



Esther E. Cho

Partner -- Co-Chair, Financial Services Litigation & Enforcement

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Esther Cho is a seasoned litigator with a particular focus on securities and regulatory matters. She regularly represents financial services firms in state and federal court and before arbitral tribunals in proceedings involving violations of state and federal securities laws and related rules and regulations. Esther is a member of Stradley Ronon's board of directors.

Co-chair of the financial services litigation and enforcement practice, Esther has defended institutions and individuals in connection with regulatory investigations and enforcement actions. She currently serves as the partner-in-charge of the firm's Southern California office.

Esther represents clients in mortgage banking matters regarding loan origination and servicing; claims of wrongful foreclosure; unfair business practices and payment misapplication; lien priority disputes; and claims under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act (FDCPA), Truth in Lending Act (TILA) and Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act (RESPA).

In her employment practice, Esther argues on behalf of employers in cases related to unfair competition laws, harassment, discrimination, breach of contract, retaliation, defamation, hiring and wrongful termination, constructive discharge, privacy, failure to pay wages and the California Labor Code.

Memberships

- Member, California Editorial Advisory Board, *Law360*
- Member, FINRA National Arbitration and Mediation Committee
- Member, Orange County Asian American Bar Association
- Member, Stradley Ronon Inclusion Committee

Recognitions

- Women of Influence: Attorneys, *Los Angeles Business Journal* (2025-26)
- Leaders of Influence: Minority Attorneys, *Los Angeles Business Journal* (2025-26)
- LA500, *Los Angeles Business Journal* (2025-26)

Services

- Financial Services Litigation & Enforcement
- Securities & Regulatory Enforcement
- Employment
- Litigation
- Complex Commercial & Class Action Litigation
- Trial Practice

Education

- Loyola Law School, Los Angeles (J.D.)
- University of California, Los Angeles (B.A.)

Admissions

- California
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Central District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California

- Legal Visionaries, *LA Times Studios* (2025)
- Legal Visionaries, *LA Times Business of Law* (2024)
- Inspirational Women Award: Professional Services, *Los Angeles Times* (2024)
- Top 100 Lawyers, *Daily Journal* (2024)
- Leaders of Influence: Litigators & Trial Attorneys, *Los Angeles Business Journal* (2024, 2026)
- The *Lawdragon* 500 Leading Litigators in America (2024-26)
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California

Languages

- Korean (conversational)

Featured Speaking Engagements

- Panelist, “Early Dispute Resolution: Best Practices & Principles,” SIFMA C&L Conference 2026
- Panelist, “Avoiding Ethical Minefields in the FINRA Forum,” Practising Law Institute’s Securities Arbitration 2025
- Speaker, “Modern Negotiations: Embracing Change and Best Practices for Success,” SIFMA C&L Conference 2024
- Speaker, “Litigation and Arbitration Update,” SIFMA C&L Regional 2022
- Speaker, “2022 Capital Markets Litigation and Regulatory Outlook,” CLE Webinar
- Speaker, “Tipping the Scales Webinar: A Tale of Two Attorneys,” Community of Legal Innovators 2020
- Speaker, “Increasing Diversity at Law Firms & In-House: The Role We All Play,” Women, Diversity & Change Summit