

THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL

THE 2024 NLJ AWARDS: PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE—WASHINGTON D.C. RISING STARS

OCTOBER 30, 2024

WINNER: LATHAM & WATKINS' JULIA THOMPSON

■ **Describe your biggest win or accomplishment in practice.**

I am incredibly proud to build longstanding relationships with my clients and partner with them on their most significant transactions at critical moments of their business lifecycle. Working with world-class, S&P 500 companies like Nordson and CoStar Group on their inaugural SEC-registered debt offerings and with KLA Corp. on multibillion-dollar capital raising transactions has been particularly meaningful this past year. The goal is always to help companies execute on the transactions of today and also to help build the infrastructure to achieve the vision for tomorrow and beyond.



Julia Thompson

■ **What was the most valuable lesson you learned in your first year practicing law?**

Be open to opportunities, no matter the form, to work with those you admire or want to emulate. Do your best work and leave no stone unturned. Take an active approach and make your own opportunities happen.

■ **Who is your greatest lawyer mentor and what has he or she taught you?**

Joel Trotter, co-chair of Latham's SEC national office, taught me how to be a trusted business adviser, to provide excellent client service in my own way, and to develop the next generation with kindness and generosity of spirit.

■ **Please share a brief key to your success.**

My calm, proactive approach allows me to develop enduring relationships with my clients, and has helped me navigate Big Law as a parent of four young children.