



Elizabeth T. Castillo

Partner

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Elizabeth Tran Castillo is a partner in the San Francisco Bay Area office of Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy, LLP and a member of the Antitrust & Global Competition practice group. Her work focuses on class actions and other complex litigation. Her experience includes litigating direct and indirect purchaser class actions as well as international and domestic cartel matters. In 2022, she was personally appointed interim co-lead counsel in *In re Deere & Company Repair Services Antitrust Litigation*, MDL No. 3030, No. 3:22-cv-50188-IDJ (N.D. Ill.) and, in 2023, she was personally appointed to the leadership team in *In re ARC Airbag Inflators Products Liability Litigation*, MDL No. 3051, No. 1:22-md-03051-ELR (N.D. Ga.).

Liz was included in the 2024 edition of the *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America* for her work in Antitrust Law. The *Daily Journal* named Liz to its “Top Antitrust Lawyers” list in 2022. She received the American Antitrust Institute’s Outstanding Antitrust Litigation Achievement in Private Law Award in 2019 and Outstanding Antitrust Litigation Achievement by a Young Lawyer Award in 2016 for her work on *In re Automotive Parts Antitrust Litigation*, a multidistrict litigation in the Eastern District of Michigan against 73 defendant groups that settled for over \$1.2 billion. She was named a Northern California Super Lawyer from 2022 to 2023 and a Northern California Super Lawyers Rising Star from 2015 to 2021.

Liz has represented consumers and businesses in both federal and state courts and at all stages of litigation, including discovery, trial, and appeals. While she is involved in all aspects of the cases she litigates, she places emphasis on her discovery and settlement strategy work. She occasionally litigates other types of cases. For example, she was part of a

Office

San Francisco Airport Office
Center
840 Malcolm Road
Suite 200
Burlingame, CA 94010

Practice Areas

Antitrust & Global Competition
Commercial Litigation
Consumer Protection Class
Actions

Education

University of California, Hastings
College of the Law, J.D., 2011

- *Super Regional Semifinalist*, Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
- *Honorable Mentions*, Best Brief and Best Oral Argument, Moot Court
- *Teaching Assistant*, Legal Writing & Research and Moot Court
- Bar Association of San Francisco Bay Area Minority Law Student Scholarship Recipient

Boston University, B.A.,
Economics and Political Science,
2008

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trial team that obtained a multimillion-dollar economic loss jury verdict for a former Major League Baseball pitcher in 2018.

Liz earned her J.D. from the University of California College of the Law, San Francisco (formerly UC Hastings) in 2011. While at UC Hastings, she was a Super Regional Semifinalist in the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. She also received Honorable Mentions for both Best Brief and Best Oral Argument in Moot Court. Additionally, she served as a Judicial Extern to the Honorable A. James Robertson II in the Superior County of California, County of San Francisco, and as a Teaching Assistant for both Legal Writing & Research and Moot Court. Throughout law school, she mentored underserved high school students on preparing for college.

Liz received her B.A. in Economics and Political Science, with a concentration in Public Policy, from Boston University in 2008. While at BU, she interned at an international law firm and business advocacy organization in London and Sydney, respectively, during her third year. Liz has national and state legislative experience. She interned for then-U.S. Representative Neil Abercrombie (D-Hawaii, 1991-2010; Governor of Hawaii, 2010-2014) in Washington, D.C. and State Representative Scott Nishimoto (D-Hawaii, 2003-present) in Honolulu.

Liz immigrated from Vietnam to the United States in 1990. She is a refugee and spent some time at a refugee camp in Thailand. Liz is the first lawyer in her extended family. She grew up in Honolulu but has been laying roots in the Bay Area since 2008. Liz lives in San Mateo with her husband and daughter. She enjoys good food, great deals, meticulous planning, and outdoor adventures.

Honors & Recognitions

2024 *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*

2022 *Daily Journal* "Top Antitrust Lawyers"

2022-23 Northern California Super Lawyers

Università Commerciale
Luigi Bocconi, Milan, Italy,
Fall 2010

Admissions

California

Languages

Vietnamese (conversational)

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2019 American Antitrust Institute Outstanding Antitrust Litigation Achievement in Private Law Practice Award

2016 American Antitrust Institute Outstanding Antitrust Litigation Achievement by a Young Lawyer Award

2015-2021 Super Lawyers Northern California Rising Star

Community Involvement

Liz currently serves as an advisor to the Executive Committee of the Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law Section of the California Lawyers Association. She served as a member of the Executive Committee from 2018 to 2021; specifically, as the vice-chair of the Education Committee and co-vice-chair of the 29th and 30th Annual Golden State Institute. The Section is dedicated to furthering the knowledge of its members about antitrust, unfair competition, trade regulation, and privacy issues under state and federal laws through education programs, publications, and other activities.

