

Firm **Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP**
Law School **Loyola University Chicago School of Law**
Area of Practice **Defense litigation**

Anne Couyoumjian's peers refer to her as a student of the law, one who researches her cases thoroughly and spends the long hours preparing a defense for her clients.

But Couyoumjian's work ethic isn't the only reason she's earned a reputation as one of the top defense litigators in the Chicago area. She is also skilled in the courtroom, and has earned a long list of victories for her clients.

"Annie has built a reputation among her peers on both sides of the aisle as a student of the law and of trial practice who holds her own in the courtroom, in depositions and in negotiation," said Daniel Kirschner with Chicago's Corboy & Demetrio. "If I could select Annie as my opponent in all of my cases, I would, as she is a professional who is a pleasure to work with."

A Judge with the Circuit Court of Cook County's Law Division has seen Couyoumjian's work firsthand, as Couyoumjian has appeared before the judge numerous times. He has witnessed the skill of her oral arguments on various motions and pre-trial settlement conferences.

He points to one case in particular as an example of Couyoumjian's legal skill. During this case, issues arose related to possible misconduct on the part of the plaintiff, a law student who had previously attempted to represent herself.

This drama, though, did not unsettle Couyoumjian, who focused on reaching a positive result for her client. That positive result is exactly what Couyoumjian achieved.

"Annie handled the matter with professionalism and thoughtfulness, resulting in a favorable outcome for her client while still remaining respectful of the sensitive issues raised by the unique factual situation," the Judge said.

The Judge said he isn't surprised by the success Couyoumjian has enjoyed. He says this young attorney is hard-working, intelligent and has earned her excellent reputation among her peers. Couyoumjian, he said, always represents her clients well and is always well-prepared for her cases. "It is clear that Annie holds the respect of both her client and opposing counsel. She is not intimidated by complex issues, and has strong written and oral advocacy skills."

Thomas Prindable of Cogan & Power, P.C. also noted that Couyoumjian stands out because of her personality, civility, and her professionalism. "Already at such a young age in her litigation career, she is much admired," Prindable said.

Couyoumjian's success hasn't gone unnoticed. Leading Lawyers Magazine from 2015 through 2017 named her as an "Emerging Leader." She also shares her knowledge, acting as a mentor to younger attorneys at Hinshaw.

Outside of her career, Couyoumjian is an active volunteer with Urban Initiatives, a sports-based youth development program for Chicago Public School children in the city's most underserved areas. She serves as president emeritus of the Urban Initiatives Associate Board, a group of 150 young professionals from around Chicago, and is an active member of the Urban Initiatives Partners Board.

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