



Shiao Yen Chin-Dennis

Managing Partner, Portland Office, Chair of
Firmwide Diversity Committee

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OVERVIEW

Shiao Yen Chin-Dennis provides business-focused legal solutions, regularly working with domestic and multinational companies on corporate matters and corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, post-acquisition integration, joint ventures, restructuring, strategic relationships, corporate governance, formation and other international transactions.

Shiao Yen regularly counsels corporate clients on mergers and acquisitions, including private equity transactions. She has extensive experience working on international corporate and cross-border matters, particularly in the Asia Pacific region, including market entry, expansion and exit. She has represented multiple inbound Asian investors in U.S. market entry. She handles global subsidiary governance for several multinational companies and also regularly represents companies in contract management and international commercial transactions matters. In addition to corporate matters, Shiao Yen has experience with executive employment matters in the Asia Pacific region, including employment agreements; transfers of employees; and trade secret, non-compete and non-solicitation agreements.

Shiao Yen is a founding faculty member of the firm's mini-MBA program, an innovative professional development training program designed to orient associates to key business concepts that are integral to our clients' business success.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining K&L Gates, Shiao Yen practiced as the corporate counsel responsible for all corporate legal matters pertaining to SAS Institute Inc.'s regional offices and subsidiaries in the Asia-Pacific region, including its R&D centers. She was a member of the SAS global commercial transaction and corporate affairs legal team. Prior to practicing law, she managed the World Trade Center North Carolina, including management of international trade delegations, and advocacy on international business issues and policies.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2023 League of Minority Voters' Civil Rights Award for K&L Gates Portland

- Recognized by *Chambers USA* for Corporate/M&A in Oregon (2021 and 2022)
- 2020 League of Minority Voters' Diversity & Inclusion Award for K&L Gates Portland (played an instrumental role)
- Patriot Award, U.S. Office of the Secretary of Defense (2019)
- Leadership Award, API Forward (2019)
- Certified Ambassador, Greater Portland Inc. (2018 - present)
- Nominated for the inaugural 2018 Changing Lawyer Award at the *International Legal Technology Association Annual Conference*, recognizing and celebrating her unwavering commitment to client service and visionary approach to the disruption of the traditional legal practice.
- 2016 Women of Vision, *Daily Journal of Commerce*
- 2016 Women of Influence, *Portland Business Journal*
- 2015 Global Leader Award for K&L Gates (played an instrumental role)
- 2014 Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (2014 Fellow)

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

APPOINTMENTS

- National District Export Council (Steering Committee Member, Pacific North Region)
- National District Export Council Trade Policy & Legislative Affairs Committee (Chair, Asia Subcommittee)
- Oregon District Export Council (Chair and Member, appointed by the US Secretary of Commerce)
- Oregon-China Sister State Committee (Member, appointed by the Office of the Senate President for the State of Oregon)
- North Carolina District Export Council (Member, appointed by the US Secretary of Commerce, 2005 - 2011)

ASSOCIATIONS

- Oregon Business and Industry (Executive Committee and Board Member, 2021 – present)
- Boy Scouts of America, Cascade Pacific Council (Board Member, 2018 - present)
- Green Empowerment (Board Member, 2018 - 2019)
- International Association for Contract & Commercial Management (Member)
- International Bar Association (former Corporate Counsel Forum Committee Member)
- Oregon Asian Pacific American Bar Association (Member)

- National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (Member)
- Oregon State Bar Association, International Law Section (former Nominating Committee Member)
- North Carolina Bar Association (Member, former Treasurer and Officer, and Mentorship Chair for the International Law Section)
- Professional Human Resources (PHR) Certification
- Technology Association of Oregon (Member, International Community)

