

## THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL



### DC RISING STARS

LINDSAY PAULIN

Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP



Lindsay Paulin, Partner and Co-Chair of the Government Contracts Practice Group

■ **Describe your biggest win or accomplishment in practice.** My biggest accomplishment in the last year was when my pro bono client became a permanent resident in August 2022. We began working together with a great Gibson Dunn team in 2016, after my client and her sisters fled Honduras to escape gang violence. When her asylum application was initially rejected, we represented

her before the Immigration Court, and secured asylum following a hearing in 2019. Since then, we worked together to submit the filings to become a permanent resident. Although it was a long road, it was incredibly rewarding to share

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her excitement when she received her green card.

- **What was the most valuable lesson you learned in your first year practicing law?** To keep an open mind about new opportunities. Developing a practice is not a linear path, and saying “yes” to projects outside my area of focus helped me make connections and develop skills that are invaluable today.
- **Who is your greatest lawyer mentor and what has he or she taught you?** Joe West has been an

incredible mentor, teaching me everything from substantive government contracts principles to what it means to be a great advocate, a creative problem-solver, and a leader. I hope to continue building on the example he modeled.

- **Please share a brief key to your success.** It takes a village to succeed, and building real relationships with my colleagues and clients has made lawyering not only more effective, but way more fun. ■