

# Trial Lawyers



PROFILED:

# OLIVIA S. CHOE

Milbank LLP





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**Trial Lawyers** 



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### PERSONAL BIOGRAPHY

Olivia Choe is a litigation partner at Milbank LLP, where she represents global financial institutions, public companies, asset managers and individuals in high-stakes government enforcement matters and complex litigation. Before joining Milbank, she served as the chief litigation counsel for the US Securities and Exchange Commission, overseeing the agency's nationwide litigation and trial programme. She also previously served as a federal prosecutor in the Southern District of Florida, where she investigated, prosecuted and tried a wide array of criminal cases. She has successfully first-chaired both civil and criminal federal jury trials in multiple jurisdictions.

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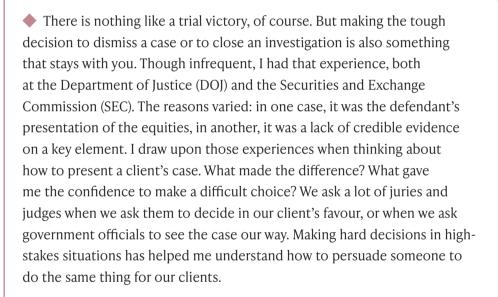


#### **OLIVIA S. CHOE**



## Q&A WITH OLIVIA S. CHOE

#### What standout moments in your career have significantly shaped your professional journey?



#### Could you describe your approach to tackling complex legal challenges? What principles or philosophies guide your work?

• Keep things simple and tell a story. As a trial lawyer, I take complex facts and arcane legal principles and turn them into a compelling story - one that a lay jury can not only understand but can also get behind. I adopt the same approach when handling white-collar investigations; the audience might be different, but the goal is the same. There are a lot of things I do to tackle a complex litigation, especially if we are gearing up for trial. Reading your writing out loud is often illuminating; you can hear the sticky spots right away. It is also worth spending time to see if you can come up with a really good analogy or metaphor, especially one that can be expressed





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visually, for a difficult concept or a complicated set of facts. And to this day, I like to practice my opening statements in front of my kids.



## What qualities and values do you believe are essential for building strong, trusting relationships with clients?

◆ First, clients want to know that you are in their corner. This does not mean sugar-coating bad news; sometimes it is part of the job to deliver tough love, and most clients want direct, frank and honest advice. But they want to know that you are providing that advice because you are on their side, and you want them to succeed – whatever success looks like. Second, it is important to accept clients as they are. Every client is different. Some are comfortable with a higher level of risk than others. Some clients never want to set foot in a courtroom, even if their chances of winning are high. And some clients have a pressing concern – unrelated to the facts or the law at issue – that you need to always keep top-of-mind. My job is to embrace these individual priorities and idiosyncrasies while pursuing the client's goals. ■

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#### REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

- Representing NVIDIA and its chief executive in a securities class action lawsuit, in Nvidia Corporation Securities Litigation (N.D. Ca.).
- Successfully advising a global asset management firm in connection with a financial regulatory investigation regarding marketing and execution of a complex options trading strategy, which concluded in a closing letter.
- Representing a global brokerage and fintech platform in a FINRA investigation regarding registration and data privacy issues.
- Representing an individual in connection with a CFTC investigation into a foreign currency trading fund.
- Representing a global brokerage and fintech company in a CFTC investigation regarding compliance with the impartial access rule governing swap execution facilities.
- Representing a Big Four accounting firm in a PCAOB investigation of allegedly deficient audit committee communications.

