

SILICON VALLEY BUSINESS JOURNAL

WOMEN OF INFLUENCE

LEGAL

Belinda Lee



Title/position

Partner and global vice chair, antitrust and competition practice

Company

Latham & Watkins LLP

Location

Menlo Park

Surprise

I know the words to pretty much every Billy Joel song.

How has the pandemic changed how you lead others?

Doing everything by Zoom for the last year, I've become even more focused on the importance of inclusion during meetings, and the role that I play as a team leader in bringing people into the conversation.

A moment in your career you are most proud of?

I was appointed by the court to represent a class of Iranian refugees who got caught up in the Trump Administration's Muslim ban. As the daughter of immigrants myself, I was thrilled to put my legal training to use to help these refugees find safety in the United States and finally reunite with their families.

What is the biggest challenge facing women who want to take on leadership roles?

I think it's the temptation to self-edit — don't do that! And don't be afraid to take up space, either!

What's the best piece of advice you have ever received?

My dad told me that there is no decision that I can make that I can't undo later. I remind myself of that advice all the time to inspire myself to be brave and overcome my otherwise risk-adverse nature.

