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TOP 40 UNDER 40

California's leading lawyers of 2017

Solh's skills in both plaintiff and defense work has helped her build an antitrust practice that's put her at the forefront of high-stakes litigation for major companies such as General Motors Co. and Yamaha Corporation of America. That flexibility has also helped establish Crowell & Moring LLP's Orange County office, where she is a partner, as a leader in an area other Orange County firms often lack.

"It's rare to have a pretty strong antitrust presence in Orange County, but it's a practice that we've really been able to develop because we've been able to do both sides," Solh said.

Solh recovered tens of millions of dollars for General Motors against the manufacturers of a material used in the company's vehicles. The case involved an alleged price-fixing conspiracy that resulted in government enforcement against another one manufacturer; Solh's work ensured recovery from many more. *In re: Vehicle Carrier Services Antitrust Litigation*, 2:13-cv-03306 (D. N.J., filed May 24, 2013).

It was opt-out litigation that turned multi-district — Solh stays away from plaintiff's class actions to protect case law for her defense clients.

Those include Yamaha, which along with other musical instrument manufacturers was named in nearly 40 antitrust class actions that Solh defeated in two rounds of motion to dismiss briefings.

It was "bet-the-company litigation" that could have cost Yamaha treble damages and huge attorneys' fees had Solh not prevailed. *In re: Musical Instruments and Equipment Antitrust Litigation*, 09-md-2121 (S.D. Cal., filed Dec. 9, 2009).

Solh also successfully defended Motorola Mobility LLC against allegations that it conspired to squash smaller wireless carriers in a case that tested the boundaries of *Bell Atlantic Corp. v. Twombly*, the

Chahira Solh



Crowell & Moring LLP

Irvine

Practice: Antitrust law

Age: 36

landmark 2007 U.S. Supreme Court case. *Corr Wireless Communications LLC et al. v. AT&T Inc. et al.*, 3:12-cv-00036 (N.D. Miss., filed April 2, 2012).

Solh said she particularly enjoys representing Fortune 500 companies as plaintiffs in recovery cases "because usually you're up against really skilled counsel, and you get really great litigation experience."

Solh is active outside the courtroom as co-chair of the American Bar Association Young Lawyers Division's Antitrust Law Committee. She also volunteers with the Public Law Center handling immigration cases pro bono, where her work has included helping a sexual abuse victim report the crimes to police and earn permanent legal status.

— Meghann M. Cuniff