SHIN & KIM



Jinhee Lee

Partner

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Ms. Jinhee Lee is a partner at Shin & Kim.

After graduating from the College of Pharmacy at Seoul National University, and then the graduate school of the same school, Ms. Lee worked at Handok for three years, where she was in charge of pharmaceuticals approval-related work, etc. After passing the bar examination in 2003, during the period between February 2006 and February 2023, Ms. Lee served as a judge/presiding judge at the Supreme Court, the Patent Court, and Seoul Central District Court, to name but a few.

During her career as a judge/presiding judge, Ms. Lee handled a wide range of cases concerning patents, intellectual property rights, medical disputes, as well as insolvency cases, such as rehabilitation and bankruptcy. In addition, Ms. Lee gained extensive experience as a presiding judge in ruling civil, criminal, and family cases.

In particular, while working at the Supreme Court and the Patent Court, she dealt with a number of intellectual property cases related to patents, trademarks, and designs (damage compensation, litigation for revocation of trial decision, etc.), and co-wrote the intellectual property litigation practices and intellectual property rights working manual, which is the working-level book for intellectual property rights, as well as the online Design Protection Act guide book. Also, she published a number of articles on issues that are major themes in patent disputes in the field of pharmaceutical inventions, and in 2022, she earned a doctorate in law from Seoul National University for her dissertation about pharmaceutical inventions.

Professional Career

2023-Present	Shin & Kim LLC
2021-2023	Chief judge, Yeongdong Branch, Cheongju District Court
2020-2021	Judge, Seoul Central District Court

2017-2020	Judge, Patent Court
2015-2017	Judge, Anyang Branch Court, Suwon District Court
2010-2015	Judge, Chuncheon District Court
2008-2010	Judge, Seoul Eastern District Court
2007-2008	Judicial researcher, Supreme Court
2006-2007	Judge, Seoul Central District Court (Division in exclusive charge of health care)
2004-2006	Judicial Research & Training Institute of the Supreme Court of Korea
1998-2000	Handok Pharmaceutical Company

Professional Affiliations

2026-Present	Member, IP Trade Experts Consultative Group, Korea Institute of Intellectual Property
2026	Member, Regulatory Subcommittee, National Bio Innovation Committee
2025-Present	Vice President, Korean Intellectual Property Lawyers Association (KIPLA)
2024-Present	Arbitrator, Korean Commercial Arbitration Board
2024-Present	Outside Director, GC Biopharma
2020-Present	Non-permanent arbitration committee member, Korea Medical Dispute Mediation and Arbitration Agency
2016-2017	Non-permanent arbitration committee member, Korea Medical Dispute Mediation and Arbitration Agency

Key Experience

- Represented client in legal disputes involving biosimilar drugs
- Represented client in cases involving a pneumococcal protein-conjugated vaccine, including an appeal against a patent infringement injunction
- Represented client in cases relating to the invalidation of patents, confirmation of the scope of rights and post-grant amendments relating to a treatment for hypertension
- Advised on legal matters relating to a patent for a treatment for gastro-oesophageal reflux disease
- Advised on legal matters relating to damages for patent infringement involving a treatment for dementia
- Represented a client in cases relating to the invalidation of patents, confirmation of the scope of rights, preliminary injunctions and injunctions against infringement relating to a treatment for chronic heart failure
- Represented a client in litigation relating to the infringement of a blockbuster drug and an injunction against infringement
- Represented a client in litigation relating to the invalidation of a drug patent
- Represented a large company in a third-instance case, seeking to cancel the registration of an exclusive licence for

a drug patent

- Represented a client in a case relating to an application to suspend an administrative notification regarding the reduction of the maximum amount of health insurance drug coverage
- Represented a client in a case relating to the cancellation of an administrative notification regarding the reduction of health insurance drug coverage
- Advised on litigation strategy in a case of appeal relating to drug patent infringement
- Advised a pharmaceutical company in a patent dispute
- Represented a client in a case relating to a provisional injunction against employee transfer
- Represented a client in a case relating to the cessation of copyright infringement
- Represented a client in a case relating to the cancellation of the decision to reduce medical care benefits for medical institutions
- Represented a client in a case involving a violation of the Medical Service Act

Education

2017-2022	Seoul National University Graduate School of Law (J.D., Intellectual Property Rights Law)
2015-2017	Seoul National University Graduate School of Law (LL.M., Intellectual Property Rights Law)
2013-2014	The George Washington University Law School, Visiting Scholar
1996-1998	Seoul National University School of Pharmacy (Master’s degree, Microorganisms and Pharmaceutical Chemistry)
1992-1996	Seoul National University School of Pharmacy (Phar.B)

