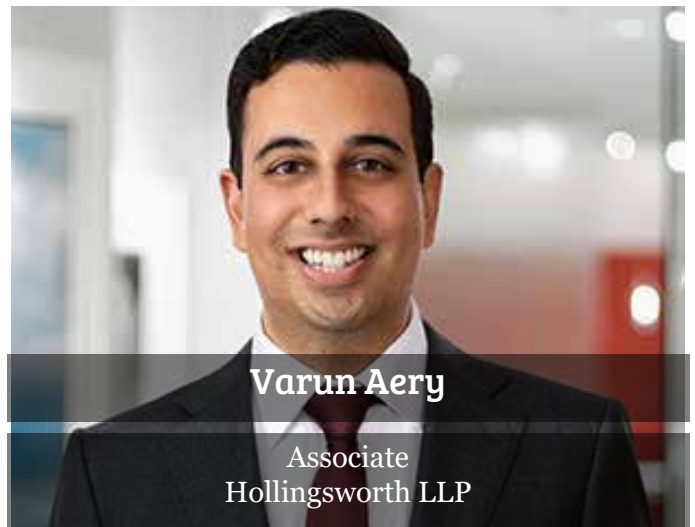


Hot List


2023



Lawyers



Color



BRYAN CAVE LEIGHTON
the **2023 LAWYERS OF**
applauds the tremendous
COLOR to promote susta
within the legal communit

INCLUSION & DI

BRYAN
CAVE
LEIGHTON PAISNER **BCLP**

ON PAISNER is proud to support
COLOR HOT LIST and
efforts by the **LAWYERS OF**
inclusion and diversity
y.

VERSITY

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Masthead

Christopher Nelson
Gabriela Martinez
Kaitlyn Williamson
Yolanda Young

Lawyers of Color is a 501(c)(3) devoted to promoting diversity in the legal profession and advancing democracy and equality in marginalized communities. We celebrate attorneys of color and conduct research and studies regarding the intersection of the legal profession and social justice.



Editor's Page

Lawyers of Color is proud to announce Hot List 2023, which recognizes junior- and mid-level attorneys working in law firms, companies, and government agencies who show promise in their careers and demonstrate a strong commitment to advancing diversity in the legal profession.

Honorees were feted at a reception in the Washington, D.C. office of Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner and we thank them for their hospitality.

The honorees were chosen through a two-pronged process. Our selection committee, composed of the editorial staff, fellows and advisers, spent months reviewing nominations and researching legal publications in order to identify promising candidates. We accepted nominations from mentors, peers, and colleagues. We also made editorial picks based on our research of attorneys who had noteworthy accomplishments, giving special attention to candidates who were active in diversity pipeline initiatives.

Yolanda Young

President and Executive Director
Lawyers of Color



Hollingsworth LLP
Congratulates
Varun Aery

Firm associate Varun Aery is named to the 2023 Lawyers of Color Annual Hot List, recognizing his dedicated work in complex litigation for our corporate clients. Hollingsworth LLP is proud to be part of Lawyers of Color's mission to promote and sustain diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. We embrace and value the diversity of our workforce and are committed to fostering a culture where differences are welcomed, celebrated, and appreciated, and which positively impact our clients, our business, and our firm.



Hot List

2023







Hot List
2023

Aimee King

Aimee King



Hot List
2023
Kimora Green

Pamela Young

Hot List
2023
Heidi Cho



Hot List
2023

Jessica Young
[unreadable]

[unreadable]



Hot List
2023



Hot List
2023
Wendy H. King



Hot List
2023
Michelle W. Hayes





Hot List
2023

Amanda Young

Darius



Hot List
2023
Johnson Holdings

Sharon Priddy



Hot List
2023

Theresa Young

Michelle...



Naja
Guest

Growth Club
Member

HOT LIST HONOREES



Philip Bartz
Vice President
of the American Bar Association

Philip Bartz
Vice President
of the American Bar Association



Abby Chin

Judicial Law Clerk
U.S. District Courts

Abby Yi

Associate
Bass Berry & Sims

Adrienne Waddell

Associate
Holland & Knight LLP

Adrieannette Ciccone

Attorney
Law Offices of Robert
S. Gitmeid & Assoc.

Aldiana Anthony

Associate
Couch White LLP

Alejandro Montenegro

Associate
Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP

Alex Chan

Partner
Devlin Law Firm/DataNovo, Inc.

Alex Mancero

Legal Counsel
Ria Digital

Alexandra Garza

Associate Counsel
Blue Wire, Inc.

Alexandra Lydon

Senior Staff Attorney
Legal Services of
Northern Virginia

Alice Hu

President NAPALSA
Harvard Law School

Alicia Grant

Senior Associate
Norton Rose Fulbright

Alycia S. Tulloch

Associate
Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz

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Belk

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Berenzweig Leonard, LLP.

Andrew Paik

Associate
Latham & Watkins

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Crane Group Company

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Alston & Bird

Anna E. Wolfe

Shareholder
McAfee & Taft

Anna Horevay

Public Finance Associate
McGuireWoods LLP

Anupma Sahay

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Reed Smith

Arcelia Magaña

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Dunnington, Bartholow & Miller LLP

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Ashley Upkins

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The Cochran Firm, LLC

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Bretta Oluyede

Counsel
YouTube

Bria Kemp

Deputy Prosecutor
Marion County Prosecutor's Office

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Polsinelli

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Armstrong Teasdale

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December Huddleston, Esq

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US Department of Commerce

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Abby Yi

Associate
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J.D., American University Washington College of Law,
2014, (Cum Laude)

Abby focuses her practice on representing a diverse range of companies in connection with internal and government investigations concerning white collar and corporate compliance matters. Abby represents companies and individuals in government investigations involving the Department of Justice, United States Attorneys' Offices, Securities and Exchange Commission, and Department of Homeland Security regarding alleged violations of federal securities laws, Foreign Corrupt Practice Act, False Claims Act, and other criminal and civil regulations. Abby was recognized with the American University Washington College of Law – Exceptional Pro Bono Public Service Award.



