



# Pei Pei Cheng de Castro

*Partner*

New York

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## Education

- New York Law School, JD
- University of California at Berkeley, BA

## Practices & Industries

- Commercial Litigation & Complex Trials
- White Collar & Government Investigations
- Regulatory
- Lobbying & Election Law Compliance
- Labor & Employment
- Higher Education

## Admitted to Practice

- New York

## Court Admissions

- US Supreme Court
- US District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- US District Court for the Southern District of New York

## Biography

Pei Pei has more than 20 years of experience in private practice and at the highest level of New York State government. She has represented clients across a range of industries in complex commercial litigation, and she has assisted clients with complex regulatory and compliance issues, government and internal investigations, criminal defense in federal and state courts, and ethics and lobbying matters. Pei Pei is uniquely qualified, given her experience both in and out of government, to advise business and individual clients with respect to government procurement, ethics, lobbying, regulatory issues, and congressional inquiries. Her experience is also invaluable when providing representation with respect to governmental inquiries and interactions in New York City, New York State, and at the federal level.

In her role as deputy counsel to the governor of New York, Pei Pei managed high-profile disputes and controversies for all executive agencies, handled special projects for the governor, oversaw executive state litigation, and was liaison to the Office of the Attorney General and to the State Comptroller. She further had responsibility for matters involving ethics, risk management, compliance, and procurement across New York State's executive agencies. While in her role as deputy counsel to the governor, Pei Pei also served as counsel to the Executive Chamber, which works to advance the governor's policy initiatives and agenda by overseeing government operations and coordinating with state agencies, federal and local governments, and community stakeholders.

In Pei Pei's prior role as executive deputy inspector general at the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, she oversaw investigations into capital projects and services contracts with the MTA. She also spent five years as the director of investigations at the New York State Joint Commission on Public Ethics, where she conducted investigations focused on potential lobbying and ethics laws violations.

Pei Pei served as a part-time adjunct professor of law at Fordham Law School and New York Law School.

## Selected Memberships & Affiliations

- New York State Interest on Lawyer Account Fund, Chair and Trustee

## Prior Experience

- New York State Office of the Governor, Executive Chamber, Deputy Counsel to the Governor
- Office of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority Inspector General, Executive Deputy Inspector General Legal
- New York State Joint Commission on Public Ethics, Deputy General Counsel and Director of Investigations
- Peluso & Touger, LLP, Partner

## Selected Community Activities

- Museum of Chinese in America, Advisory Board Member
- Center for New York State and City Law, Senior Fellow
- Friends of Central Queens Academy, Inc., Board of Trustees, Chairperson
- Tricarico Institute for Business Law and In-House Counsel, Board Member
- Central Queens Academy Charter School, Former Founding Board of Trustees Member and Former Board of Trustees Chairperson
- New York Law School Charter School for Law & Justice, Former Project Advisory Member
- Fordham Law School, Former Adjunct Professor
- New York Law School, Former Adjunct Professor

## Selected Honors

- *New York Law Journal*, Rising Star, 2016
- Selected to *Super Lawyers* New York Metro: General Litigation, 2013

## Selected Media

- *Bloomberg Law*, "Counsel Have Toolbox to Fight Geofence Warrants as Split Widens"
- Law360, "The Growing Role of Wearable Health Tech in Criminal Probes"
- CityLand, "Must Defendants Unlock Their Cellphones? What the Law Says," "New York May Finally Have an Ethics Commission That's Here for Good and to Do Good"
- *New York Law Journal*, "Barclay Damon's Newest Partner Served 2 Years as NY Gov's Deputy Counsel"
- Law360 Pulse, "Former Deputy Counsel to NY Governor Joins Barclay Damon"
- New York State Joint Commission on Public Ethics, *Ethics & Lobbying in New York State: A Comprehensive Guide*, 2019 and 2017 Editions, Managing Editor and Contributing Writer
- *New York Law Journal*, "Sorting Out the Law on Homicide Prosecutions Against Corporations"