

CONTACT

cbk@vnf.com
206.627.4001

PRACTICES

Endangered Species & Wildlife
Land Use
Litigation & Investigations
Native Affairs
Water

EDUCATION

University of Washington School
of Law
Arizona State University

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Washington State Bar
U.S. District Court for the Eastern
District of Washington
U.S. District Court for the Western
District of Washington
U.S. Court of Appeals for the
Seventh Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the
Ninth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals for the
District of Columbia Circuit
Washington State Court of
Appeals (Div I, II, III)
U.S. Supreme Court

CHARLENE KOSKI

PARTNER



Professional Background

Charlene is an appellate attorney who represents clients in state and federal courts. She also advises clients on a wide range of legal matters and litigation strategies.

Prior to joining Van Ness Feldman, Charlene served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Appellate Section of the Western District of Washington, where she represented the United States before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit on a wide range of matters. Before her government experience, she practiced for several years in the Seattle office of a large international law firm, where she represented clients in complex civil litigation and criminal investigations and was recognized for her pro bono service, which involved matters related to human rights, asylum, and tribal affairs. In addition, Charlene served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Richard C. Tallman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

During law school, Charlene completed a health-law concentration track and served as a fellow in the policy division of the Washington State Health Care Authority and as Editor-in-Chief of the Washington Law Review. Her law review article challenging the Supreme Court's reliance on demographics to determine questions of Indian reservation diminishment won the award for outstanding student article published that year.

Before becoming an attorney, Charlene spent nearly a decade as a print journalist specializing in social issues and health care, and also worked for several years as a junior high band director. In her free time, she enjoys backpacking, bird watching, and writing fiction.

Charlene serves as one of the firm's Associate Coordinators.

Representative Experience

- Represents clients at state and federal courts of appeals.
- Advises clients on litigation and appellate strategies.
- Represents clients in amicus briefs at various stages of litigation.
- Has represented companies and individuals in internal and government investigations on a wide range of civil and criminal issues.

Government Service

Office of the United States Attorney, Western District of Washington

Assistant United States Attorney, Appellate Division

The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Law Clerk, Honorable Richard C. Tallman

Alerts

- Ninth Circuit: Physical Presence on Tribal Land Not Required for Tribal Jurisdiction Over Nonmember,

09/23/2024

- Supreme Court Rules Against Navajo Nation in Tribal Water Rights Case, 07/06/2023
- SCOTUS Issues Two Significant Decisions Impacting Tribal Sovereignty , 06/16/2023
- Supreme Court Expands State Criminal Jurisdiction in Indian Country, 06/30/2022