



Stephanie Xiao
Counsel

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Education

University of Chicago Law School (J.D., 2018) Honors
University of Chicago (B.A., 2015, History) Honors

Clerkships

Hon., Kenneth K. Lee, U.S.
Court of Appeals for the Ninth
Circuit

Hon. Edmond E. Chang, U.S.
District Court for the Northern
District of Illinois

Admissions

California
New York

Stephanie Xiao focuses on complex commercial litigation, managing all aspects of a case for a wide variety of clients.

Prior to joining Hueston Hennigan, she was an associate at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz in New York, where she represented clients in a variety of matters.

During law school, Ms. Xiao was a research assistant for Prof. Anthony Casey. She was also a student attorney with the Mental Health Advocacy Project at the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic and a criminal records intern at Cabrini Green Legal Aid.

Experience

Representing a **Western utility** against numerous lawsuits in multiple jurisdictions across Oregon and California arising out of the 2020 Labor Day Fires. The fires burned over 500,000 acres across at least five counties in Oregon and California and allegedly destroyed over 2,000 structures. In a recent damages-only trial in which the utility faced a nine-figure damages exposure, persuaded a jury to

award just a fraction of what the plaintiffs sought.

Representing the **State of Hawaii** and advising the **Governor** and **Attorney General**, secured a historic global settlement exceeding \$4 billion which—in less than one year—resolved all claims stemming from the catastrophic Aug. 8, 2023 Maui wildfires, one of the largest natural disasters in the state's history. Also serving on Hawaii's Climate Advisory Team, which is assisting with the state's strategy to mitigate the financial impact of climate change in the wake of the fires. (See "Hawaii Inks \$4B Maui Wildfires Deal Ahead of Anniversary," [Law360](#); "Battle with insurers follows \$4.03B Maui fire settlement," [Daily Journal](#); "Who Were the Attorneys Behind the \$4B Hawaii Wildfire Settlement?" [Law.com](#); "The Case for a Climate Impact Fee," [Time](#)).

Secured a favorable plea agreement, including a sentencing recommendation from the Government of probation, for **Marilyn Flynn, the former dean of USC's School of Social Work**, on federal corruption charges in an alleged bribery scheme involving a public official. (See "Marilyn Flynn, ex-USC dean in corruption case with Ridley-Thomas, sentenced to 3 years probation," [Los Angeles Times](#)).

Successfully settled a suit brought by **Palantir Technologies** against a former early investor alleging breach of contract, misappropriation of trade secrets, and other wrongful conduct after defeating a motion for summary judgment.

Representing **dental offices** in a civil investigation regarding PPP loans.

Represented a **consumer finance company** in a multistate attorneys general investigation and consumer protection litigation against state attorney general.

Recognitions

Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America (2026)