Abby Chin

Judicial Law Clerk
U.S. District Courts

J.D., The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law,
B.A., University of Louisville (cum laude)

Abby is the President-Elect of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Central Ohio. She has served as a law clerk for judges on the U.S. District Courts for the Southern District of Ohio and the Middle District of Florida. Prior to clerking, Abby was a litigation associate at a regional law firm and served as Co-Chair of the Columbus Bar Association's Minorities in the Law Committee. During law school, Abby won regionals of the ACTL National Moot Court Competition and the 2018 CPR Joseph T. McLaughlin Original Student Article Award. Abby is a retired student-athlete, having competed at the 2008, 2012, and 2016 USA Olympic Swim Team Trials.



Aldiama Anthony

Associate
Couch White LLP

Monroe College, B.S., 2016, summa cum laude;
University at Buffalo School of Law, J.D., 2021

Aldiama assists clients before the New York State Public Service Commission, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority and the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in matters involving utilities and electric system operators. This work includes administrative proceedings regarding the development of wholesale electricity market rules and regulatory policies, advising clients on key energy policies intended to promote renewable energy and residential electric submetering, and providing counsel on relevant laws and regulations. Aldiama also assists attorneys in the firm's environmental, construction and litigation practice groups. Aldiama worked as an Appellate Court Attorney at the New York State Supreme Court Third Department prior to joining Couch White. During law school, Aldiama was a student attorney at the University at Buffalo School of Law's Family Violence.



Alejandro Montenegro

Senior Associate
Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP

J.D., University of Michigan Law School

Alejandro's practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions and commercial transactions. He leads negotiations and coordinates M&A deal teams for both buy and sale-side transactions. Alejandro focuses on strong, genuine communication and truly partnering with clients to help meet their strategic business needs. Alejandro is committed to social justice and empowering the lawyers of color community. He previously served as Chair of the Chicago Committee (a civic organization that seeks racial and ethnic diversity in the legal profession) and is an active participant in the Leadership Counsel on Legal Diversity. He is devoted to diversity recruiting efforts at BCLP, where he serves on the Recruiting Committee for the Chicago office. Best Lawyers in America has included Alejandro in its annual Ones to Watch list in each of the past 3 years.



Alexandra Garza

Associate Counsel
Blue Wire, Inc.

J.D., Cardozo School of Law, 2020

Alexandra is an innovative attorney who is constantly diversifying our legal positions across media, entertainment, sports gaming, and corporate law. She drives our organization's legal tech and allows us to multiply our time through AI and other smart resources. As the leader of our DEI efforts, Alexandra also works behind the scenes to support a healthy and vibrant digital workplace culture.



Alicia Grant

Senior Associate
Norton Rose Fulbright

J.D., St. Mary's University School of Law, 2016

Alicia Grant is a shining star at Norton Rose Fulbright's products, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and mass tort litigation group, where she has amassed numerous awards and recognitions for her legal acumen. But it's her commitment to helping those in need that really illustrates how extraordinary Alicia is. She helps her community, she says, because it is a way of life. The list of recipients who have benefitted from her goodwill is extensive.



Alycia S. Tulloch

Associate
Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz

J.D., University of California, Berkeley - School of Law

Alycia S. Tulloch is a Litigation; Intellectual Property; and Employment group Associate. Regularly presenting about potential implications of artificial intelligence on creatives and companies, she is positioned as a thought leader on the impact of emerging technologies on the legal profession. As a member of FKKS's Pro Bono, Diversity, and Racial Justice Taskforce Steering Committees, she maintains her passion for providing services to underserved communities and promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the legal profession.



Andrew Paik

Associate
Latham & Watkins

Ohio Wesleyan University (summa cum laude);
Harvard Law School (cum laude)

Andrew Paik is an associate in the Washington, D.C. Office of Latham & Watkins and a member of the Antitrust & Competition Practice. Mr. Paik focuses on antitrust review or investigations of mergers and joint ventures in the United States and in foreign jurisdictions. Mr. Paik also represents clients in litigation matters, including merger litigation, joint venture litigation, and complex commercial litigation. Mr. Paik is a former member of the firm's Recruiting Committee and previously served as the leader of the Asian Middle Eastern Lawyers Group in Washington, D.C.. He currently serves on the firm's Associates Committee. Mr. Paik is also the VP of Membership for APABA-DC.



Anupma Sahay

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J.D., Temple University Beasley School of Law, M.S.,
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Anupma focuses her practice on utility and design patent preparation and prosecution in software and the mechanical arts. Anupma has experience with patent portfolio management, freedom to operate and opinion counseling, and post-grant proceedings, including inter partes review and ex parte reexamination. She is active in patent diversity pipeline organizations and serves as Secretary and on the Intellectual Property Committee for the South Asian Bar Association of Washington, D.C.



Arcelia Magaña

Attorney
Jackson Lewis P.C.

