

Vi T. Tran

Senior Counsel

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Houston

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Vi Tran is a business trial lawyer representing clients in high-stakes commercial disputes across Texas and the United States. Her experience extends to a diverse range of issues in the energy and financial industries.

With respect to the energy industry, Vi has represented clients involving disputes related to purchase and sale agreements, class actions, joint operating agreements, royalties, title disputes, and gas sales and transportation agreements. With respect to the financial industry, she has represented clients involving disputes related to Ponzi schemes, mergers and acquisitions, and director and officer liability.

With extensive experience in high-stakes, complex commercial disputes, Vi has a proven track record of taking cases through trial. Her courtroom experience includes handling jury trials, bench trials, and arbitrations. Her clients come from various business types, sizes, and industries, including oil and gas, financial institutions, construction companies, and manufacturers.

Beyond her legal practice, Vi is dedicated to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within her firm and beyond. As the Houston office liaison for Foley's Racial Justice and Equity Practice Group, she identifies opportunities for attorneys to engage in pro bono work to combat unfair treatment based on race or ethnicity.

Representative Experience

- Representing exploration and production company in a class action brought by royalty owners claiming improper deduction of post-production expenses. The class involved approximately 3,571 oil and gas leases and over 3,400 royalty owners.
- Represented exploration and production company in a 5-day arbitration involving breach of a long term oil supply agreement for assets in the Uintah Basin.
- Represented exploration and production company in a 2-week jury trial in West Virginia concerning an area of mutual interest agreement covering over 20,000 acres in oil and gas leases in the Appalachian Basin.

- Represented the largest regional bank in Utah, Zions Bank, in connection with numerous class action and individual investor claims alleging that the bank aided and abetted the largest Ponzi scheme securities fraud in Utah history. Successfully settled all claims for less than litigation costs.
- Represented regional bank in a merger dispute in which acquiring bank claimed that client failed to use commercial reasonable efforts to obtain shareholder votes to approve the merger. Successfully obtained dismissal of claims against the board of directors. Case settled on favorable terms.
- Represented sellers of a gas utility company in a dispute over asset valuation, and indemnity and earn out obligations under a stock purchase agreement. Case settled on favorable terms.
- Represented exploration and production company in a 4-week jury trial in which T. Boone Pickens claimed the client breached an area of mutual interest agreement covering the Permian Basin and sought \$1.4 billion in damages. Obtained dismissal of tort claims and judgment notwithstanding the verdict that set aside jury findings against client.

Awards and Recognition

- *Best Lawyers* – “Ones to Watch”
 - Commercial Litigation (2021-2024)
 - Alternative Dispute Resolution (2023-2024)
- Texas Rising Stars, Energy & Natural Resources (2023-2024)
- National Asian Pacific American Bar Association’s Leadership Advancement Program (2023)

Community Involvement

- Represented clients before the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services asylum offices.
- Obtained U.S. citizenship for a boy from Honduras through Special Immigrant Juvenile Status.
- Houston office liaison for Foley’s Racial Justice and Equity Practice Group, identifying opportunities for attorneys to engage in pro bono work to combat unfair treatment based on race or ethnicity.
- Vice-Chair of Foley’s Asian Pacific Middle Eastern Attorneys Affinity Group

Affiliations

- National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys, Board Member
- National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, Member
- Asian American Bar Association – Houston Chapter, Member

Languages

- Vietnamese

Sectors

- [Carbon Capture](#)
- [Energy & Infrastructure](#)
- [Energy Transition](#)
- [Power & Renewables](#)

- [Racial Justice & Equity](#)

Practice Areas

- [Commercial Litigation](#)
- [Construction](#)
- [Energy Litigation](#)
- [Litigation](#)

Education

- University of Houston Law Center (J.D., magna cum laude, 2014)
 - Order of the Coif
 - Order of the Barons
 - Casenotes & Comments Editor, *Houston Journal of International Law*
 - Recipient, Dean's Scholarship
 - Recipient, Blakely Fellowship
- University of Houston, (B.S., magna cum laude, 2010)

Admissions

- Texas
- U.S. District Court for the Northern, Southern, Eastern and Western Districts of Texas
- West Virginia
- U.S. District Court for the Northern and Southern Districts of West Virginia