Panelist Biographies

Abha Khanna, Perkins Coie LLP, Washington D.C.

Abha Khanna is a partner in the firm's Litigation practice. She has experience in a range of matters, including intellectual property, antitrust, commercial contract disputes, constitutional issues, and political law. Abha has represented both plaintiffs and defendants before numerous courts across the country, from state and federal courts in Washington, Texas, Florida, and the District of Columbia, to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Prior to joining the firm, Abha served as a law clerk to Judge Judith W. Rogers of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and Judge Robert S. Lasnik of the United States District Court for the Western District of Washington. As a law student, she served as Comments Editor of the Yale Law Journal and directed a clinic providing legal advocacy for victims of domestic violence. Before law school, Abha was a high school English teacher.

Abha's pro bono work includes matters related to civil rights, international law, and custody determinations in child abuse and neglect cases.

Kate McKnight, Baker Hostetler, Washington D.C.

Kate McKnight practices commercial litigation and election law, counseling clients in voting rights and redistricting litigation and in the resolution of business and tax disputes. Kate litigates in federal and state trial and appellate courts, and has particular experience in federal courts, including the Eastern District of Virginia’s “Rocket Docket” and in the courts of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Prior to joining the firm McKnight served as a law clerk for the Honorable Claude M. Hilton of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia and as a Program Officer for the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs. McKnight received her J.D. from the University of Minnesota Law School and served as the Editor-in-Chief for the Minnesota Journal of International Law.