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TRAILBLAZERS

CRISIS LEADERSHIP

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What was the genesis of the path that has made you a trailblazer?

At some point in my legal career, I learned to find comfort in discomfort. Experiencing discomfort meant that I was pushing beyond boundaries and wading into new territories. This has allowed me to be creative, think differently and boldly, and find solutions that are new. Whether it is for work I do on behalf of clients, or helping to form the Alliance to combat anti-Asian hate, or the community outreach that I started post 9/11 that led to me being invited to work with MI6, it is because I have learned to strive for innovation.

What sort of change has resulted from the concept?

Whether it was taking on the Trump Administration and DHS' position on foreign student visas on behalf of 20 West Coast universities and colleges and getting the Administration to rescind their position, or working with an institution where we litigated appropriately against a few sexual assault victims but also embraced them for their bravery, which led to them still being part of the active alumnae group, or where I helped lead a multi-state response to advocate for the legality of online fantasy sports, doggedness, creativity and innovation were all keys to driving those changes.

What bearing will this have on the future?

The beauty of having practiced law for a while is that you learn many skills and solutions along the way. I will continue to look for impact litigation, where I can bring those skills to bear.