaining favorable litigation outcomes. He has successfully handled many wrongful termination, discrimination, wage and hour class actions, employee com-

pensation cases, partnership disputes, contract cases, non-compete contract claims, trade secret cases and interference with contractual relations claims. Bill's clients appreciate the way he presents pragmatic solutions to their business problems. His goal is to find a legal way to get his clients the best possible outcome.

In remarks from the podium, Whelan said some of the credit for the award belongs to two lawyers he worked with on a pivotal case: Laura MacNeel of Aya Healthcare and Kendra Hall of Procopio. Bill was lead counsel in AMN Healthcare v. Aya Healthcare

Services, Inc. (2018) 28 Cal. App. 5th 923 in which the Court of Appeal ruled that post-termination non-solicitation of employee provisions are void and unenforceable under California law. This was a significant victory for both California employers (who wish to recruit and hire the best available talent) and California employees (whose right to seek the best available jobs has now been increased).

Whelan received his bachelor's degree from Pomona College and his J.D. from UCLA. His pro bono work includes chairing the board of St. Vincent de Paul Villages.

