

A SPECIAL REPORT

APPELLATE HOT LIST

We are proud to present the 2020 Appellate Hot List honorees. These firms tackled novel issues and undoubtedly overcame unprecedented challenges over the past year, boasting high-profile and high-stakes wins in the nation's highest appellate courts across a number of practice areas—from Constitutional rights to immigration law to pharmaceutical and intellectual property disputes. Here, these winning firm leaders share their appellate successes, insights and lessons learned along the way. —Sarah Tincher, managing editor

GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER

■ **TELL US ABOUT YOUR TOP U.S. SUPREME COURT OR FEDERAL APPEALS COURT VICTORY OVER THE PAST YEAR AND HOW YOU AND YOUR TEAM ACHIEVED THE WIN.** Gibson Dunn had a triple-crown year at the U.S. Supreme Court—winning a trio of blockbuster cases that safeguarded hundreds of thousands of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals recipients across the country, clarified the law in a \$20 billion discrimination case, and secured justice for victims of terrorism. Each case was argued by a different lawyer—Gibson Dunn had more lawyers present argument at the Supreme Court last year than any other firm. Our strength isn't just in our numbers but in our collaborative approach, with lawyers across the firm participating in moots and helping each other develop the sharpest, most persuasive arguments.

■ **WHAT WAS YOUR FIRM'S KEY TO APPELLATE SUCCESS OVER THE PAST**

YEAR? We work hand-in-hand with our colleagues throughout the firm who are market-leading experts in their fields—offering our clients depth and breadth as we work hand-in-hand to solve their most pressing problems in an array of industries and substantive areas.

■ **WHAT IS THE MOST SATISFYING ELEMENT OF APPELLATE PRACTICE, IN YOUR OPINION?** Taking the complex and making it simple—tackling really

knotty legal issues and figuring out how to distill them into such clear, compelling stories that the position you're advocating seems all but inevitable.

■ **WHAT'S THE MOST VALUABLE LESSON YOU LEARNED AS A YOUNG LAWYER?** If you aim for perfection, you'll



Allyson Ho

hit excellence. Details matter—whoever said “don't sweat the small stuff” wasn't an appellate lawyer.

Submitted by Allyson Ho, a partner and co-chair of the appellate and constitutional law practice group at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher.