

The National Law Journal presents 75 of the nation's most accomplished female attorneys in the legal profession today, representing excellence in private practice, corporate counsel work, public interest law, legal education and the judiciary. In making our selections, NLJ editors evaluated hundreds of nominations submitted from around the country by law firms, corporations, nonprofit organizations and law schools. As we pared down the list, NLJ reporters and contributors investigated further to help make the final choices.

Profiles were written by Amanda Bronstad, Laura Castro, Marcia Coyle, Jenna Greene, Lisa Hoffman, George Erb, Carlyn Kolker, Tony Mauro, Sheri Qualters and Karen Sloan.

OUTSTANDING WOMEN LAWYERS



ENU MAINIGI

PARTNER, WILLIAMS & CONNOLLY, WASHINGTON

As a new hire at Williams & Connolly in 1997, Enu Mainigi volunteered for a health care fraud case and resolved to take ownership of the budding practice area. Eighteen years later, Mainigi leads the firm's False Claims Act/qui tam practice, with 50 cases under her belt. As co-chairwoman of the health care practice, Mainigi is the firm's designated "go to" lawyer on fraud, defending hospitals, nursing homes and pharmaceutical companies in high-stakes cases. Building on that expertise, Mainigi, a member of the firm's executive committee, has recently represented Bank of America Corp. and other financial industry clients in fraud investigations.



ANA REYES

PARTNER, WILLIAMS & CONNOLLY, WASHINGTON

Williams & Connolly partner Ana Reyes, who was born in Uruguay, was a kindergartner in the United States who spoke no English. She graduated with honors from Harvard Law School and since then has built a thriving practice in complex international business litigation and arbitration. She has successfully defended corporate officials, foreign agencies and the Republic of Uruguay and its central bank. Reyes has also devoted time to the pro-bono representation of refugee victims of female genital mutilation, torture and racial persecution. The U.N. High Commissioner of Refugees has retained her in an array of appellate matters and commissioned her to report on current U.S. asylum law.