

The National Law Journal presents 75 of the nation's most accomplished female attorneys in the legal profession today, representing excellence in private practice, corporate counsel work, public interest law, legal education and the judiciary. In making our selections, NLJ editors evaluated hundreds of nominations submitted from around the country by law firms, corporations, nonprofit organizations and law schools. As we pared down the list, NLJ reporters and contributors investigated further to help make the final choices.

OUTSTANDING WOMEN LAWYERS



DEBRA WONG YANG

**PARTNER, GIBSON, DUNN &
CRUTCHER, LOS ANGELES**

Debra Wong Yang heads into the maelstrom to assist clients in crisis. She was part of her firm's team hired to help New Jersey Gov.

Chris Christie navigate controversy about several days of September 2013 access-lane closures for the George Washington Bridge to New York. She also helps clients like Hewlett-Packard Co. and Wynn Resorts Ltd. cope with Justice Department, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and other investigations.

Yang, former U.S. attorney for the Central District of California, co-chairs the firm's crisis management and white-collar defense and investigations practice groups.

KEY SKILLS AND PERSONALITY TRAITS

Perseverance. I've practiced primarily in a male-dominated field both when I was in government and outside of it. Perseverance and persistence have been traits that have helped me overcome obstacles and to work harder to achieve some of my goals.

—DEBRA WONG YANG