

KIRA L. SUYEISHI

Attorney at Law

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Biography

Kira L. Suyeishi is an associate attorney at Ireland Stapleton with a diverse commercial litigation and regulatory practice. Ms. Suyeishi defends and prosecutes complex commercial disputes and advises clients on all aspects of regulatory law.

Ms. Suyeishi joined Ireland Stapleton after serving as a law clerk to the Honorable Chief Judge Alan M. Loeb of the Colorado Court of Appeals. Ms. Suyeishi was awarded a full-tuition Chancellor's Scholarship to the University of Denver Sturm College of Law and was inducted into the Order of St. Ives (top 10%) upon graduation.

During law school, Ms. Suyeishi served as a judicial extern to the Honorable Christine M. Arguello of the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado and to the Honorable Nancy E. Rice of the Colorado Supreme Court and was a senior editor for the *Denver University Law Review*. Ms. Suyeishi also represented indigent clients as a student attorney with the University of Denver Law's Civil Litigation Clinic and served as President of the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association. Ms. Suyeishi is a member of the Thompson G. Marsh Inn of Court, a professional association of attorneys devoted to supporting excellence, civility, professionalism, and ethics in the practice of law.

Ms. Suyeishi maintains a robust *pro bono* practice, including representing multiple clients in petitioning for clemency through the Clemency Project 2014, resulting in President Obama granting clemency to one client and reducing his sentence significantly. Ms. Suyeishi also volunteers with various legal nights and represents clients in asylum cases and eviction cases.

Legal Experience

- Successfully represented multiple businesses in Denver District Court appealing the decisions of municipal agencies that had denied the businesses licenses, including winning an appeal of a denial of a Retail (recreational) marijuana license – the first such win in Denver.
- Trial counsel in obtaining a complete plaintiff's verdict for a commercial landlord and an award of attorney fees.
- Obtained variances for multiple clients, both commercial and residential, before the Denver Board of Adjustment for Zoning Appeals.
- Successfully rezoned an area of Denver by guiding a client through the public legislative process.



Practice Areas

Government Relations
& Regulatory Affairs

Litigation

Education

University of Denver
Sturm College of Law J.D., 2013
Order of St. Ives (Top 10%)

Boston College B.A., Political Science
2008, *magna cum laude*

Honors & Awards

Chancellor's Scholar – Full-Tuition
Merit Scholarship to DU Law

2017 Bruce B. Johnson Outstanding
Young Alumni Award, University of
Denver Sturm College of Law

2017 Governor Ralph Carr Award –
Asian Pacific American Bar
Association of Colorado

2013 Outstanding Graduating Student
Leader Award

Most Outstanding 2L Day Student

2012 Outstanding Student
Leader Award

2012 Most Innovative DU Law
Program Award

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- Won clemency for a pro bono client serving a sentence as a nonviolent drug offender. President Obama commuted the client's sentence, reducing it significantly and moving up the client's release date by over seven years.

Presentations & Publications

- Co-Presenter, *The Impact of Legalized Marijuana*, Metropolitan State University of Denver, 2015
- Co-Presenter, *Dentists & Dental Hygienists: The Disciplinary Process and How To Avoid It*, 2015
- *Consent Forms and Consent Formalism*, 2013 Wis. L. Rev. 751 (with Nancy Leong), 2013
- *Consent Forms and Consent Formalism*, Presented to University of Denver Law Faculty, July 18, 2012

Memberships

- Colorado Bar Association
- Denver Bar Association
- Asian Pacific American Bar Association
 - ✓ Board of Directors
 - ✓ Judicial Nominating Committee

Community Involvement

- Volunteer, Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network, 2017 – Present
- Volunteer, Clemency Project 2014, 2015-2017
- Member, Thompson G. Marsh Inn of Court
- Mentor, Law School Yes We Can
- Board Member, Associates Advisory Board – Legal Aid Foundation of Colorado
- Board Member, University of Denver Sturm College of Law Alumni Council, 2013-2015
- Member, Sisters in Law

Media

- Featured in Law Week Colorado, "Denver Lawyer Wins Clemency Petition for Pro Bono Client," February 13, 2017

Honors & Awards

2011 Minoru Yasui Scholarship
Recipient – Asian Pacific American
Bar Association of Colorado

Academic Excellence Awards in First-
Year Legal Writing, Advanced Legal
Writing, and Constitutional Litigation
Courses

Admissions

Admitted to practice in Colorado
U.S. District Court for the District of
Colorado

