

Virginia Somaweera

Associate Attorney

vsomaweera@gibsondunn.com

T: +1 310.551.8717

Century City

Virginia Somaweera (formerly Smith) is an associate in the Century City office of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher. Ginny is a member of the firm's Litigation, Class Actions, and Environmental Litigation and Mass Tort practice groups.

Representative matters include:

- Ongoing representation of infant-formula manufacturer in class-action litigation relating to alleged consumer deception.
- Representation of **Northrop Grumman** in putative class action alleging groundwater contamination from trichloroethylene (TCE) in Missouri. Ginny argued two motions to dismiss before the trial court, which significantly narrowed the claims at issue. A favorable settlement was reached as to the remaining claims.
- Representation of **The Boeing Company** against claims primarily by property owners alleging damages stemming from the November 2018 Woolsey Fire in Southern California. Obtained dismissal of claims and entry of judgment in Boeing's favor following demurrer.
- Obtained summary judgment and an award of attorneys' fees on a quiet title action establishing that a conservation easement protected 400 acres of undeveloped property in the Santa Monica Mountains as open space in perpetuity.

Prior to joining Gibson Dunn, Ginny served as a law clerk to the Honorable James V. Selna of the United States District Court for the Central District of California.

Ginny earned her law degree in 2017 from the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law, where she was elected to the Order of the Coif. She graduated magna cum laude from the Georgetown University School with a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service in 2012.

Before entering law school, Ginny taught middle school English language arts in Baton Rouge, Louisiana as a Teach For America corps member.

Ginny is a member of the State Bar of California and is admitted to practice law before the United States District Court for the Central District of California and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.



Capabilities

Litigation

Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice

Class Actions

Environmental Litigation and Mass Tort
Media, Entertainment, and Technology
Transnational Litigation

Credentials

Education

University of California - Berkeley - 2017
Juris Doctor

Georgetown University - 2012 B.S. in
Foreign Service

Admissions

California Bar

Clerkships

USDC, Central District of California, Hon.
James V. Selna, 2017 - 2018