J.D., California Western School of Law, B.S., University of California - Berkeley

Arcelia Magaña is a first generation Xicana from Escondido, California. As an attorney at Jackson Lewis, she advises and defends business on employment law matters. She currently serves as Pro Bono General Counsel for MANA de San Diego - a Latina empowerment organization - and as President of the San Diego La Raza Lawyers Association. Arcelia is a three-time Super Lawyers Rising Star honoree and was named to Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America for 2023.



Archana Sundar

Associate Attorney
Dunnington, Bartholow & Miller LLP

J.D., Brooklyn Law School, B.A., University of Michigan

Archana Sundar is an attorney based in New York, specializing in commercial litigation and intellectual property law. Her expertise includes trademark litigation and counseling. Prior to her current position, Ms. Sundar was an Assistant Corporation Counsel with the New York City Law Department, where she litigated cases on the City's behalf in the Tort Division. Ms. Sundar currently serves as the Vice President of Events and Membership of the South Asian Bar Association of New York, where she helps organize panel discussions, social gatherings, and networking events for New York's South Asian legal community.



Ashley K. Alger

Associate
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J.D., New York University School of Law, 2017

Ashley Alger is an Intellectual Property and Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility group Associate. Ashley represents clients in false advertising, breach of contract, and legal malpractice cases. She is a member of FKKS's Racial Justice Taskforce and Asian American Pacific Islanders group. With an active pro bono practice, she has worked with nonprofits and an indigent client in a felony criminal case. Ashley practiced as a public defender in the Bronx, representing hundreds of individuals charged with misdemeanor and felony crimes.



Brittany S. Macon

Associate
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J.D., Vanderbilt University Law School, 2017

Brittany Macon is an associate in the Real Estate practice group and provides transactional and property development-related solutions that complement clients' real estate investment strategies. She is actively involved in recruiting, diversity initiatives and serves as a resource group office liaison. Brittany has received several accolades including:

Named "Ones to Watch" by Best Lawyers® for Real Estate Law 2023
Nashville Emerging Leaders, Class of 2021
Nashville Top 30 Under 30, 2023



Camille Roe

Senior Associate
Armstrong Teasdale

J.D., University of Missouri-Columbia, School of Law, 2012

Camille leads a subcommittee of The Missouri Bar's Special Committee on Lawyers of Color and created a 3L mentorship program at Mizzou Law. Camille often mentors children in underserved communities and works with the KC MBA Student Law Academy. She is Community Support Chair for AWL and led a laundry basket drive for KC International Academy, a charter school with 600 students from 27 countries, of whom 13% are homeless. She is a 2023 LCLD Pathfinder.



Candise Caylao

Managing Associate
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J.D., Louis D. Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville, 2019

Candise represents numerous distilleries, mainly in Kentucky, in areas including alcohol production, distribution, regulation and retail business. She also works with US and EU clients in the hospitality, manufacturing, health care and construction industries, assisting with company formation, corporate governance, contract review, drafting and more. Candise is a 2021 Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Pathfinder. She serves on the board of LHOME, nonprofit financial institution that provides affordable loan products and financial coaching services to low-income homeowners and small business as well as BIPOC populations in the Louisville, Kentucky, metro area.



Chanda Marlowe McClain

Associate
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Chanda Marlowe focuses her practice on privacy and data security law, particularly issues of data collection in online and mobile platforms, adtech, and edtech. She has extensive experience researching and publishing works on a wide range of consumer privacy topics, including algorithmic decision-making, digital advertising, and student privacy. Prior to joining Loeb & Loeb LLP, Chanda was the inaugural Christopher Wolf Fellow at the Future of Privacy Forum where she led a working group focused on location and advertising technologies.



Christopher Jison

Legal EEO Consultant
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

J.D., University of St. Thomas, B.S., University of Southern California

Chris is a Legal EEO Consultant with Wells Fargo where he represents the bank in discrimination and wage claims. Chris previously worked for the employment and labor law firm, Wessels Sherman, and he served as the judicial law clerk for Judge Tracy Perzel and as a judicial extern for Judge Tanya M. Bransford.

Chris also serves as the President of the Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his wife (who is also an employment attorney) and dog traveling to different countries and trying new foods.



Claire Vergara

Associate Attorney
Plunkett Cooney

J.D., Western Michigan University Cooley Law School, 2012

Claire is a dynamic member of our Detroit office who is active in the firm and bar. She was recently elected as a member of the board of directors of the Michigan Asian Pacific American Bar Association, serving as secretary. Claire is also a member of the firm's Diversity & Inclusion Committee. Her practices areas include transportation law (first- and third-party) motor vehicle and trucking liability, as well as medical malpractice litigation defense.



Colin M. Kawaguchi

Corporate Attorney
Nevers, Palazzo

Colin Kawaguchi counsels emerging and established companies in the areas of corporate governance, mergers, acquisitions, financings, and general business matters. He advises businesses on a variety of commercial transactions, including agreements related to consulting, licensing, supply, and distribution. Through the course of his representations, Colin has gained experience in such industry sectors as biotech, financial services, information technology, hospitality, and insurance. Colin (Masashi) has written and oral fluency in Japanese.



Danica Brown

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Sidley Austin

J.D., Howard University School of Law, 2017

DANICA BROWN represents clients across a wide array of industries in high-risk business disputes in federal and state courts, bankruptcy, arbitrations, and internal investigations. Danica's litigation experience includes all aspects of pleadings, discovery, and trial. She also has experience advising clients on litigation pending or threatened simultaneously in the United States and abroad.

