

# 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 an attorney who helps real people, ordinary families, and businesspeople seeking practical solutions.

Charissa represents people who are survivors of sexual harassment and abuse, discrimination, and retaliation at work and school. Charissa provides her clients with honest assessments of their best legal options during times of uncertainty and crisis. Depending on the goals and needs of each client, sometimes this means aggressively pursuing legal action against employers or others who have abused their positions of power, in state and federal courts. Other times this means negotiating the terms of severance agreements, or fair compensation for what her clients have had to go through. Charissa has represented employees of small and large businesses, public and private educational institutions, and non-profit organizations. Charissa holds a special interest in civil rights, and she has advocated for people at all stages of life including kids and teens, those new to the workforce and young professionals, and seasoned professionals and executives.

Families who have lost loved ones due to the negligence of others in catastrophic accidents turn to Charissa to pursue their legal interests. Since 2016, Charissa has been recognized every year as a "Rising Star" in the area of personal injury by Super Lawyers magazine, which is an honor conferred upon only the top 2.5 percent of attorneys in Michigan who are either under the age of 40 or within their first 10 years of practice. Charissa and her legal team have had the privilege of obtaining substantial justice for numerous Michigan families who have lost their loved ones in wrongful death cases, including compensation in the millions of dollars to surviving family members.

#### 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

Charissa also serves as trusted counsel for a variety of business clients in complex commercial litigation matters. She is well-versed in both defending against and pursuing claims related to breach of contract, tortious interference with business relationships, defamation, conversion, and fraud in state and federal courts. Charissa's business clients have included local and international manufacturing companies and distributors, law firms, financial institutions, and proprietors of small businesses.

Charissa is passionate about giving back to the West Michigan community. Charissa has served as pro bono counsel through the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan's pro bono case assignment panel. In addition, Charissa is a board member of Grand Rapids Pride Center, which is an inclusive center that empowers the LGBTQ community through supportive services. Charissa has also served on the City of Grand Rapids' Housing Appeals Board by mayoral appointment since 2018.

### NOTEWORTHY

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)

#### **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

American Bar Association (Member, Section on: Litigation) State Bar of Michigan (Member, Section on: Workers' Compensation Law) Grand Rapids Bar Association West Michigan Branch of the ACLU (Lawyers' Committee) Hillman Advocacy Program, West Michigan Chapter of the Federal Bar Association (Steering Committee)



#### **CHARISSA C. HUANG**