SHIN&KIM



Jeong-Hyun Son

Partner

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Ms. Jeong-Hyun Son is a partner at Shin & Kim, mainly practicing in the areas of Food, Pharmaceuticals, Healthcare & Life Sciences, Medical Service, Healthcare & Life Sciences Disputes, Response to the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety's Investigation and Investigation and Administrative Disposition, General Criminal Defense and Corporate Investigation & White Collar Crime.

From 2008 to February 2025, Ms. Son served as a prosecutor and chief prosecutor for about 17 years, mainly in food and drug divisions, such as the Criminal Division 2 of the Seoul Central District Prosecutors' Office, and the Food and Drug Investigation Division of the Seoul Western District Prosecutors' Office. During her two-year secondment to the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety, she served as a special investigation planner, deputy head of the Pan-government Bad Food Eradication Task Force, and head of the Pan-government Imported Food Task Force, and unusually for a lawyer, she went to a graduate school for food engineering and obtained a master's degree in food engineering, adding to her already extensive expertise and experience in food and drug cases.

With considerable expertise she has gained as above, Ms. Son, after retiring from the prosecution, has been actively serving as a member of a variety of committees under the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety, including the Regulatory Science Innovation Committee, Internal Regulatory Review Committee, and the Administrative Disposition Review Committee, and a member of the Labeling and Advertising Self-Regulation Review Committee of the Korea Health Functional Food Association and an expert advisor for the Food Business Support Center under the Korea Food Industry Association. In addition to conducting investigations and prosecutions for more than 10 years in food and drug divisions, Ms. Son has handled a variety of food and drug cases, drug rebate cases, office manager hospital cases, and medical malpractice cases, with complex and specific issues. She has also given lectures on investigative practice in food and drug cases to food and drug prosecutors nationwide, and written several academic papers based on her accumulated investigative cases and experiences, actively contributing to the development of the industries and sectors of foods, drugs and healthcare in institution and practice.. In recognition of her expertise, Ms. Son has been certified by the Supreme Prosecutor's Office as a Certified Professional Prosecutor in Food Safety, a rare distinction for a prosecutor.

In addition, Ms. Son has handled criminal cases in various fields, including technology leakage, special, environmental, and sexual violence, while serving as a chief prosecutor and prosecutor at various levels of prosecutors' offices. As a

professor at the Yongin Branch of the Korea Institute of Justice, she lectured new prosecutors on prosecutorial practice based on her in-depth knowledge of general criminal cases and excellent practical competence. Ms. Son provides her clients with top-notch legal advisory services on a range of food and drug cases with an extraordinary strength distinguished by her ability to grasp key issues with precision and deliver outstanding step-by-step defense strategies across all stages of regulatory review, preliminary counselling, investigation, administrative disposition and litigation.

Professional Career

2025-Present	Shin & Kim LLC
2024	Chief Prosecutor of Criminal Division 1 at Suwon District Prosecutors' Office
2023	Chief Prosecutor of Criminal Division 2 at Seoul Central District Prosecutors' Office
2022	Chief Prosecutor of the Criminal Division 3 at Incheon District Prosecutors' Office
2021	Deputy Chief Prosecutor at Suwon District Prosecutors' Office (professor at Yongin Branch of Korea Institute of Justice)
2020	Deputy Chief Prosecutor at Seoul Central District Prosecutors' Office
2018	Prosecutor at Busan District Prosecutors' Office
2015	Seconded to the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety (Special Investigation Planner of Criminal Investigation Division; Deputy Head of Pan-government Bad Food Eradication Task Force, Head of Pan-government Imported Food Task Force, Food Hygiene Review Committee Member of the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety)
2014	Prosecutor at Seoul Western District Prosecutors' Office (Food and Drug Investigation Division)
2005	Judicial Research & Training Institute of the Supreme Court of Korea

Professional Affiliations

2026-Present	Expert Advisor, Food Business Support Center, Korea Food Industry Association
2026-Present	Non-Executive Director, Korea Agency of HACCP Accreditation & Service
2026-Present	Member, Administrative Disposition Review Committee, Ministry of Food and Drug Safety
2025-Present	Member, Regulatory Science Innovation Committee, Ministry of Food and Drug Safety
2025-Present	Member, Internal Regulatory Review Committee, Ministry of Food and Drug Safety
2025-Present	Member, Labeling and Advertising Self-Regulation Review Committee, Korea Health Functional Food Association

Key Experience

Investigation and Litigation

- Handled a case on a violation of the Pharmaceutical Affairs Act related to pharmaceutical rebates involving a leading Korean pharmaceutical company
- Handled cases on violations of the Medical Service Act and the Pharmaceutical Affairs Act, and fraudulent insurance claims, by numerous hospitals, clinics and pharmacies
- Handled cases on violations of the Medical Service Act related to allegations of the operation of corporate-owned illegal hospitals by MSOs, medical foundations, etc.
- Responded to the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety's investigations and administrative dispositions related to violations of the Food Sanitation Act by a large Korean food company
- Responded to the Ministry of Food and Drug Safety's investigations and administrative dispositions related to the unauthorized sale of medicines and medical devices
- Handled cases on false and/or misleading labeling and advertising for food, health functional food and cosmetic products
- Filed a complaint on behalf of a client in a case on counterfeit cosmetic/health functional food products
- Handled a case on violations of the Pharmaceutical Affairs Act committed during a pharmaceutical company's clinical trial

Advisory Service

- Provided advisory services on internal investigation and compliance for large companies, multinational companies, luxury hotels, etc.
- Provided pre-release regulatory and labeling/advertising review services for pharmaceutical, food and cosmetics companies
- Provided advisory services on responses to medical malpractice cases, fraudulent insurance claims and licenses/permits for hospitals and clinics
- Provided advisory services on the handling of a foreign matter contamination incident for a multinational liquor company
- Provided advisory services on the handling of food poisoning and foreign matter contamination incidents for a multinational food company

Education

2026	FoodTech Chief X Officer Program (FTCXO 10th Class), Seoul National University
2016-2022	Ewha Womans University, Graduate School of Food Engineering (Master of Science in Food Engineering)
2019-2020	University of Southern California (Visiting Scholar)
2007-2013	Korea University Graduate School of Law (LL.M.)
1996-2000	Ewha Womans University, College of Law (LL.B.)

Qualifications

2005	Admitted to bar, Korea

Languages

Korean, English

Professional Activities

- A Study on Self-Quality Inspection Status Analyzed by Food Hygiene Law Violation Investigation Cases and Judicial Precedents and System Improvement, Master’s Thesis, Ewha Womans University, Graduate School of Food Science and Engineering (2022)
- Problems of Food Criminal Penalty Regulations and Ways to Improve Them, Food Safety Research Institute, Commemorative paper for the inaugural issue of Food Law and Policy (2020)

Awards

2023	Service Merit Medal (for service as prosecutor)
2018	Commendation from Minister of Health and Welfare (for maintaining healthcare order)
2017	Certification as Certified Professional Prosecutor (food and drugs)
2015	Commendation from Minister of Justice (for service of implementing policy)

Professional Accolades

- "Leading Lawyer" for Pharmaceuticals and Healthcare, Legal Times, 2026

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