Prior to joining Sidley, Danica worked at another global law firm.

Danica earned her J.D. in 2017 from Howard University School of Law, where she served as the executive solicitations and submissions editor for the Howard Law Journal.



Daniel Trujillo Esmeral

Attorney
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J.D., George Mason University - Antonin Scalia Law School, 2019

Daniel Trujillo Esmeral is an attorney in Offit Kurman's labor and employment practice group. He focuses his practice on providing proactive and preventative counseling and defending businesses throughout the litigation process. The dual nature of Mr. Trujillo Esmeral's practice allows him to partner with clients to come up with solutions to their legal issues, big and small, while they focus on growing their businesses.

Mr. Trujillo Esmeral received his Juris Doctor from the Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University. While an evening student, Mr. Trujillo Esmeral served in various leadership positions, including as managing editor of the George Mason University Civil Rights Law Journal, president of the Student Bar Association, and president and founder of the Latino/a Law Student Association. He also participated in trial advocacy competitions as a member of the Trial Advocacy Board.



Danielle Chidiac

Associate Attorney
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J.D., Wayne State University Law School, 2020

Danielle does it all. When she's not in state or federal court representing her clients, she is engaged within the firm as a member of the Hiring Committee and co-leader of Plunkett Cooney's Diversity & Inclusion Committee. Danielle is also a member of the State Bar of Michigan and the Insurance Law, Litigation Skills and Young Lawyers Committees of DRI, formerly the Defense Research Institute. She practices in the complex area of insurance coverage litigation and is approved panel counsel for some of the nation's leading insurance providers.



Dara Alvarado

Associate
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Dara Alvarado is an associate in Lathrop GPM's Kansas City office practicing in the firm's Business Transactions group. Dara advises clients across a variety of industries in mergers, acquisitions, recapitalizations, and other general corporate and commercial transactions. She also advises businesses on legal issues related to corporate structuring and entity formation, corporate governance contract negotiation, corporate restructurings, and general business matters.

Dara was a judicial intern for the Honorable Judge Newton in the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District, where she saw legal proceedings from criminal cases to civil cases within the jurisdiction of the U.S. District Court. Currently, Dara serves on the Board of Directors of Visit KC, an economic development organization dedicated to being the heart of the tourism industry in Kansas City.



Darshana Indira

Senior Associate
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Darshana Indira is an employment and business lawyer who advises company owners, organizational leadership, and c-suite executives in a broad range of employment and commercial litigation matters.

Darshana is currently the Co-President of the South Asian Bar Association of Greater Boston, and serves on the Joint Bar Committee on Judicial Nominations and the Boston Bar Association's Labor & Employment Steering Committee. She is also a member of the Boston Bar Association's Public Interest Leadership Program and the Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts' Women's Leadership Initiative. Born in India, Darshana is fluent in Malayalam.



Edward Carlson

Senior Attorney
US Department of Commerce

Colorado College (Cum Laude) and University of Iowa Law School

Edward Carlson is a senior attorney with the US government with a decade of experience in state, federal, and international communications law. His specialization is in broadband deployment in rural and hard to serve communities and spectrum management. He previously worked for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, the agency charged with being the statutory advisor to the President on communications and telecommunications policy. The US Department of Commerce has awarded him three Bronze Medals at the Bureau level and a Silver Medal at the Secretarial level. Previously he was a HNBA 40 Under 40 Nationwide award winner and a Henry Luce Scholar with the FMR Japanese Cabinet Secretary of Economic and Fiscal Policy (2008). Originally from Guatemala City, Guatemala, he now resides in Washington, DC.



Elin Park

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Elin represents clients in commercial litigation; disputes involving vendors, suppliers, and contactors; class actions; and regulatory proceedings and investigations. Elin's practice spans a range of industries, including retail, utilities, manufacturers, and financial institutions. Elin has received awards from U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Chicago Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, and Seventh Circuit Bar Association. In 2023, Elin was recognized by Illinois State Comptroller as a distinguished honoree. In 2021, Elin was named a Rising Star in Law by Crain's Chicago Business. Elin is a past president of the Asian American Bar Association of Chicago and is a past vice president and current advisory board member of the Korean American Bar Association of Chicago. She is a Fellow of the Leadership Greater Chicago.



Eric A. Love

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Eric A. Love provides legal counsel to multiple BlackRock business teams on the formation and operation of a variety of private investment funds, including private equity funds, funds-of-one, separately managed accounts and co-investment funds. Prior to joining BlackRock, Eric was an associate in the Private Funds Group at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP in New York. Before joining Paul, Weiss, Eric practiced law at international law firms in New York and Washington, D.C. Among other recognitions, Eric was named a 2019 “Rising Star” in Fintech by Law360. Before practicing law, Eric served as an official at the U.S. Department of the Treasury and worked for a member of the U.S. House of Representatives.



Eve Nguyen

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Eve is an entertainment attorney focused on film and television. She represents studios, production companies, producers, directors, writers and actors in connection with high-profile agreements, including the overall deal with Jenny Han and first look deal with MACRO on behalf of Amazon Studios. Eve has also served as counsel on numerous award-winning programs, such as Lizzo’s Watch Out for the Big Grrrls. With a deep passion for amplifying diversity, Eve regularly collaborates with organizations to support diverse emerging talent and is the lead attorney representing Coalition of Asian Pacifics in Entertainment (CAPE), whose mission is to advance API representation in entertainment. Eve is recognized as a Rising Star by SuperLawyers and was named “Up Next” on Variety’s Dealmakers Impact Report.