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

- 2020 Women on Boards, Oregon Leadership Committee (Member)
- Eleventh and Twelfth Annual Career Strategies Conference, Corporate Counsel Women of Color (K&L Gates Representative)
- K&L Gates Firmwide Diversity Committee (Member)
- Women's Leadership Alliance of Greater Portland & SW Washington (Founding Member & Advisory Council Member, 2014 - present)
- Japan-America Society of Oregon (Women's Leadership Council, 2018 - present; Board Member, 2016 - 2018)
- Asian Pacific Islander Chamber of Commerce of Oregon (Co-Founder, Board Member, and President, 2022 – present)
- Northwest China Council (Pro Bono Counsel)
- League of Minority Voters (Pro Bono Counsel)
- Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (2014 Fellow)
- International Women's Forum (Member)
- International Trade Education Minority Initiative, City of Durham, North Carolina (former Member)
- American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina (former Board Member)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Panelist, "CEO Diversity Forum," Partners in Diversity, December 2020
- "Return to Work – Practical Employment Law Advice When Managing Employees During the COVID-19 Pandemic," Financial Executives International, June 2020
- "Finding Your Voice and Leading From Within," University of Portland, January 2020

- “The Pitch and Book of Business: Get the Most of the Outside Counsel and Corporate Counsel Relationship,” National Bar Association Corporate Law Section, Gateway to Success Conference, March 2018
- “Global Leadership Forum,” API Forward Panel Discussion, October 2016
- “How to do an Effective Pitch for Business: Mock Pitch Session for Law Firms,” Corporate Counsel Women of Color (CCWC) Conference Panel Discussion, September 2016
- “How do we Tackle the Stereotypes as Asian Pacific American Women?,” Oregon Asian Pacific American Bar Association Panel Discussion, September 2016
- “19th Annual Opportunities for Law in Oregon (OLIO) Orientation,” Panelist, August 2016
- “Mitigating Risks of Export,” Export Council of Oregon and U.S. Commercial Service Panel Discussion, October 2015
- “Cross-Border Acquisitions by Private Enterprises in the Current Economic Environment: The Old Obstacles and the New Opportunities,” ABA New York Spring International Law Meeting, 2012
- “The Top Five Tips To Help Your Clients Do Business Internationally,” North Carolina Bar Association, International Law and Practice, 2012
- “Doing Business Internationally — A Primer for Oregon Businesses,” Oregon Business Magazine, Law Supplement, August 2011
- “Intellectual Property Licensing and Confidentiality/Non-Disclosure Agreements,” School of Textiles at North Carolina State University, 2010 and 2011
- “The Legalities of Doing Business in China,” National Business Institute, 2010
- “Doing Business in China Forum,” MBA Program, Kenan-Flagler Business School, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2007

EDUCATION

- M.B.A., Campbell University, 2007
- J.D., Campbell University, Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law, 2005
- M.S., North Carolina State University, 1998 (*in Ed, Concentrations: Psychometrics, Cognitive Styles and Training and Development*)
- B.S., Auburn University, 1993

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of North Carolina
- Bar of Oregon

LANGUAGES

- Chinese (Cantonese)
- Chinese (Mandarin)
- Hakka
- Malay

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- May 2022, May 2022 Accolades
- January 2022, January 2022 Accolades
- 11 November 2020, Congratulations to Our Diverse and Women Lawyers
- June 2018, Navigating HR Issues Within a Cross-Border M&A Transaction

NEWS & EVENTS

- 1 June 2023, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2023 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 6 October 2022, K&L Gates Welcomes Real Estate Of Counsel in Portland
- 1 June 2022, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2022 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 26 May 2022, Leading Through the Pandemic and Beyond, Hosted by Technology of Oregon (TAO) Leader Launchpad
- 24 May 2021, Chambers USA 2021 Guide Recognizes K&L Gates Corporate Practice, Lawyers Among Leaders
- 26 January 2021, K&L Gates Welcomes Intellectual Property Partner in Portland
- 2 November 2020, Numerous K&L Gates Diverse and Women Lawyers Recognized for Leadership and Legal Accomplishments
- 27 July 2020, K&L Gates to be Honored with Liberty and Hope Award from Oregon League of Minority Voters
- 4 October 2019, K&L Gates, Numerous Lawyers Honored for Diversity, Legal Leadership

MEDIA MENTIONS

- Mentioned, "Meet the Portland Business Journal's 2022 Executives of the Year," *Portland Business Journal*, 7 March 2022
- Quote, "The Gathering Storm," *Oregon Business* magazine, September 2020