Liz also participates/participated in the following organizations:

- *Volunteer*, Federal Pro Bono Project, United States District Court, Northern District of California (2015-)
- *Co-Chair*, Judging Committee, Antitrust Enforcement Awards, American Antitrust Institute (2023)
- *Judging Committee*, Antitrust Enforcement Awards, American Antitrust Institute (2020-)
- *Advisory Board Member*, Global Private Litigation Committee, Section of Antitrust Law, American Bar Association (2018-2019)
- *Co-Chair*, Trying Antitrust (newsletter), Trial Practice Committee, Section of Antitrust Law, American Bar Association (2019)
- *Co-Chair*, Mentorship Committee, Asian American Bar Association (2018-2019)
- *Co-Chair*, Annual Dinner Host Committee, Asian American Bar Association (2017-2018)
- *Chair*, Scholarship Dinner Planning Committee, Vietnamese American Bar Association of Northern California (2016)

Affiliations

California Lawyers Association Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law Section

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American Antitrust Institute

American Bar Association Antitrust Law Section

Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area

Committee to Support the Antitrust Laws (COSAL)

Consumer Attorneys of California

San Mateo County Bar Association

Experience

Liz currently represents plaintiffs in the following antitrust class actions in which she serves as lead or co-lead counsel and has secured noteworthy results for American consumers and businesses:

- *In re Automotive Parts Antitrust Litigation (All End-Payor Plaintiff Actions)*, MDL No. 2311, Master File No. 2:12-md-02311-MOB (E.D. Mich.) (\$1.2 billion+ in settlements)
- *In re Cattle and Beef Antitrust Litigation (All Direct Purchaser Plaintiff Actions)*, No. 0:20-cv-01319-JRT-HB (D. Minn.) (\$52.5 million in settlement to date)
- *In re Capacitors Antitrust Litigation (All Indirect Purchaser Plaintiff Actions)*, MDL No. 2801, No. 3:14-cv-03264-JD (N.D. Cal.) (\$80.79 million in settlements)
- *In re Deere & Company Repair Services Antitrust Litig.*, No. 3:22-cv-50188 (N.D. Ill.)
- *In re Domestic Airline Travel Antitrust Litigation*, MDL No. 2656, No. 1:15-mc-01404-CKK (D.D.C.) (\$60 million in settlements to date)
- *In re Geisinger Health and Evangelical Community Hospital Healthcare Workers Antitrust Litigation*, No. 4:21-cv-00196-MWB (M.D. Pa.)
- *In re Resistors Antitrust Litigation*, No. 5:15-cv-03820-JD (N.D. Cal.) (\$33.4 million in settlements)
- *In re Telescopes Antitrust Litigation (All Indirect Purchaser Plaintiff Actions)*, No. 5:20-cv-03639-EJD (N.D. Cal.)
- *In re Transpacific Passenger Air Transportation Antitrust Litigation*, MDL No. 1913, Case No. 3:07-cv-05634-CRB (N.D. Cal.) (\$148.152 million in settlements)

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News

CPM Partner, Elizabeth Castillo, Appointed Member of Leadership Team in Arc Airbag Inflators Product Liability Litigation

03.15.2023

CPM Attorneys Selected to 2022 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars List

07.05.2022

CPM Files Class Action Against ARC Automotive and Various Automobile Manufacturers for Defective Airbag Inflators Using Ammonium Nitrate

05.24.2022

17 CPM Attorneys Honored as Northern California Super Lawyers and Rising Stars

07.07.2021

CPM Appointed Lead Counsel in Class Action Case Protecting Healthcare Professionals

03.11.2021

CPM Helps Android Device Users Sue Google and Alphabet for Antitrust Violations

10.21.2020

CPM Files Consumer Class Action Against Telescope Suppliers for Constellation of Antitrust Violations

06.18.2020

CPM Files Class Action Lawsuit Against Gohagan & Company and Travel Guard

05.07.2020

CPM Investigates Anticompetitive Practices in the Home-Health Care Industry Affecting Employees