Manpreet Monica Kaur Uppal-Gupta

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Former prosecutor and current Litigator handling White Collar issues. Extensive work prior to entering work with pro bono work ranging from interning at ACLU Racial Justice to International Refugee Agency Protection.



Cierra Newman

Attorney
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Formerly with Orrick LLP, Cierra is an Attorney in Washington, D.C., where she assists financial institutions with a wide range of regulatory, compliance, and privacy matters. While with Orrick, Cierra completed a secondment with Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, where she worked as in-house legal counsel supporting the Morgan Stanley Private Bank. Prior to entering private practice, Cierra served as an Attorney-Advisor to the Office of the Comptroller of Currency (OCC), a federal bank regulator and independent bureau of the U.S. Treasury Department as part of the federal Honors Attorney program, a highly sought after federal entry-level program for attorneys. Cierra is an alumni of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) Pathfinder Program and a member of the DC Bar.



Gurneet Singh

Associate
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Rutgers University (J.D. with highest academic achievement in IP curriculum 2019; Dean's List); University of California, Los Angeles (M.S. in Biomedical Engineering 2009)

Mr. Singh is a patent lawyer in the Jones Day's Intellectual Property Practice, based in the Firm's Silicon Valley Office. He has extensive experience representing leading technology companies in their patent matters. Mr. Singh litigates high-stakes patent cases before federal courts, the International Trade Commission, and the Patent Trial and Appeal Board of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and has drafted and successfully prosecuted hundreds of patents in complex cutting-edge technologies. He has degrees and research experience in electrical engineering and biomedical engineering and also played competitive tennis at the international level. Mr. Singh currently serves on the board of the South Asian Bar Association of Northern California.



Henry E. Floyd, Jr.

General Counsel
The Daniel Initiative

J.D., Thomas M. Cooley Law School, B.A., University of Southern Mississippi

Henry is a civil rights and human rights attorney who advocates for diversity, raises thousands of dollars for Black law students, and fights to provide access to justice to disenfranchised communities. He is a Past President of the Washington Bar Association; Secretary of the Washington Council of Lawyers and Co-Chair of its Judicial Nominations Committee; and Vice President of the National Bar Association. Henry serves on the D.C. Court's Advisory Merit Selection Panel and the ABA's Legal Opportunity Scholarship Committee and is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. He is the recipient of numerous awards including three NBA Presidential Awards, the WBA's Lawyer of the Year Award, and the Daily Record's Leadership in Law: Generation J.D. Award.



Rohit Biswas

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I am part of the board at the South Asian Bar Association in New York as the Vice President of Sponsorships, I am the co-chair of the Immigration Section for the South Asian Bar Association North America, a Board Member for the Gabriel Project Mumbai, and Co-Leader for the Lawyers of Color Affinity group at Kramer Levin. I work on business immigration matters, assisting companies across a variety of industries to obtain immigrant and non-immigrant work visas, temporary work authorizations, and employment-based permanent residence status for employees. I advise on compliance and craft strategies for global mobilities for employees.



Shruthi Reddy

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As Regulatory Counsel Shruthi advises on Accident & Health and Property & Casualty products as well as data privacy and security matters, marketing, and intellectual property. Prior to joining Beazley, Shruthi was Associate Counsel at Selective Insurance and Claims Associate at Chubb. During law school Shruthi was the Symposium Editor for the Connecticut Insurance Law Journal, Vice-President of the Corporate and Securities Law Society, Treasurer of the South Asian Law Society, a mentor in the Women's Law Student Association, and Auction Chair of the Public Interest Law Group. Shruthi is currently the Vice President of Public Relations, and formerly the Vice President of Events and Membership, on the South Asian Bar Association of New York Board



Anna E. Wolfe

Shareholder
McAfee & Taft

J.D., University of Oklahoma College of Law, 2014

In addition to holding the distinction of being the first African-American attorney to be elected a shareholder at the firm, Anna Wolfe also co-chairs the firm's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee and has spearheaded numerous efforts to enhance DEI internally and externally. She's currently working with the state's only HBCU to encourage more of their graduates to go to law school.



Isabela Alvarez

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Isabela represents individuals, small and large businesses and tax exempt entities in a broad range of areas. At her firm, Isabela serves a member of the Diversity and Pro Bono Committees and also serves as a Board member of the Hispanic Bar Association of Pennsylvania. Isabela was named a Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Rising Star in 2023.



Kenneth Baker

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Ken Baker specializes his practice in the restructuring and resolution of commercial mortgage loans and other real estate capital markets matters. He is a native of St. Louis, Missouri.



Kevin Fogle

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Kevin Fogle is a member the private equity mergers and acquisitions practice group in the Atlanta office of Polsinelli. Kevin focuses on a variety of complex business transactions and corporate matters. He advises U.S. and non-U.S. clients, including private companies, multinational companies, and portfolio companies of private equity firms on matters involving middle-market mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, corporate restructuring, and general corporate matters across a diverse array of industries. Working closely with other Polsinelli attorneys, Kevin delivers a range of legal advice to clients through all phases of the business life cycle to help with clients' immediate matters and prepare for future success. Kevin is also dedicated to advancing diversity through his work at Polsinelli and in the community.