- Quote, “The Remote Lawyer,” *Oregon Business* magazine, June 2020
- Article, “I’ve Broken Many Ceilings,” *Oregon State Bar Bulletin*, February/March 2020
- Interview, “How Oregon Works: Why the law profession will be upended by AI,” *Portland Business Journal*, January 2020
- Interview, “Faces of the List,” *Portland Business Journal*, 10 January 2020
- Quote, “A Robot at the Bench,” *Oregon Business* magazine, November 2019

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Technology Transactions and Sourcing
- Corporate Governance
- Employment Issues in Business Transactions
- Human Resource Advice and Compliance
- Maritime
- Private Equity Transactions

INDUSTRIES

- Advertising and Marketing
- Agribusiness
- Artificial Intelligence
- Consumer Products
- Data Analytics
- Financial Services
- Food and Beverage
- General Manufacturing
- Hardware and Semiconductors
- Manufacturing
- Manufacturing Technologies
- Private Equity

- Technology
- Transportation (Manufacturing)

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

M&A/Joint Ventures

- Represents a technology company and information provider for automated vehicle applications in its investment and joint venture in China
- Represented a closely-held private equity firm in its acquisition of an industrial parts manufacturer in Indiana
- Represented a marine and ship industrial repair company located in San Diego, CA in connection with the sale of the company to large ship-building company
- Represented a global public relations and communications agency in its acquisition of a company with locations and operations in New York, California, and Utah
- Represented as local counsel for a global energy public conglomerate with the purchase of a surface mining manufacturing company in a transaction worth approximately \$1.28 billion
- Represented a U.S. technology services and outsourcing company in the acquisition of the India operations and US subsidiary of one of the largest construction company in North America
- Represented Vigor Industrial LLC, an Oregon-based shipbuilding, shiprepair, and industrial marine service provider, in its sale to private equity firms The Carlyle Group and Stellex Capital Management
- Represented a leading producer of high quality fence boards with the sale of the company
- Represented the original founder of an Oregon-based company operating a video licensing platform, storyboarding and online film making community, in purchasing back 100% of the shares of the company from Malaysia parent/investor
- Represented a regulatory and consumer education solutions company for retailers and manufacturers, in connection with its acquisition by a global software company
- Represented a technology company that designs, manufactures, and supports microscope technology in certain international corporate matters as well as post-acquisition integration in multiple international jurisdictions in Asia and Europe
- Represented OIA Global Logistics SCM and Oregon International Air Freight Company as international corporate counsel, including due diligence for international transactions and post-acquisition operations integration
- Represented a company that provides specialized workforce solutions in its acquisition of a workforce company, and its post-acquisition integration in multiple international jurisdictions (Canada, Asia, Latin America and Europe)
- Represented a Chinese medical device public company in investment in an Oregon company

- Represented a multi-franchise restaurant conglomerate in a Chinese joint venture
- Represented a ship-building and ship repair company, in connection with its acquisition of a metal fabricator and systems integrator
- Represented a ship-building and ship repair company, with the private placement of equity to large private equity firm
- Represented SAS Institute Inc. in its acquisition of two software companies, with operations in China and India

General and International Corporate

- Acts as outside general counsel for a global public relations and communications firm, including its international operations
- Represents a global machining company in its commercial and corporate matters related to commercial agreements, international market entry and expansion, international corporate restructuring, international distributor agreements, etc.
- Represented SAS Institute Inc. as international corporate counsel, specifically in international corporate governance, international subsidiary matters, market entry, expansion and exit, and addressing complex cross-borders issues
- Represented Plexis Healthcare System in exploration of market entry
- Represented a public company that provides specialized workforce solutions in managing its international subsidiary matters and corporate cross border issues in multiple jurisdictions including India, Mexico, Colombia, Chile, Costa Rica and Panama
- Represented Chinese investor in its formation of e-commerce technology company in Oregon and the e-commerce company

Commercial Transactions

- Represents a global leading communications hardware and project solutions provider regarding its commercial transactions such as reseller and distribution agreements
- Represents a worldwide transportation, supply chain management, and packaging solutions provider in its commercial transactions
- Represents a global logistics company in drafting, review and negotiation of its customer and supplier agreements, 3PL and 4PL agreements, and provide commercial agreements legal support of same
- Represented a global software company in its standardization and localization of commercial and licensing agreements for use in international jurisdictions