

CHARISSA C. HUANG

Shareholder

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PRACTICES

Commercial Litigation

Employment Litigation

Labor and Employment Law

Personal Injury and Wrongful Death

Plaintiff's Contingency Cases

Business and Employment

Plaintiff's Product Liability

Product Liability

Work-Related Accidents

EDUCATION

University of Michigan (B.A., English Language and Literature, and B.M., Piano Performance with honors, 2006)

Northwestern University (J.D., 2011)

ATTORNEY

Charissa is a dedicated advocate for individuals and businesses navigating complex workplace issues, high-stakes disputes, and moments of uncertainty. She represents people who have faced discrimination, retaliation, sexual harassment, and abuse of power in the workplace and educational settings. Charissa is known for her practical, strategic approach—helping clients identify their best legal options with clarity and confidence.

Her practice focuses primarily on representing both employees and organizations in employment litigation, and negotiating severance and compensation packages for C-suite executives and other professionals. Whether pursuing justice through litigation or resolving matters discreetly through negotiation, Charissa is committed to achieving meaningful results that align with her clients' personal and professional goals.

In addition to her employment practice, Charissa takes on select, high-profile matters involving violations of civil rights, defamation, and contractual issues. She has represented clients across diverse industries, including education, manufacturing, law, finance, and non-profit sectors, in both state and federal courts.

Earlier in her career, Charissa built a respected record in personal injury and wrongful death litigation, securing significant recoveries for Michigan families. She was recognized annually by Super Lawyers magazine as a "Rising Star" – an honor awarded to no more than 2.5% of attorneys in Michigan – for personal injury law for 2016 through 2022, and for employment law in 2023 and 2024.

Charissa's dedication to justice extends beyond her legal work. She currently serves on the Boards of the Grand Rapids Public Schools Foundation and the Grand Rapids LGBTQ+ Healthcare Consortium. Additionally, in 2025, she was appointed by the Governor to serve on the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission, which enforces standards to ensure that all individuals, regardless of income, receive competent legal counsel, and reviews and approves funding plans for public defense services across Michigan.

ADMITTED

State Bar of Michigan, 2011

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan, 2011

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, 2020

NOTEWORTHY

Benchmark Litigation Future Star, 2026

Grand Rapids Magazine Top Lawyers, 2025

Super Lawyers Rising Star for Employment Litigation: Plaintiff, 2024

Listed as GR Magazine "Top Lawyer" - Personal Injury, 2022

Selected as a "40 Under 40 Business Leader" by Grand Rapids Business Journal, 2021

Selected for the "40 & Under List" by Benchmark Litigation, 2019-2023, in the areas of Labor and Employment, Commercial and Transactions, Product Liability and Recall

Listed as a "Rising Star" in Michigan Super Lawyers 2016-2022 - Personal Injury General: Plaintiff

Listed as a Michigan Super Lawyer "Rising Star" 2023 - Employment Litigation - Plaintiff

Listed in Michigan Lawyers Weekly's Women in the Law, Class of 2015

Past Board Member, State of Michigan Women's Lawyer Association

Court Appointed Special Advocate for Abused and Neglected Children (CASA)

AFFILIATIONS

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan - Bench/Bar Steering Committee

State Bar of Michigan, District C - Character & Fitness Committee

Michigan Asian Pacific American Bar Association

West Michigan Branch of the ACLU - Lawyers' Committee

Hillman Advocacy Program, West Michigan Chapter of the Federal Bar Association - Steering Committee

Grand Rapids Public Schools Foundation, Board of Directors

Progressive Women's Alliance of West Michigan, Board of Directors

Grand Rapids Bar Association, Past Trustee