Lutfi Kharuf

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Lutfi advises public agencies on constitutional and statutory limitations relating to generating revenue and issuing debt. In this role, Lutfi not only counsels agencies on compliance with applicable law in establishing revenue sources and issuing debt, but also defends agencies and provides amicus support on important issues relating to such limitations. Lutfi is based in BBK's San Diego office and serves as chair of the firm's Recruiting Committee. Lutfi also serves as chair of the Municipal Finance Committee of the California League of Cities, and as a member of the Legal Affairs Committee of the Association of California Water Agencies.



Malcolm C. Tyler

Associate
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J.D., Emory University; B.A., Morehouse (cum laude)

Malcolm enjoys providing pro bono service for clients involving COVID compassionate release litigation and petitioning for discharge upgrade before the Navy Discharge Review Board. Malcom is a member of Friends of Port Chicago National Memorial, a non-profit organization that commemorates the historical significance of the Port Chicago disaster and its impact on African American history and the United States Armed Services.



Maliha Siddiqui

Principal
Siddiqui Family Law

J.D. DePaul University College of Law, B.A. University of Illinois at Chicago [summa cum laude]

Maliha Siddiqui focuses her practice in all areas of divorce and family law, including the allocation of parenting time and responsibilities, child support, maintenance, property division, and domestic violence litigation. In 2021, Maliha opened the doors to Siddiqui Family Law, LLC, a boutique family law practice focused on culturally competent legal services in the Chicagoland area. While in law school, she began her career as a law clerk in the domestic relations division at the Chicago Legal Clinic, a local non-profit organization, and advocated on behalf of clients in domestic violence and divorce proceedings. Since then, she has worked at some of the largest and most prestigious divorce law firms in the country. Maliha currently serves as the President-Elect of the South Asian Bar Association of Chicago and is an executive board member of the Muslim Bar Association of Chicago. Maliha is also a member of the Chicago Bar Association and Illinois State Bar Association.



Alex Chan

Partner/Founder
Devlin Law Firm/DataNovo, Inc.

J.D., Franklin Pierce Law Center, M.S. Columbia University, B.S. University of California, Davis and New York University

Mr. Chan is a Partner at Devlin Law Firm and previously worked at Fish & Richardson, Sheppard Mullin, and Akin Gump. His practice focuses on IP litigation. He is also the co-founder of DataNovo, an analytics company named the “One to Watch” by the Financial Times.

Mr. Chan is a member of California’s Blue Ribbon Commission on the Future of the Bar Exam and Committee of Bar Examiners, and has received recognition for his professional achievements, including “IP Trailblazers & Pioneers” by National Law Journal; ABA’s “On The Rise” Top-40 Lawyers; “IAM Strategy 300” by IAM; “Upstart50” by SF Business Times; “Highly Recommended” for the “Rising Star Innovation Award” by ALM; and “40 under 40” by Silicon Valley Business Journal.



Arrianna Hart

Associate Attorney
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J.D., University at Buffalo School of Law

Ms. Hart was a Discover Law mentor for the University at Buffalo School of Law where she assisted with diversifying the legal community through volunteering with Discover Law Program. She also coordinated programs with law school administrators that focused on law school preparedness, and led workshops on time management as well as navigating the law school experience to aspiring law students of color. In recognition of her commitment to diversifying the legal profession, Ms. Hart received the University at Buffalo School of Law's Hargrave Award.

Ms Hart is also a member of the NAACP Economic Committee and the Minority Bar Association of WNY where she provides support in advising and contributing legal analysis to implement local efforts and support national programs to preserve and expand economic empowerment among African Americans and other communities.



Courtney A. Johnson

Associate
Gibbons P.C.

J.D., Rutgers Law School, 2015

Ms. Johnson has extensive government and regulatory affairs experience, representing clients before municipal bodies and state regulatory agencies. She has also represented pro bono clients regarding constitutional issues. She is the Central Jersey Director for the Garden State Bar Association, New Jersey's oldest and largest professional organization for African American judges, lawyers, and law students, and is active in the Hispanic Bar Association of New Jersey, which focuses on issues affecting the Latinx legal community.



Lauren Brown

Associate
Jones Day

University of Virginia (J.D. 2016); The Ohio State University (B.A. summa cum laude 2013)

Based in Jones Day's New York Office, Ms. Brown practices in the Firm's Business & Tort Litigation Practice and represents clients in complex commercial and mass tort litigation matters. Prior to joining Jones Day, she served as a law clerk in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit and the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona. Ms. Brown serves as Vice President of Membership for the Metropolitan Black Bar Association.



Lelia Parker

Litigation Associate
Gilbert LLP

J.D., University of Baltimore Law (honors), MSW, University of Maryland, B.A., University of Maryland Baltimore County

Ms. Parker joined Gilbert in 2021. She represents individuals and organizations in complex civil litigation. She has an expansive pro bono practice advocating for civil rights and prisoners' rights. Immediately prior to joining Gilbert LLP, Lelia worked as an associate in the Baltimore office of a prominent national law firm.



Shalini (Shali) Goyal

Associate
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The Ohio State University (J.D. cum laude 2017; Order of Barristers; Articles Editor, Ohio State Law Journal; Best Oralist and Best Brief, Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition; Member, Civil Law Clinic; B.S. in Business Administration magna cum laude with honors in Accounting 2011)

Based in Jones Day's Columbus Office, Ms. Goyal practices in the Firm's Business & Tort Litigation Practice. She focuses on complex commercial litigation and regulatory matters involving accounting and internal controls, antitrust, securities, deceptive trade practices, and contract disputes and has represented clients in the finance, energy, and construction industries. She serves as president-elect and is a board member of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Central Ohio and sits on the Columbus Office's Diversity, Inclusion & Advancement Committee.



