

Lily Chinn

Partner

San Francisco

Biography

With decades of experience navigating the intricacies of government regulations, Lily Chinn adeptly advises clients in the tech, energy, and manufacturing sectors on a spectrum of issues encompassing environmental concerns, workplace safety, trust and safety protocols, and corporate governance. Whether addressing these matters individually or collectively, she assists companies in strengthening their compliance frameworks to mitigate risks while negotiating advantageous resolutions to multifaceted government inquiries. As a skilled advocate, she is prepared to litigate civil or criminal cases to resolution.

Clients entrust Lily to guide them through crises with their reputations intact. Praised for her composed demeanor, clear communication, and collaborative style, she is lauded for her pragmatic, solution-driven approaches that produce exceptional results. Drawing upon her extensive experience as a trial attorney for the DOJ's Environmental Defense Section and as a prosecutor in the Computer Crimes and Intellectual Property Section, Lily devises strategies rooted in expertise and tailored to resonate with government regulators. Her distinguished record in navigating complex appellate and district court cases has earned her widespread acclaim.

In numerous high-profile federal and state investigations, Lily has secured favorable outcomes, including the dismissal of criminal charges following extensive investigations by the DOJ, the U.S.



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Practices

Environment and Natural Resources

Crisis Leadership Team

Investigations, White Collar, and Fraud

Industries

Energy and Natural Resources

Manufacturing and Industrials

Transportation and Logistics

Areas of focus

Environmental Litigation

Crisis Communications

Compliance Effectiveness

Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and/or State Attorney General's Offices. Her novel legal arguments have led to groundbreaking dismissals of first-of-their-kind federal criminal charges under statutes such as the Clean Air Act and the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act.

Through her involvement in court-mandated and voluntary corporate monitorships, Lily is also experienced in evaluating corporate compliance programs and developing bespoke solutions that mitigate enforcement risks effectively.

Representative experience

Representation of a leading producer of renewable natural gas under federal criminal investigation in connection with waste disposal practices at a facility in Kentucky*

Representation of an international energy company in connection with a federal criminal investigation into industrial wastewater discharges.*

Representation of a municipality in connection with a federal criminal investigation into wastewater treatment practices and use of federal funding.*

Representation of an engineering firm in connection with a federal criminal investigation into waste disposal practices at a landfill in California.*

Representation of a petrochemical manufacturer under civil and criminal investigation in connection with a fire and explosion at a facility in Port Neches, Texas.*

Representation of independent energy company under state criminal investigation for discharges to California waters.*

Representation of a global power generation service provider before the FERC, an investigation of market manipulation and fraud allegations in the sale of power to independent system operator.*

Representation of a global provider of labor and production services criminally charged in connection

Education and admissions

Education

Juris Doctor, University of California, Los Angeles School of Law, 1999

Bachelor of Arts, University of California, Berkeley, 1993

Memberships

Co-Chair, Partners' Committee, Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area

Leader, Center for Women in the Law

Member, Women's White Collar Defense Association

Member, Environmental Law Institute Leadership Council

2012 Alumni Fellow, Leadership Council for Legal Diversity

Member, ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources and ABA Section of Criminal Justice

Co-Chair, Energy, Environmental & Sustainability Committee, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (2017-2023)

Bar admissions and qualifications

California

District of Columbia

Court admissions

U.S. District Court, Northern District of California

with a multi-fatality incident on an offshore oil and gas production platform.*

Defense of a national chemical manufacturer in a six-month toxic tort jury trial and a three-week cost recovery bench trial involving groundwater contamination.*

Served as Deputy Monitor for a subscription-based internet content provider as part of a voluntary monitorship to assess the effectiveness of age verification and content moderation controls.*

Represented State of Florida and Florida Department of Environmental Protection in defense of EPA's approval of Florida's assumption of the federal Clean Water Act Section 404 permitting program.*

Defense of a national chemical manufacturer in a six-month toxic tort jury trial and a three-week cost recovery bench trial involving groundwater contamination from perchloroethylene.*

Served as a key advisor to the Monitor on corporate governance and compliance risk assessment for a five year court ordered monitorship of the world's largest cruise line company.*

*Matter handled prior to joining Hogan Lovells.

Awards and rankings

- Environment Nationwide, *Chambers USA*, 2016-2023
- Green 500 Leaders, Leaders in Environmental Law, *Lawdragon*, 2023
- Environment Litigation, *Legal 500 US*, 2015,2017-2019
- Rising Star Under 40, *Law 360*, 2011

Latest thinking and events

- Press releases
 - Three environmental crisis & white collar litigators join Hogan Lovells, expanding litigation and regulatory capabilities in Washington, D.C. and San Francisco

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California

U.S. District Court, Central District of California

U.S. District Court, Southern District of California

U.S. District Court, District of Columbia

U.S. Court of Federal Claims

U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit

U.S. Supreme Court

Supreme Court of California

Accolades

Lily has a great strategic approach to issues. She's a fantastic litigator who can counsel large, complex organizations in a way that takes into account our business as an organization.

Chambers USA - Environment 2023

- Sponsorships and Speaking Engagements
 - Teaching an Old Dog New Tricks: Adapting EPA's Enforcement Tools to Modern Challenges?
- Sponsorships and Speaking Engagements
 - Hot Topics for a Hot Climate: The Environmental Crimes Panel is Back
- Published Works
 - Ethical Minefields to Avoid When Managing an HSE Crisis
- Published Works
 - The Department of Justice really, really wants you to voluntarily disclose your company's violations. Considerations for GCs and CCOs. (Part II of II)
Westlaw
- Published Works
 - The Department of Justice really, really wants you to voluntarily disclose your company's violations. Considerations for GCs and CCOs. (Part I of II)
Westlaw