Qualifications

2006	Admitted to bar, Korea
1996	Licensed Pharmacist, Korea

Languages

Korean, English

Professional Activities

Seminars and Lectures

- Lectured on the Pharmaceutical Approval-Patent Linkage System at the 2026 Second-Half Training Program, Korea Intellectual Property Protection Agency (Sept. 2026)
- Lectured on “Practical Operation of Patent Trial Appeal Revocation Litigation and Its Implications”, Intellectual Property Trial and Appeal Board (June 2026)
- Lectured on 23rd Intellectual Property Training Program, Seoul Bar Association (February 2026)
- Lectured on Sejong IP Academy – Trademark and Design Dispute Resolution: Practice and Key Cases (2023–2025)
- Panelist at the Bench & Bar Conference jointly hosted by the Patent Court, the Seoul Central District Court, and the Korean Association of Intellectual Property Attorneys, on “Operation of Standardized Trial Procedures: Current Practices and Future Directions” (December 2025)
- Presented “Strategic and Efficient Implementation of the System for Investigating Unfair Trade Practices Regarding Intellectual Property Infringement", Shin & Kim LLC (July 2025)
- Lectured on “Litigation Issues in Pharmaceutical Inventions: Specification Requirements and Inventive Step”, Judicial Research and Training Institute, Lecture for Judges (May 2025)
- Lectured for 22nd Intellectual Property Training Institute, Seoul Bar Association (February 2025)
- Lectured for 21st Intellectual Property Training Institute, Seoul Bar Association (February 2024)
- Discussion on “Assessment of Inventive Step in Pharmaceutical Use Inventions”, 2024 Patent Court’s Bench & Bar Conference (January 2024)
- Lectured on "Trends of Crystalline Compound Technology", 2024 New Technology Training for Patent Office Examiners
- Presented "Recent Trends in Pharmaceutical Invention Patents and Corporate Response Strategy", Shin & Kim’s 2023 Seminar
- Lectured on "Drug Inventions and Patent Disputes", Second Half Advanced Course Training in 2023 of the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety
- Presented "An Analysis of Pharmaceutical Foreign Patent Cases", 2023 Pharmaceutical Intellectual Property Policy Forum, Hosted by the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety

Publications

- Experimental Use of Pharmaceutical Patented Inventions and Limitations on Patent Rights Enforcement – THE JUSTICE, Vol. 201 (Korean Society of Law, 2024)
- Pharmaceutical Inventions: Specification Requirements and Inventive Step, Beopmunsa (2023)
- Pharmaceutical Inventions and Reasonable Expectation of Success – Focused on the discussions in the U.S. – THE JUSTICE, Vol. 193 (Korean Society of Law, 2022)

- Intellectual Property Litigation Practices (co-authored, Pakyoungsa)
- ONJU Design Protection Act (co-authored, Lawnb)
- Intellectual Property Rights Trial Practices Guide Book (co-authored, Intellectual Property Rights Guide Book Writing Committee)
- Pharmaceutical Inventions: Specification Requirements and Inventive Step for Medical Inventions, J.D. dissertation for Seoul National University School of Law (2022)
- An Invention Eligible for Patent Term Extension: The Meaning of “New Substance” under Article 7(i) of the former Enforcement Decree of the Patent Act, Judicature (Judicial Development Foundation, 2022)
- Significant Geographical Names as Grounds for Invalidation of Trademark Registration, Collection of Dissertations in Commemoration of Chief Justice Jae Hyeong Kim (Judicial Development Foundation, 2022)
- Determining the Novelty and Inventive Step of Medical Use Inventions Having Clinical Trial Protocol as Prior Art, LAW & TECHNOLOGY Vol. 16, No. 3 (Seoul National University Technology and Law Center, 2020)
- Written Description Requirements for Selection Inventions, Judicature (Judicial Development Foundation, 2019)
- Determining the Inventive Step of Parameter Inventions – Patent Court Decision 2017heo3720 ruled on January 25, 2019, LAW & TECHNOLOGY Vol. 15, No. 4 (Seoul National University Technology and Law Center, 2019)
- Calculation of Damages for Infringement on Standard Essential Patent Rights, LAW & TECHNOLOGY Vol. 14, No. 5 (Seoul National University Technology and Law Center, 2019)
- Written Description Requirements for and Inventive Step of Pharmaceutical Use Inventions, Collection of Dissertations Published in Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the Patent Court (2018)
- Patentability of Medical Use Inventions, Seoul National University School of Law Master’s Thesis (2017)
- Gene Cloning of Arylsulfate Sulfotransferase from Salmonella typhimurium ATCC 13311 Strain, Seoul National University School of Pharmacy Master’s Thesis (1998)

Professional Accolades

- "Leading Lawyer" for Intellectual Property, Legal Times, 2026

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