Shaundricka M. Ranel

Senior Director of Policy, Compliance, and Title IX
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J.D., North Carolina Central University School of Law (honors); M.S.W., University of Connecticut School of Social Work; B.A., Southern Connecticut State University

Ms. Ranel practices in the areas of civil rights and compliance law. She has represented the Prince George's County Child Protective Services in prosecuting child abuse and neglect matters, and as a substance abuse counselor. She has served as Title IX Coordinator for three school districts, overseeing each district's compliance in minimizing discrimination on the basis of sex. Ms. Ranel currently serves as Immediate Past President-Elect of J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association. She is a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., where she was awarded both the 2011 Zeta of the Year Award and Zeta Appreciation Award. Additionally, she has earned the J. Franklyn Bourne Bar Association's 2017 and 2022 President's Award.



Nadine Shu Rong Tan

Associate Clinical Professor
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J.D., USC Gould School of Law, B.S., University of Southern California (magna cum laude)

Nadine Tan began her career as a law clerk to the Honorable S. James Otero (Ret.) of the United States District Court for the Central District of California before practicing at Parker, Milliken, Clark, O'Hara & Samuelian. She was an adjunct professor at USC Gould School of Law and, most recently, she was Associate Counsel at Green Dot Public Schools California. She serves as President-Elect of the Southern California Chinese Lawyers Association and is passionate about improving diversity, equity, and inclusion outcomes in the profession. Nadine was previously selected to the 2020 and 2021 Southern California Super Lawyers "Rising Stars" lists and as an honoree by the Los Angeles County Bar Association for Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month.



Natalia Marte

Associate Attorney
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B.A., Roger Williams University; M.A., John Jay College of Criminal Justice, J.D., University at Buffalo School of Law

Natalia Marte is an experienced attorney who assists clients with a broad range of commercial litigation and labor and employment matters. She also assists with matters focusing on trusts and estates, products liability, white collar crime as well as appellate matters. Natalia serves as a member of the firm's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion community. In addition, she is involved in the community and serves as Deputy Treasurer of the Minority Bar Association and as a board member of the National Black Law Students Association's Northeast Region Advisory Board.



Nelson Pineda Lam

Counsel, Employment
Uber Technologies, Inc.

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Nelson Pineda Lam is an in-house employment counsel at Uber Technologies, Inc., based in San Francisco, where he plays a vital role as a trusted legal partner for various teams including Employee Relations, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI), Talent Acquisition, and Mergers & Acquisitions. He supports critical people initiatives, including Uber's commitment to being an anti-racist company and its compliance obligations as a federal government contractor. He is a program manager for Uber's Racial Equity Leadership Council, leading its internal pay equality initiatives. In addition, Nelson is the President of the Filipino Bar Association of Northern California, and a member of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association and the National Filipino American Lawyers Association.



Pallvi Babbar

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Babbar and Associates P.C.

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Pallvi Babbar, Esq. serves as the owner and principal attorney at Babbar & Associates P.C. Ms. Babbar established her firm in 2016. It is a general practice firm, but her primary practice areas are foreclosure, immigration, and family law. Ms. Babbar has been defending immigrants and providing low-bono and pro-bono legal services to these lower socio-economic populations for more than ten years.



Paula P. Plaza

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Paula has held fellowships in the ABA Dispute Resolution Section and Young Southeast Asian Leadership Initiative through the US State Department. As a University of Michigan DeWitt scholar, she was named Most Valuable Masters of Law Editor in the Michigan Journal of International Law. Paula is the first Filipino to win back-to-back Best Speaker awards at the Stetson International Environmental Law Moot Court Competition in the International and Southeast Asian Rounds. She was a 30 under 30 Game Changers awardee and was named Top 10 Power Millennials. Paula also received the Distinguished Performance Award for pro bono legal aid. She has presented in conferences and published articles for the Asian Development Bank Institute and Association for Conflict Resolution Greater NY.



Raymond Manzo

FTC Investigator
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Raymond Manzo was raised by a single mom in a small town in California. He was the first in his family attend college. He has dedicated his professional career to serving the community and working on pipeline issues in the legal profession. Mr. Manzo has been the President of the San Francisco La Raza Lawyers for the last four years, and is a board member of the Hispanic National Bar Association. He also received awards for community service and volunteer work with youth of color.



Sachin V Java

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Sachin focuses his practice on corporate law matters including mergers and acquisitions, banking and commercial finance, and general business counseling. He assists clients in structuring and negotiating joint ventures, acquisitions, and divestitures, and advises on corporate formation and governance. In addition, he often represents borrowers on acquisition financing, refinancing, and asset-based, cash flow, agented, and syndicated loan transactions. Recognized for his professional achievements, Sachin has been selected as an ABA Business Law Fellow, and named to the Super Lawyers Rising Stars, Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America, and Crain's Cleveland Business 40 Under Forty lists.



Shelly Mittal

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B.A.LL.B (Hons.), Rajiv Gandhi National Law University, Punjab, India; LLM, University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA

Shelly Mittal is a commercial counsel at DocuSign, where she negotiates a high volume of commercial, technology, and data privacy agreements for the financial services, healthcare and SMB segments of the business. She drives growth and efficiencies by collaborating with cross functional teams. She actively promotes DEI efforts within the legal community and is currently serving as the President Elect of South Asian Bar Association of Washington (SABAW). Having had some amazing mentors along her journey, she truly values the power of mentorship and actively spearheaded the scholarship and mentorship programs for SABAW in 2022. Shelly is a foreign-trained attorney who began her second stint at law in the US after clerking for the Supreme Court of India.



