

JENIFER TOMCHAK

Dorothy Merrill Brothers Award

Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession

Jenifer Tomchak has extensive experience representing clients in a wide variety of commercial litigation matters, including professional and legal malpractice defense, business disputes, commercial banking and equipment finance litigation, securities and investment litigation, and employment litigation. She is well recognized and admired by other Utah lawyers for the quality of her work. She is an excellent writer and an accomplished oral advocate, regularly handling hearings in both federal and state courts. Clients appreciate her dedication to their cases and trust her to provide sound advice on how to resolve their legal issues. Ms. Tomchak has been praised by her clients for her efficient and effective approach to litigation. She serves as legal counsel to a number of small, midsize, national, and international companies.



Advancement Committee for Women Lawyers of Utah. She continues to work on diversity issues, having served a Fellowship with the Multi-Cultural Legal Center, and as a current member of the Utah Minority Bar Association and on the policy committee of the Utah Center for Legal Inclusion.

In each of these positions, Ms. Tomchak has worked tirelessly towards the advancement of women both in the law and in the community. She has spearheaded well-recognized programs such as the following:

- Advancement Pledge: A multi-year training program designed to encourage the selection, retention, and promotion of women and minorities in the law.
- Help R.I.S.E: A joint program between the FBA and YLD to pair experienced mentors with volunteer attorneys in three legal areas—family law, bankruptcy, and landlord-tenant law – for the purpose of assisting participants in the federal re-entry courts.
- Federal Appointment Wheel: A program to assist the federal court in appointing counsel in federal civil rights actions.
- VAWA Shelter Training: A statewide training program to help victims of domestic violence self-petition for legal status in the United States under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).
- The Walk Against Violence: A 5k held to raise awareness about domestic violence.

Since early in her career, Ms. Tomchak has been recognized for her skilled representation of clients in litigation. In April of 2009, she was recognized by *Utah Business* magazine as one of “Utah’s 30 Women to Watch.” She also received the Utah Hands and Heart Award and the Litigation Section’s Litigator’s Cup in 2016. Since 2008, Ms. Tomchak has been continuously recognized in Mountain States Super Lawyers as a “Rising Star” and in Utah Business as one of Utah’s Legal Elite in business litigation. A graduate of Utah State University, Ms. Tomchak received her B.A. in Political Science, magna cum laude, a minor in Spanish, and a Certificate in International Relations. She interned in Washington, DC for U.S. Senator Mike Crapo, and then earned both her M.B.A. and J.D. in 2004 from the University of Utah, Order of the Coif. Prior to forming Tomchak Law P.C., Ms. Tomchak spent thirteen years at Parr Brown Gee & Loveless and she clerked for Utah Supreme Court Justice Matthew Durrant. Ms. Tomchak makes significant contributions to her profession and community. She is a Past President of the Utah Chapter of the Federal Bar Association, and has previously served on that board in a number of positions. She is the treasurer of the national FBA’s Younger Lawyer’s Division. She is a Past President of the Utah Young Lawyers Division, and the current chair of the Executive Committee of the Litigation Section of the Utah State Bar. She is the Chair of the Career

Ms. Tomchak, an Idaho native, grew up helping her father on his cattle ranch. She is a first-generation college graduate, who understands the value of hard work. Ms. Tomchak is as fearless in her personal life as she is in zealously representing her clients. Her favorite past-time is to travel the world with her husband and two young sons. She has traveled to over 50 countries on every continent except Antarctica.

2020 Spring Convention Awards

Dorothy Merrill Brothers Award

Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

2019	Jacey Skinner
2018	Ellen M. Maycock
2017	Judge Michele M. Christiansen
2016	Barbara G. Hjelle
2015	Patrice Arent
2014	Terrie McIntosh
2013	Charlotte L. Miller
2012	Judge Sandra N. Peuler
2011	Lauren I. Scholnick
2010	Evelyn J. Furse Lisa A. Yerkovich Melanie J. Vartabedian
2009	Judge Carolyn B. McHugh
2008	Constance Lundberg Susan Peterson
2007	Irene Warr
2006	Janet H. Smith
2005	Annette W. Jarvis
2004	Paul M. Warner
2003	Denise Dragoo
2002	Hon. Pamela T. Greenwood
2001	Laura M. Gray
2000	Katherine D. Pullins
1999	Rosalie M. Reilly
1998	James B. Lee
1997	Anne Milne
1996	Patricia W. Christensen
1995	Hon. Christine M. Durham

MELINDA BOWEN



Raymond S. Uno Award

Advancement of Minorities in the Legal Profession

Melinda Bowen is currently a visiting professor at the J. Reuben Clark Law School at BYU, where she joined the faculty in August 2017. She previously practiced at Snow Christensen & Martineau in Salt Lake City, in the white collar criminal defense and commercial litigation practice groups, and she currently maintains an of-counsel relationship with the firm. She also worked as a judicial law clerk for Judge Tena Campbell in the United States District Court for the District of Utah and for Judge Carolyn McHugh on the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. Melinda received both her B.S. and J.D. from Brigham Young University, and she currently teaches Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure, and researches in the field of criminal justice reform. Throughout her career, Melinda has served and continues to serve in various volunteer positions, both in the legal profession and the larger community, including service as past president of the Utah Minority Bar Association from 2013-2015. Melinda currently serves as co-President of the Utah Center for Legal Inclusion, a position she has held since the organization's formation in 2016.

2020 Spring Convention Awards

Raymond S. Uno Award

Advancement of Minorities in the Legal Profession

PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

2019	Yvette Donosso
2018	Hon. Augustus G. Chin
2017	Judge Vernice Trease
2016	Reyes Aguilar Jr. Carl Hernandez III
2015	Andrea Martinez Griffen
2014	Janise K. Macanas
2013	Cecilia M. Romero
2012	David Dominguez
2011	Nathan D. Alder
2010	Trystan B. Smith
2009	Cheryl Miyuki Mori
2008	Su J. Chon
2007	Judge Glen Iwasaki
2006	Mona Burton
2005	Cheryl D. Luke
2004	Marlene Gonzalez
2003	F. John Hill
2002	Robert L. Flores
2001	Hon. Tyrone E. Medley
2000	Sherrie Hayashi
1999	Jimi Mitsunaga
1998	Hon. Raymond Uno
1997	Michael N. Martinez
1996	John Martinez
1995	Hon. William A. Thorne, Jr.