

Ling Yao

Associate

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Experienced in handling complex commercial disputes and regulatory investigations, Ling helps clients achieve business goals while mitigating legal risks.

Ling represents clients across various industries, including healthcare, finance, chemical, manufacturing, energy, technology, real estate, and government. From business fraud to product liability, from breach of contract to labor and employment, she has litigated a broad range of high-stakes commercial lawsuits, white-collar defense cases, and regulatory investigations.

Ling has experience in bench and jury trials, arbitration hearings, and motion arguments. She has led successful settlement conferences and drafted winning pleadings and briefs in federal and state courts. She also regularly advises clients and distills complex legal strategy into business-focused guidance. Prior to joining Dorsey, Ling interned at the Supreme Court of California and the Supreme People's Court of China, Third Circuit, and litigated commercial disputes at a reputable U.S. law firm.

Trusted by Fortune 100 companies and global investors to deliver results in complex, fast-moving matters, Ling takes pride in providing clients with dedicated, creative, and strategic legal solutions tailored to their business needs.

Select Experience

- Defended a Fortune 100 company in a commercial dispute involving multi-million environmental damages, prevailed on all claims after trial.
- Represented international investors in fraud and fiduciary-duty disputes spanning multiple jurisdictions, secured favorable settlements.
- Litigated a high-value trust and estate case, prevailed on all claims after trial.
- Represented a multinational automotive and clean energy company in internal investigations, advised clients on compliance issues.

Education

- University of California, Berkeley, School of Law (J.D., 2021)
 - Visiting Scholar, Harvard Law School
- Nanjing University (B.A., Law, 2018)
 - Outstanding Graduate Student

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- New York

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York

Accolades

- *Best Lawyers® Ones to Watch in America*, Commercial Litigation, 2025

Languages

- Mandarin Chinese
- English

Additional Information

- “Time to Voluntarily Self-Disclose? What to Know About DOJ’s Recent Policy Revisions,” *The Daily Record of Western New York*, March 30, 2023