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CHARLENE VALDEZ WARNER

Senior Associate



Charlene Valdez Warner is a Senior Associate in Barton's Litigation Practice focusing on international arbitration, investigations, and complex commercial litigation. Charlene advises multinational corporations, leading financial institutions, and global businesses on a wide range of contentious matters.

Charlene maintains a wealth of experience in international arbitration gained through her work at leading international arbitration institutions including the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), the International Centre for Dispute Resolution (ICDR) and the International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution (CPR Institute). She also trained with the international arbitration team of Freshfields LLP in Paris, where she gained experience in both investor-state and commercial arbitration. Charlene further expanded her dispute resolution skillset during her secondment to the wealth management litigation team of a global investment bank, handling a range of client litigation, arbitration matters, and regulatory inquiries.

Prior to joining Barton, Charlene was an attorney at Linklaters LLP in New York, where she represented clients in complex commercial litigation and arbitration matters involving a wide range of industries, including financial services, healthcare, energy, and construction. Her experience encompasses all phases of litigation and arbitration, from pre-dispute resolution to trial and enforcement of awards.

Charlene is actively involved in the international arbitration community, serving as the Regional Lead for the Americas of the Young SIAC Council. In this role, she contributes to promoting international arbitration and ADR and helps shape initiatives that address challenges within diverse legal and business communities across Asian jurisdictions and cultures.

Charlene is fluent in Tagalog and conversant in French and Spanish.

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Education

Brooklyn Law School – J.D., *cum laude*

Queen Mary. University of London – LLM in Energy and Natural Resources Law, *with Merit*

University of the Philippines – J.D.

University of the Philippines – B.A. in Political Science, *cum laude*

Admissions

State of New York

United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York

United States District Court for the Southern District of New York

Languages

Tagalong – fluent

French – conversant

Spanish - conversant

Practices

Arbitration

Commercial Litigation

White Collar Defense

Industry Experience

Construction

Finance

Financial Services, Investment Funds, and Regulatory Compliance

Generation and Energy Services

Healthcare

Real Estate

Professional Affiliations

ArbitralWomen – Member, 2023 to present

Young Singapore International Arbitration Centre (YSIAC)

- Regional Lead - Americas, current
- Board Member, 2023-2026

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Representative Matters

- Represented a biopharma executive in related civil and criminal federal litigation involving allegations of conspiracy, securities fraud, wire fraud and insider trading.
- Represented a Latin American joint venture in two ICC arbitrations regarding a construction dispute in an EPC contract related to a hydroelectric power plant project.
- Represented a French multinational pharmaceutical company in an ICDR arbitration of a post-M&A dispute.
- Represented a biomass plant owner in a AAA construction dispute brought by its EPC contractor and in a JAMS mediation involving a long-term supply contract claim brought by a UK-based purchaser.
- Defended a West African sovereign in federal enforcement proceedings of an arbitral award.
- Defended a South African mining company in a Delaware appraisal action following a major U.S. acquisition.
- Advised multinational banks in federal antitrust proceedings alleging conspiracy to manipulate benchmark rates.
- Represented a foreign chemical company in a Section 1782 application before a U.S. federal court.
- Represented various pro bono matters, including a collaboration with the ACLU Justice Lab in two civil rights suits in Louisiana, numerous diversity programs and GenAI initiatives.

Attorney Articles

“The World Bank Group in International Dispute Resolution of Fraud and Corruption: Examining the Practice and Jurisprudence of the Sanctions Board and ICSID Arbitral Tribunals.” Co-author; Chapter 18. *Transnationalization of Anti-Corruption Law*. (Routledge, May 2021).

“The Equal Representation in Arbitration over the years: the campaign for gender diversity in arbitral tribunals continues.” Co-author. *Leadership, Legitimacy, Legacy, A Tribute to Alexis Mourre* (ICC, October 2022).

Presentations

“Using Oral Advocacy to Persuasively Make Your Case." Panelist. Webinar. Hosted by the Moot Alumni Association of the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot. (February 5, 2026).

“Power, Gatekeepers, and Representation: Who Really Shapes Arbitration?" Panelist. New York Arbitration Week. (November 20, 2025).

"Young ICCA Cross Examination Masterclass." Panelist & Mock Arbitrator. Hosted by the Young International Council for Commercial Arbitration (Young ICCA). (November 16, 2025).

Presentations (cont'd)

"Arbitration 2024 Year in Review and 2025 Outlook," Young Singapore International Arbitration Centre (YSIAC) Event. Panelist. Hosted by Milbank LLP. (January 9, 2025).

"The Impact of International Backgrounds on Arbitration Advocacy Styles." Panelist. Hosted by Fordham International Law Association, Fordham Law School. (February 28, 2024).

"My First Arbitral Appointment: Breaking Barriers to Diversity and Inclusion in International Arbitration." Moderator. New York Arbitration Week. (November 17, 2023).

In the Media

"SIAC Welcomes New Members to YSIAC Council." Press Release, Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC). (August 21, 2026).

"Charlene Valdez Warner Joins Barton LLP." *ArbitralWomen.* (October 7, 2025).