Stephanie Chen

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Stephanie Chen practices in business litigation, with experience in healthcare, antitrust, and other complex commercial litigation in both state and federal courts. She has represented clients across various stages of the litigation process, from pre-suit evaluations, to discovery, motion practice, trial, and settlement. She currently serves as Vice President of Communications for the Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association and formerly on the board of Twin Cities Diversity in Practice. Stephanie also maintains an active pro bono practice representing entrepreneurs, artists, and foster care youths.



Ting Cheung

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Ting Cheung focuses her practice on employment law and whistleblower claims. She also handles cases of contractual disputes and sexual violence. Given her native proficiency in Mandarin and Cantonese, and her legal training in Hong Kong and the U.S., Ting understands the cultural nuances in representing Asian American employees and whistleblowers. Outside of work, Ting regularly mentors AAPI and first-generation law students. She has been serving as an Expert on Hong Kong and U.S. matters in the World Bank Group's Women, Business and the Law project, promoting gender equality on the international level. Before joining Sanford Heisler Sharp, Ting practiced law at the Hong Kong Department of Justice, researched human rights in Asia, and interned at the United Nations Headquarters.



Tomi Akinmola

Associate
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J.D., Washington and Lee, B.A., Georgia State University (magna cum laude)

Tomi was an active member of BLSA. She also served as the Chair for her school's Mock Trial Competition, and a Research Assistant to Professor Cary Martin Shelby. She was awarded the Benzanson Award and the Virginia State Bar Family Law Award. She won the Best Brief Award in the Thurgood Marshall National Moot Competition for two consecutive years. She was named the Regional Champion for the Mid-Atlantic Competition and also won the Best Oral Advocate Award. Last year, she coached two teams that advanced to Nationals and each won Best Brief. She continues to coach and mentor students in moot and mock trial competitions. She has been named on the DC Pro Bono Honor Roll for two consecutive years.



Trevor A. Mason

Associate
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J.D., Michigan State University College of Law; M.S., University of the Incarnate Word (w/ distinction); B.A., University of the Incarnate Word (cum laude)

Trevor focuses his practice on providing advice for private clients with regards to wills, trusts, estate administration and other estate planning and probate needs; assisting with a variety of MGA transactions; and assisting lenders and borrowers in the area of banking and finance. He also helps assist clients at nearly every stage of development by drafting documents for corporations, limited liability companies and nonprofits, including organizational documents, resolutions, and purchase agreements. Co-chair, BTBlack Talent Resource Group. Member of Board of Directors, Association for Corporate Growth - West Michigan. Member, Barnes & Thornburg Pro Bono Committee. Member, Floyd Skinner Minority Bar Association. Pro bono attorney, Legal Aid of West Michigan.



Vani Upadhyaya

Associate
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J.D., Fordham Law School, B.A., Fordham University

Vani Upadhyaya focuses her practice on litigation, arbitration, and regulatory enforcement relating to cryptocurrency and blockchain technology. Vani represents companies and individuals in the digital assets space in cutting-edge litigation, and in investigations and enforcement actions by government agencies, such as the SEC, CFTC, DOJ, and state regulators. Vani currently serves on the board of South Asian Bar Association New York (SABANY) as the Vice President of Private Sector Attorneys, where she works on programming and initiatives geared towards the interests of law firm and in-house attorneys.



Varun Aery

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Varun K. Aery is a senior litigation associate focusing on complex litigation and mass torts involving pharmaceutical products in both federal and state courts across the country. He has extensive experience in pre-trial preparation including fact and expert witness preparation, developing direct and cross-examinations, and drafting briefs and dispositive motions. Varun's legal career spans a diverse range of industries, including federal and state government, academia, direct services organizations, and international think tanks. As a law student, he authored four articles published in various law reviews analyzing scope and enforcement of human rights governed by international and regional treaties. Varun is licensed to practice in California, New York, and Washington, D.C.



Victoria Dutcher

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J.D., Mitchell Hamline School of Law (magna cum laude), B.A., University of Minnesota-Twin Cities (summa cum laude with highest distinction)

Victoria Dutcher provides legal advice and counsel on commercial mortgage loans and loan servicing. Prior to her current position, Victoria worked as a real estate and land use attorney for a law firm based in the Twin Cities. Victoria is a board member of the Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association, and currently serves as its Vice President of Membership. Before attending law school, Victoria served two terms of service as an AmeriCorps member with a Twin Cities based nonprofit organization. She also lived and taught in Gwangju, South Korea and Chiang Mai, Thailand for two years.



Walter Goss

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Walter Goss is an associate in Alston & Bird's Corporate & Business Transactions Group. He advises public and private companies across a variety of industries as they seek to merge, acquire, divest, or raise capital.



Ysabelle G. Reyes

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Ysabelle represents insurers in connection with coverage issues and complex claims arising under directors and officers liability, professional liability, and general liability policies. She has experience with underlying exposures presented by a variety of matters, including securities and derivative litigation, SPAC litigation, class actions, and media liability. Beyond her legal work, Ysabelle is passionate about mentoring college students, law students, and fellow immigrants, and does so through various affinity organizations as well as on her own initiative.

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