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WOMEN AND LAW

Rona M. Lum, P.C.

Corporate and Immigration Law

By Linda Anger



Rona M. Lum

If there is one thing Rona Lum has learned from her life, her law career, and her clients, it's that stepping out on your own—or leaving your native land for another—takes tenacity, sturdiness, and guts. That knowledge, and the personal characteristics it embodies, is the reason why her corporate and immigration practice has seen significant growth since its inception in the early months of 2005.

"In America, the laws change daily—laws that affect our lives, our holdings, our businesses, and our futures. That's why having a strong corporate attorney as an ally is important to the bottom line of any company, large or small," Lum states.

"This is particularly true for companies that transfer employees to the United States on a regular basis and have to deal with the dramatic changes in our immigration laws in the last few years."

Herself an immigrant of sorts, having left her native Hawaii for a very different life and culture on the mainland, Lum has a particular interest in helping business transferees make a legal, safe, and comfortable transition into a world that in many cases is foreign in more than just language. She's also committed to an intrinsic involvement in her corporate clients' businesses.

"We believe our clients' interests are best served by looking beyond the legal issues of incorporation filings, contracts, and immigration," she says. "It's more than interpreting the law and applying it to a particular situation. We act as an extension of our clients' businesses, providing counsel and guidance that

often is only indirectly related to the law."

Her offices in Auburn Hills, Michigan, are just down the street from DaimlerChrysler's U.S. headquarters, and those of several other international companies with relatively high rates of intracompany transferees.

Lum has been in practice since 1993. She was a featured speaker on the subject of U.S. immigration law and special registration at the Center for International Legal Studies (CILS) in Valle Nevado, Chile, in August 2002, a featured speaker on the subject of intracompany transferees and multinational executives/managers at the June 2003 CILS conference in Salzburg, Austria, and a moderator for the panel on business immigration law at the April 2005 CILS conference in British Columbia. She earned a BBA from the University of Hawaii, and her JD from Michigan State University College of Law in Lansing.

Lum holds membership in the following organizations:

- The State Bar of Michigan, International Law Section
- The American Bar Association, International Law Section
- The American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)
- The American Health Lawyer's Association, Labor and Employment Section
- The Asian American Bar Association of Michigan
- The National Asian Pacific American Bar Association
- The International Visitors Council of Detroit (board of directors)
- The National Association of Women Business Owners (board of directors)
- Michigan Women's Business Council

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