

Established in 1938, Snell & Wilmer has more than 425 attorneys in 12 locations in the United States and in Mexico.

Announcing ...

TWO SNELL & WILMER ATTORNEYS WERE SELECTED AS FINALISTS FOR THE ATHENA AWARD

PHOENIX (August 23, 2019) – Snell & Wilmer is pleased to announce that two attorneys have been selected as finalists in the Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce’s ATHENA Award. [Heidi McNeil Staudenmaier](#) is a finalist for the ATHENA Businesswoman of the Year Award in the Private Sector category and [Jennifer R. Yee](#) is a finalist for the ATHENA Young Professional Award.

The ATHENA Award highlights women who have achieved the pinnacle of success within their industry, have mentored women throughout their career and have dedicated themselves to the community through various activities and charities. The ATHENA Award, a program of the international ATHENA organization founded by Martha Mertz in 1982, supports, develops and honors women leaders and pushes them to reach their full potential by invoking the ideals of the Greek goddess of courage, wisdom, arts and science. The ATHENA Award recipients will be announced at the Chamber’s 32nd Annual ATHENA Awards luncheon on Friday, November 15 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at JW Marriott Phoenix Desert Ridge.

“Humbling. Overwhelming. Honored. Simply, words alone cannot convey the feeling of being selected an ATHENA finalist,” Staudenmaier said. “The Phoenix business community boasts some of the most impressive, accomplished and courageous women in the country. I have been fortunate to have had multiple committed and wise mentors over the years blaze the trail for me and others. I am inspired to continue to pay it forward in the spirit of upholding the ATHENA tradition.”



Heidi McNeil Staudenmaier

Staudenmaier was recognized for her numerous contributions and accomplishments in the Phoenix community as well as on a national level. She is Past President of the Maricopa County Bar Association and will be inducted into the MCBA Hall of Fame this Fall. Staudenmaier is the 2019 recipient of the American Bar Association’s Jean Allard Glass Cutter Award, which is awarded annually to a woman who has cut through barriers to attain high accomplishment in business law. She is the only Arizona attorney to ever receive this high honor. She currently serves as the only second woman Chair of the ABA Business Law Section’s Business & Corporate Litigation Committee. She also is a member of the Section’s Executive Council, past Editor-in-Chief of Business Law Today, Past Editor & Program Chair for Annual Review of Developments in Business & Corporate Litigation, Past Co-Chair of the Section Fellows Program, and a member of the inaugural Fellows Class. Staudenmaier is Past President (and only woman to date) of the International Masters of Gaming Law and Past Chair of the State Bar of Arizona Indian Law Section. She has served on the University of Iowa College of Law Foundation Board of Directors for 15 years and will be recognized this Fall with the Iowa College of Law Alumni Service Award.

Staudenmaier is nationally recognized in the areas of Indian Law, Gaming Law and Business Litigation. She represents tribes, tribal entities and businesses who engage in commercial transactions with tribes and tribal entities.



Jennifer R. Yee

At Snell & Wilmer, Yee's practice is concentrated in labor and employment law and commercial litigation. Her litigation experience includes federal and state court practice in a variety of employment-related issues. She has assisted her clients in defending against wage and hour, discrimination, harassment and retaliation claims under the FLSA, Title VII, ADA, FMLA, ADEA, USERRA, the Arizona Wage Act, the Arizona Employment Protection Act, the Arizona Civil Rights Act and other state and federal laws. She also assists employers with respect to investigations by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Department of Labor and the NLRB. In addition, Yee drafts employment-related agreements, handbooks, and policies and has worked with employers to enforce non-competition and confidentiality agreements.

Yee advises clients on a wide variety of compliance issues under federal, state and local regulations. She has counseled large and small employers regarding their obligations under the NLRA, FLSA, Title VII, ADA, FMLA, ADEA, USERRA, EPA, WARN Act, FCRA, the Arizona Wage Act, the Arizona Employment Protection Act, the Arizona Civil Rights Act and other state and federal laws. Yee feels privileged to provide pro bono counseling services through the Volunteer Lawyers Program and service to the community through Kiwanis International.

"I am honored to be selected as an ATHENA finalist. I look forward to getting to know the remarkable women affiliated with ATHENA who similarly strive to uphold the three pillars of ATHENA: leadership, mentorship, and community service," Yee said.

About Snell & Wilmer

Founded in 1938, Snell & Wilmer is a full-service business law firm with more than 425 attorneys practicing in 12 locations throughout the United States and in Mexico, including Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona; Los Angeles and Orange County, California; Denver, Colorado; Washington, D.C.; Boise, Idaho; Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Salt Lake City, Utah; and Los Cabos, Mexico. The firm represents clients ranging from large, publicly traded corporations to small businesses, individuals and entrepreneurs. For more information, visit www.swlaw.com.

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