



Florence T. Chen Associate

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Overview

Florence T. Chen represents plaintiffs and defendants in high stakes civil litigation matters across the country. Ms. Chen is skilled in a wide range of complex litigation areas across industries such as retail, insurance, financial services, oil and gas, media, and technology, as well as across practice areas such as breach of contract, trade secret misappropriation, defamation, partnership disputes, mass torts, personal injury, and civil rights. Ms. Chen's clients are as diverse as her litigation expertise; she successfully represents Fortune 500 companies, small businesses, and individuals.

Most recently, Ms. Chen is a key member of the Susman Godfrey team that has filed a \$1.6 billion dollar defamation lawsuit against Fox News Media on behalf of Dominion Voting Systems. This case has attracted widespread media attention from outlets such as the [New York Times](#), [Washington Post](#), [CNBC](#), [The Associated Press](#) and [LA Times](#), among many others. Ms. Chen is also litigating similar cases on behalf of Dominion against Rudy Giuliani, Mike Lindell, MyPillow, Sidney Powell, One American News Network, and Newsmax.

Wins

Ms. Chen and a team of lawyers from Susman Godfrey represented energy trading company, Vitol, in a contract dispute in which the team [won a major victory for Vitol in \\$4 billion litigation](#). A federal court in San Juan, Puerto Rico rejected PREPA's claims to void six fuel-oil supply contracts and recover \$3.89 billion. The court also ruled that Vitol was entitled to recover \$28.4 million, plus interest, on its counterclaim against PREPA. Read more in [Law360's coverage](#) and [The American Lawyer's award of Litigators of the Week](#).

Ms. Chen represented international oil and gas company, Anadarko Petroleum, in a series of lawsuits involving contractual indemnity, insurance coverage, and personal injury claims. Ms. Chen briefed, argued, and won an opposition to a motion to dismiss in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, which resulted in a major insurance company remaining in the lawsuit. The cases later resolved on confidential terms.

As counsel for Mostyn Law Firm, Ms. Chen successfully defeated a \$40 million breach of contract claim brought by a lawyer seeking bonus and compensation in connection with the transvaginal mesh multidistrict litigation. Ms. Chen prevailed on summary judgment as to the Plaintiff's claims, obtained a final arbitral award dismissing all of the Plaintiff's claims, and the Plaintiff recovered *nothing*.

In a separate case, Ms. Chen defended another law firm against breach of contract claims brought by a financial services company. Ms. Chen successfully opposed a motion for summary judgment and the case later resolved on confidential terms on the eve of trial.

Ms. Chen second-chaired a two-week jury trial in a case involving claims of partnership formation, breach of

contract, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, trade secret misappropriation, and tortious interference with contracts. Representing the defendants, Ms. Chen directed and cross-examined witnesses, briefed and argued the jury charge conference, and also argued part of closing. Over the course of the fiercely contested case, Ms. Chen also briefed, argued, and won several hearings. Due to Ms. Chen's efforts, the plaintiff was limited to recovering only 8% of total damages sought.

Ms. Chen was appointed by U.S. District Judge Jeffrey Brown to serve as pro bono counsel in a prisoner civil rights case. Ms. Chen ran this case, taking and defending key depositions, and arguing at several hearings. After briefing, arguing, and winning a key motion to compel, Ms. Chen successfully mediated the case to secure a favorable settlement for her client.

Background

Ms. Chen joined Susman Godfrey after clerking for Judge Debra Ann Livingston of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Prior to clerking, Ms. Chen served as a fellow for the Public Interest Law Initiative and as an associate board member for Chicago non-profit, Life Span Center for Legal Services and Advocacy. During law school, she served as Managing Editor for the *Columbia Law Review* and as a judicial extern for Judge Edmond E. Chang of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

Ms. Chen spent four years in Hong Kong as an investment banker prior to attending law school. She previously studied finance and international studies through the Huntsman Program in International Studies and Business, a dual-degree program with the Wharton School and the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania.

Education

Columbia Law School (J.D.)

University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton School (B.S. in Economics, Concentration in Finance, *magna cum laude*)

University of Pennsylvania, The College of Arts and Sciences (B.A., International Studies, *magna cum laude*)

Clerkship

Law Clerk to the Honorable Debra Ann Livingston, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

Honors and Distinctions

[On the Rise](#), *Texas Lawyer*, 2022 (ALM)

Managing Editor, *Columbia Law Review*

Kirkland & Ellis LLP Diversity Fellowship

Best in Class Award, Torts

Teaching Fellow, Torts

James Kent Scholar

Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar

