

Jovana Crncevic

SPECIAL COUNSEL | NEW YORK



JOVANA.CRNCVIC@WITHERSWORLDWIDE.COM



+1 212 848 9871

SECRETARY LAURA GOSHEFF



LAURA.GOSHEFF@WITHERSWORLDWIDE.COM



+1 212 848 9822



Jovana is special counsel in the litigation and arbitration team.

Jovana focuses her practice on international arbitration and public international law matters. Jovana represents clients in international arbitration and litigation ancillary to arbitration, including the enforcement of arbitration awards. Jovana has advised on international law matters such as the application of treaties, sovereign immunity, the act of state doctrine, jurisdictional issues, and recognition of foreign judgments.

Jovana has also acted as counsel in U.S. federal and state cases spanning complex commercial disputes including breach of contract, financial transactions, business torts, trademark, unfair competition, and trade secret misappropriation. Jovana has handled cases from pleadings through discovery, motion practice, oral argument, and trial. She has taken over 30 depositions and has conducted administrative trial proceedings, including witness examination.

Jovana's experience spans industries including energy, technology, financial services, hospitality, transportation, manufacturing, real estate, and consumer products.

Jovana maintains an active pro bono practice, including representation and advice on international human rights law and international criminal law. She has acted for victims in connection with proceedings at the International Criminal Court, advised a non-governmental organization on international fair trial standards, and represented individuals seeking asylum in the United States.

Jovana has taught public international law and international criminal law at the New School University.

Track record

US skincare manufacturer JAMS arbitration

Represented U.S. manufacturer and distributor of skincare products against Norwegian supplier in JAMS arbitration.

US entities arbitration award

Represented U.S. entities seeking to challenge confirmation of an arbitration award in U.S. federal court.

African State arbitration award

Advised African State on confirmation and enforcement of arbitration award in U.S. court against a U.S. entity.

Oil and gas bilateral investment treaties

Advised investors in respect of potential claims against a State pursuant to applicable bilateral investment treaties in the oil and gas industry.

Foreign judgments and arbitration awards

Advised clients on the enforcement of foreign judgments and arbitration awards in New York.

International Criminal Court

Advised the Legal Representative of the Victims in The Prosecutor v. Uhuru Kenyatta (Kenya Case 2) at the International Criminal Court on international criminal law issues and procedure.

Clooney Foundation for Justice TrialWatch Project

Advised Clooney Foundation for Justice TrialWatch Project on international fair trial standards and issues relating to a global trial observation program.

US Immigration Court

Successfully won asylum for a Syrian family following a trial in U.S. Immigration Court and successfully reunified family members in the United States.

Asylum for Peruvian client

Successfully obtained asylum for a Peruvian client following an interview with the USCIS Asylum Office.

Talks

- 'Arbitration in Times of Crisis: Strategies for Transitional Justice,' Inaugural Cornell International Arbitration Symposium - April 10, 2023, moderator
- YIAP-NY & New York International Arbitration Center - November 18, 2021, speaker

External publications

- 'Nigeria Looks To High Court Case To Nix OK Of \$70M Award,' Law360 - April 16, 2024, mentioned
- 'International Arbitration Experts Discuss Whether Arbitration is Efficient Dispute Resolution,' Mealey's International Arbitration Report - December 19, 2023, contributor
- 'Nigeria Pushes To End Chinese Co.'s Bid For Arbitral Award,' Law360 - November 17, 2023, mentioned
- 'International Arbitration Experts Discuss the Practice of 'Double Hatting,' Mealey's International Arbitration Report - September 25, 2023, contributor
- 'DC Circ. Wants Full Briefing On Nigerian Development Fight,' Law360 - June 20, 2023, mentioned
- 'Chinese Co. Says Nigeria Is Directly Liable For \$70M Award,' Law360 - May 1, 2023, mentioned
- 'Nigeria Warns Of 'Serious Error' In \$70M Enforcement Fight,' Law360 - April 18, 2023, mentioned
- 'Nigeria Can't Dodge \$70M Award, Chinese Investment Co. Says,' Law360 - April 3, 2023, mentioned
- 'States reach landmark UN Treaty to protect marine biodiversity in the high seas,' Withers Insight - March 27, 2023, co-author
- 'Nigeria's sovereign immunity defence fails in DC,' Global Arbitration Review - January 30, 2023, mentioned
- 'Nigeria Denied Immunity In Chinese Co.'s \$70M Award Fight,' Law360 - January 27, 2023, mentioned
- 'In Their Words: Associates' Lessons From Pro Bono Work,' Law360 - October 26, 2022, quoted
- 'Nigeria Says It Has Sovereign Immunity In \$68M Award Fight,' Law360 - July 13, 2022, mentioned
- 'Chinese investor takes Nigeria award to DC,' Global Arbitration Review - January 26, 2022, mentioned
- 'Withers public international law team comments on the oral argument heard by United States Supreme Court in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*.' Withers - December 7, 2021, co-author
- 'Withers public international law team files pro bono amici brief with United States Supreme Court in landmark case challenging restrictions to reproductive health and abortion access.' Withers Insight - September 29, 2021, co-author
- 'Business and human rights update: Withers' amici brief in *Nestlé v. Doe*.' Withers Insight - July 12, 2021, co-author
- 'Withers public international law team files pro bono amicus brief with US Supreme Court in case tackling human rights violations in the global chocolate industry.' Withers Insight - November 25, 2020, co-author
- 'Human rights laws could be next frontier for climate court actions.' Bloomberg Law - March 24, 2020, co-author
- 'Pro bono pursuit of judicial review for Kenyan victims at the International Criminal Court,' International Bar Association Pro Bono Committee News, Issue No. 3 - 2015, co-author
- 'The continued journey for justice: the Kenyan victims' role in the case against President Kenyatta before the International Criminal Court,' International Bar Association Pro Bono Committee News, Issue No. 4 - 2016, co-author
- 'Corporate Employees at Risk: Strategic and Practical Implications of the Yates Memo,' Washington Legal Foundation Legal Backgrounder, Vol. 34, No. 4 - 2016, co-author

Admissions

New York, 2014

Education

Cornell Law School, JD

Languages

Bosnian
Croatian
English
Montenegrin
Serbian

Memberships

New York city bar association
ICC YAF
Young ITA

Key dates

Year joined: 2019

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