



A. Elizabeth Underwood

SENIOR COUNSEL

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RELATED SERVICES

- Intellectual Property Litigation
- Product Liability
- Environmental & Toxic Tort
- Commercial Litigation
- Casualty

OFFICES

- San Diego
- New York
- Indianapolis

OVERVIEW

Elizabeth Underwood represents clients in complex commercial, product liability, personal injury, environmental, intellectual property in state and federal court throughout the United States. Her experience spans various industries, including drug and medical device; cosmetics; oil, energy, and gas; agriculture; food and beverage; automotive; biotechnology; banking and finance; internet and technology; healthcare; real estate; higher education; and aviation and defense.

Elizabeth is a former litigation partner in the Indianapolis and Los Angeles offices of an Am Law 100 law firm, where she managed litigations from New York to California, and was a member of national trial teams for various biomedical and chemical corporate clients. She also regularly assisted clients with navigating federal and internal corporate investigations. She further served as a member of the team

assisting the Special Compliance Coordinator appointed by the U.S. Department of Commerce to monitor, assess and report on the U.S. export control compliance of Zhongxing Telecommunications Equipment Corporation, of Shenzhen, China, and ZTE Kangxun Telecommunications Ltd. of Hi-New Shenzhen, China (collectively, ZTE) – the largest monitorship ever awarded by the federal government. In this role, she led a sub-team of attorneys and financial experts in monitoring, investigating, and reporting on the company’s compliance with U.S. export control regulations in relation to crisis contingency protocols.

Prior to her law practice, Elizabeth amassed a diverse portfolio of work that includes conducting genetics research at Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology to inform pharmaceutical drug therapies, advising Indiana state congressional members on emerging healthcare issues impacting marginalized communities, drafting healthcare legislation, and teaching K-12 students.

Elizabeth’s pro bono work includes assisting domestic violence survivors with family law matters; assisting incarcerated individuals with petitioning for compassionate release under the 2018 First Step Act; and working with Indiana Legal Services. She is also a visiting professor at Indiana University McKinney Robert H. McKinney School of Law, teaching courses in contracts, civil procedure, and constitutional law.

Elizabeth has been recognized by Best Lawyers® Ones to Watch, National Black Lawyers Top 100, National Black Lawyers 40 Under 40, and Lawyers of Color’s Wonderful Women List.

Elizabeth holds a B.A. in psychology from Saint Mary’s College, Notre Dame, a M.S. in medical science from Indiana University School of Medicine, a M.P.Aff. from Indiana University School of Environmental Public Affairs, and a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School. She is admitted to practice in California, Indiana, New York and Wisconsin.

Elizabeth enjoys reading, horseback riding, foodie-ing, attending concerts, and traveling and playing board games with her son.

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- California
- Indiana
- Wisconsin (voluntary inactive)
- United States District Court, Northern and Southern Districts of California
- United States District Court, Eastern and Central Districts of California
- United States District Court, Northern and Southern Districts of Indiana

Memberships

- Defense Research Institute
- California Association of Black Lawyers

Education

- M.P.A., Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs, 2012
- J.D., University of Wisconsin Law School, 2010
- M.S., Indiana University School of Medicine, 2005
- B.A., Psychology, Saint Mary's College, 2003