



Helen S. Yi

Special Counsel

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“Clear and prompt communication is key to my practice. Litigation can be daunting, so I ensure that I listen to and address all legal questions that clients feel are most important to them.”

Helen Yi serves as regional counsel on behalf of one of the largest global energy corporations in the defense of a variety of personal injury claims throughout the Western Region. She is a team builder who effectively collaborates with general counsel, national coordinating counsel, and local counsel to manage and oversee the diverse cases in her portfolio. Helen is involved in all aspects of the legal defenses, including strategy, discovery, expert witness support, motion practice, trial planning, and settlement negotiations. She is an experienced advocate who provides solid results while keeping her client’s main interests at the forefront.

Prior to serving as regional counsel, Helen’s practice included representing clients in a wide range of civil litigation matters with an emphasis on commercial and business litigation, environmental and real property litigation, contract disputes, products liability, and toxic tort cases. She has litigated complex matters in state and federal courts for global companies. Before private practice, Helen served as an Extern in the Special Education Department for the Alliance for Children’s Rights in Los Angeles.

Representative Experience

Business Litigation

- Defended a global corporation employer in an action brought by an individual involved in a car accident with an employee during work. The case was resolved on favorable terms through informal negotiations with plaintiff’s counsel.
- Defended a global corporation in various premises liability actions, as part of a team of attorneys, obtaining voluntary dismissals of the cases prior to the discovery stage.
- Defended a global corporation in a premises liability action, as part of a team of attorneys, in obtaining a dismissal of the case via a successful motion for summary judgment.

Education

J.D., Cornell Law School, 2009

B.A., University of Southern California, *magna cum laude*, 2005

- Dean’s List
- USC Presidential Scholarship
- National Merit Scholarship

Bar Admissions

New York, 2011
California, 2009

Court Admissions

U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, 2012

Languages

Korean

Publications

- “LGBTQ+ Victory: Considerations for Employers After Supreme Court Holds that Title VII Prohibits Discrimination on the Basis of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity,” Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, *News You Can Use* (June 2020)
- “Is Institutional Academic Freedom on the Decline?” *Campus Legal Advisor* (July 2019)
- “Responding to a Crisis: How Human Resources Can Make Things Better, Not Worse,” Associated General Contractors, *Constructor Magazine*, coauthor (June 2019)
- “Equal Pay Victory for Employees: Employers May Not Use Prior Salary to Justify a Wage Differential Between Male and Female Employees,” Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, *News You Can Use* (Apr. 2018)
- “Oregon Equalizer: While Paycheck Fairness Continues to Stall in Congress, Oregon Legislature Mandates Equity in Compensation,” Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, *News You Can Use* (July 2017)
- “Isn’t One Trial Enough? Jury Award Reversed and Remanded for Insufficient Evidence of Damages in Construction Contract Claim,” Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, *News You Can Use* (Nov. 2016)
- “Everybody Out of the Pool: Ninth Circuit Determines That Only Customarily Tipped Employees May Participate in Tip-Pooling Arrangements Under Fair Labor Standards Act,” Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, *News You Can Use* (Mar. 2016)
- “Effective Use of Legal Resources Plays Significant Role in Managing Risk,” *Campus Legal Advisor* (Sept. 2015)
- “Corporate Designee Depositions Under ORCP 39 C(6): Be Prepared . . . Or Else,” Oregon State Bar Corporate Counsel Section, *Corporate Counselor* (Nov. 2011)

Presentations

- “No Major Renovations: 2020 Oregon Employment Law Update,” Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, Employment Law Seminar (Dec. 2020)
- “Icebergs Lurking Below the Surface: Best Practices for Conducting Unsinkable Workplace Investigations,” Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, Employment Law Seminar (Oct. 2019)
- “Hot Topics and Best Practices for the Shifting Landscape of Employment Law,” Associated General Contractors, AGC Summer Convention (Aug. 2019)
- “The Game is Afoot: Local, State, Federal, Union Update, Including the Equal Pay Act and Compliance,” Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, Employment Law Seminar (Nov. 2018)
- “Employment and Labor Law Update: Top 7¾ Developments in 2017 (and the First Two Months of 2018),” Oregon State Bar, Government Law: Of the People, By the People CLE Seminar (Feb. 2018)
- “It’s a Wild Ride on This Roller Coaster: Local, State, Federal, and Labor Law Updates,” Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, Employment Law Seminar (Nov. 2017)
- “Evil Spells and Fairy Tales: State, Federal, and Union Updates for 2016,” Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, Employment Law Seminar (Nov. 2016)
- “Working with Law Enforcement,” National School Boards Association, School Law Practice Seminar (Oct. 2016)
- “Theories of Discrimination, Harassment and Retaliation,” Willamette Valley Higher Education Consortium, Management Development Seminar (Dec. 2015)
- “Oregon and Federal Disability Laws,” Oregon State Bar Labor & Employment Section, Labor and Employment Law Boot Camp (Nov. 2015)
- “Another Dimension of Sight, Sound, and Mind: The Bermuda Triangle of Family Leave, Reasonable Accommodations, and Workers’ Compensation,” Miller Nash Graham & Dunn, Employment Law Seminar (Oct. 2015)
- “Real Estate Foreclosures in a Commercial Context,” Oregon Paralegal Association Debtor/Creditor Specialty Group, Quarterly Meeting (Oct. 2012)

Recognition & Honors

- Selected for inclusion as an Oregon Super Lawyers—Rising Star, 2012-2019

Personal Activities

Cody enjoys trying new restaurants, collecting wine (particularly Walla Walla syrahs), crushing escape rooms and pub trivia with his wife, and playing Magic: the Gathering and watching movies with his kids. He is an avid supporter of Tottenham Hotspur F.C. and the Denver Broncos. He also enjoys powerlifting and has a barbell squat PR of 3x1 at 395.