04.22.2020

CPM Partners and Class Action Experts Zapala, Castillo and Barnett Recognized for Their Work on Automotive Parts Antitrust Litigation Cases

10.10.2019

San Mateo Jury Awards \$2.3 Million to CPM Client Former MLB Pitcher Who Was Attacked In Front of His Home

03.20.2018

CPM Clients' Settlements in Landmark Auto Parts Litigation Surpass \$1 Billion

02.28.2018

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CPM Fights for Consumers Against Price Fixing of Capacitors Used in Electronic Devices

CPM Partner Tran Selected as Honoree for the 2016 Antitrust Enforcement Awards

CPM Battles Price Fixing in Domestic Air Travel

CPM Antitrust Litigation Expert Elizabeth Tran Selected as Honoree for the 2016 Antitrust Enforcement Awards

10.05.2016

Multiple CPM Litigators Recognized as Northern California Super Lawyers 2016

07.19.2016

CPM Facilitates \$193.8 Million Settlement in Class Action re DENSO Price-Fixing Claims with U.S. Consumers and Businesses in Auto Parts, Bringing Settlement Total to Nearly Half a Billion Dollars

07.14.2016

CPM Helps American Consumers Recover \$225 Million As Court Approves Settlements Against Automotive Parts Cartel

05.12.2016

CPM Facilitates Mitsubishi Electric Agreement to Settle Auto Parts Class Action with End-Payor Plaintiffs for \$64.23 Million, Bringing Settlement Total to Over \$288 Million

04.15.2016

CPM Helps Secure First Civil Settlement Relating to Auto Shipping Price-Fixing Claims

07.27.2015

Multiple Cotchett, Pitre & McCarthy Lawyers Honored as Super Lawyers For Northern California

07.16.2015

CPM Achieves Settlements in Auto Parts - Price Fixing Antitrust Case

CPM Wins Important Ruling in Automotive Parts Price-Fixing Case Preserving Right of American Consumers and Businesses to Seek Damages

2014

Speaking Engagements

Leadership Panel

DEI Summit, 10.20.2022

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Don't Be Terrorized by Terabytes
San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association, 10.18.2022

Moderator, Big Stakes Antitrust Trial: In re Capacitors Antitrust Litigation, No. 3:17-md-02801-JD (N.D. Cal.): Trying an antitrust case in the time of COVID-19
05.05.2022

Panelist, Private Law Panel, Asian American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area, Pathways to Law Conference
05.16.2020

Moderator, Antitrust Economics: Fundamental Concepts Practitioners Need to Know, California Lawyers Association, Antitrust, UCL and Privacy Section
01.28.2020

Panelist, "Why Antitrust? Perspectives on Careers in Antitrust and Competition Law" American Bar Association, Section of Antitrust Law, Global Private Litigation
11.13.2018

Moderator, "Careers in Antitrust Law" California Lawyers Association, Antitrust, UCL and Privacy Section
10.10.2018

Panelist, "Building a Law Career" American Bar Association, Section of Litigation, Judicial Intern Opportunity Program
06.19.2018

Moderator, The Latest Developments in Class Action Litigation, American Association for Justice, 2016 Annual Convention
07.23.2016

Panelist, New Developments in Case Resolution and Similarities and Differences Under Canadian Law, American Association for Justice, 2015 Annual Convention
07.13.2015

Publications

Misconceptions About Privilege Relating to Everyday Agreements
Global Private Litigation Bulletin, Global Private Litigation Committee, Section of Antitrust Law, American Bar Association, 03.2018

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Indirect Purchaser and Litigation Handbook
Section of Antitrust Law, ABA Book Publishing, 2016

Trial Structure in an Intricate Antitrust Reality
Trying Antitrust, Trial Practice Committee Newsletter, American Bar Association, Winter 2015

Recoveries for Violations of Federal and California Antitrust Statutes Should Not Be Apportioned
Competition, Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law Section, California State Bar, Fall 2014

Antitrust Whistle-Blowers Get Clarity
Daily Journal, 09.16.2013

Blog Posts

Ninth Circuit Declines to Apply Filed Rate Doctrine to Airfares
Advocates for Justice, 05.11.2017

Civil and Criminal Enforcers Target Generic Drug Price-Fixers
Advocates for Justice, 03.06.2017

American Consumers Recover \$225 Million As Court Approves Settlements Against Automotive Parts Cartel
Advocates for Justice, 05.12.2016