

SILICON VALLEY BUSINESS JOURNAL

Latham and Watkins' Julie Holloway: Women of Influence 2017

The Silicon Valley Business Journal once again is honoring 100 local women who are having a major impact as executives, entrepreneurs and community leaders. Get to know one member of the 2017 Women of Influence class:

Julie Holloway | Partner, Latham and Watkins LLP

Julie Holloway started her law career at a patent boutique, moved to Wilson Sonsini, and stayed there for more than a decade.

At Latham and Watkins, her focus is trying patent cases. She has tried more than a dozen such cases, typically focused on complex technology.

Holloway was one of ten children, saying she learned early in life that whatever doesn't kill her makes her stronger.

Residence: San Francisco

Education: BS in electrical engineering, University of California, San Diego; MS in electrical engineering, George Washington University; JD, UC Berkeley School of Law

Career path: My father taught electrical engineering, and believed that there were two possible careers in life: electrical engineer, and ditch-digger. I chose the former, at least through undergraduate school, and started working full time after graduation. But it just wasn't challenging enough, and I got bored.

So I went to school at night, finishing an MSEE and starting a PhD.



Then a professor, who was also a patent lawyer, suggested I think about law school, telling me "you're just the type." He was right. I went to Berkeley, got my JD, and have been trying patent cases ever since – nearly 20 years now. I started at a patent boutique, moved to Wilson Sonsini, and stayed there for more than a decade. I've been at Latham and Watkins for six years now.

Employees: 4,700

What has been your biggest challenge professionally? It's been a challenge to find my own way as a trial lawyer. What works well for men will often be poorly received from a woman. This is true whether you're talking about speaking in court, or pitch-

ing clients. The senior attorneys I've worked with have always been men, so I've had to figure a lot of things out on my own – for example, how to take a really effective cross-examination without being perceived as overly-aggressive by the jury. It's really a question of presentation, not content, but you definitely have to think about it.

Your first job: Babysitting. It didn't pay much, but it paid.

Growing up, you wanted to be: An astronaut

Your best advice for others: If you don't like your life, change it. Don't stay in a situation because you think you don't have options. You can always create options for yourself.