

PROFILE



**Director, Intellectual Property & Dispute Resolution
Drew & Napier, Singapore**

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Qualifications

LL.B / B.Com (Accounting) (Distinction), University of New South Wales, Australia (2007)
Admitted as an Australian Lawyer in the Supreme Court of New South Wales (2008)
Admitted to the Singapore Bar (2011)

Language

English, Chinese

MERYL KOH

ABOUT MERYL

Meryl is a litigator and a Director in both the Dispute Resolution and Intellectual Property (IP) Departments. Meryl is one of the leading up-and-coming practitioners in litigation in Singapore and is highly regarded amongst her peers. Particularly well-versed in corporate commercial disputes involving shareholders, IP, digital media, video games, entertainment and technology disputes.

Meryl's distinctive competency leads her to act in many complex local and cross border litigation and arbitrations involving infringement of patents, trademarks and copyright, passing off, breaches of confidential information, oppression, breach of director's duties, defamation and employment.

Many of her clients come from the media, video games, sports, F&B, technology, and biopharmaceutical industries. Her clients include high net worth individuals, media personalities, listed companies as well as international and household names.

Meryl graduated with a double degree, Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) (Distinction) from the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia in 2007.

Meryl was admitted as an Australian Lawyer in 2008. She joined Drew & Napier in 2008 as an International Lawyer and was called to the Singapore Bar in January 2011.

In 2019, Meryl was appointed to the panel of experts ("Expert Panellist") for the World IP Organisation's ("WIPO") Fast-Track Intellectual Property Dispute Resolution Procedure for Consumer Fairs. She is also a fellow of the Singapore Institute of Arbitrators.

EXPERIENCE

Here is a sample of the matters which Meryl has been involved in:

- Lead counsel acting for Riot Games Inc in respect of disputes against NetEase Interactive, a leading video game developer and publisher concerning copyright infringements and the passing off of Riot's world-renowned first-person shooter video game Valorant. The competing video games in question are widely played across the globe, with players going into millions and where the client's game (Valorant) has amassed a very significant following (based on general internet checks, roughly 20+ million players over 30 days, about 2 million active players a day in 2022) and has international professional gamers competing in pro-esports leagues.
- Successfully acted for Ila Technologies Pte Ltd, an industry leader and manufacturer of lab-grown diamonds with the largest diamond growing facility in the world, in a patent infringement suit commenced by Element Six Technologies Ltd, a subsidiary of the De Beers Group at the High Court of Singapore and thereafter at the Court of Appeal - [2023] SGCA 5. The proceedings included a counterclaim by Ila Technologies Pte Ltd to revoke Element Six Technologies Ltd's patents in the Singapore High Court. Director Meryl Koh worked closely with the clients and the expert witnesses to learn and understand the technology behind the patents which involved areas of chemistry, physics, complex material science and mathematics. As a testament to her abilities as an advocate and a solicitor, she was also chosen to deliver the oral opening speeches for both the factual and technical tranches of the trial, against top senior counsel appointed by Element Six Technologies Ltd.
- Represented V V Technology Pte Ltd, an international internet technology company providing solutions and services to consumers and businesses using AI Technology, in an opposition at the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore's (IPOS) trademark registry and appeal in the Singapore High Court against Twitter Inc. in respect of the client's application for their hummingbird logo and trademark [HC/TA 4/2022]. The client is developing an up-and-coming super mobile App as well as enterprise and work management platforms.
- Represented an ultra-high net worth individual in an action concerning defamation, malicious falsehood and disputes involving shareholdings in an Indonesian listed company worth over US\$1 billion. The action resulted in an unprecedented award of damages for malicious falsehood and defamation of over SG\$130 million in total. (Court of Appeal case of Low Tuck Kwong v Sukamto Sia [2013] SGCA 61).
- Lead counsel in matters representing a leading fitness / lifestyle content creator and YouTube personality (with a following of 24.4M subscribers on YouTube) against a media company and another content creator in defamation and harassment proceedings (DC 131/2021).

ACCOLADES

Chambers Asia-Pacific

Intellectual Property: Domestic: Litigation 2025 – Band 3 for 4 consecutive years

- *"Her ability to distill complex technical information into actionable legal strategies, combined with her pursuit of excellence, ensured our case was approached with deep commercial awareness."*
- *"I commend Meryl for working hard and long and intelligently to get into the heart of our matter."*

- *"It was an absolute pleasure working with Meryl. I have been impressed by her efficiency, knowledge and professionalism every step of the way. Her clear communication and willingness to go above and beyond to ensure our success have truly made all the difference. I would highly recommend her services to anyone seeking a knowledgeable and efficient IP lawyer."*
- *"Meryl is a great lawyer with the stamina of an Olympic athlete and never gives up. She digs into the details of the case looking for the needle in the haystack to save the day. She has increased the odds of success in so many cases she handled for us."*
- *"Meryl is an excellent litigation counsel. She has a great eye for detail and has the ability to strategise and advise clients on their positions. She is also an expert in the IP field with great depth of knowledge."*
- *"Meryl has a great eye for detail as well as an ability to see the big picture."*
- *One client describes Meryl as a "very meticulous litigator."*

The Legal 500 Asia-Pacific

Intellectual Property 2024 – Next Generation Partner for 8 consecutive years

Dispute Resolution 2024 – Recommended Lawyer for 3 consecutive years

International Arbitration 2022 – Recommended Lawyer

- *"Meryl Koh has been consistently supportive and helpful no matter what we need. She manages our relationship very effectively."*
- *"Meryl Koh is the partner who oversaw our case and she is very strategic in her recommendations. She thinks what is the optimal solution for the company and is not afraid to put her recommendation forward accordingly and explain it clearly to the management team."*
- *"Meryl Koh is meticulous, hard-working, available at all times for anything. Her work ethic is off the charts. She will truly work all hours just to make you reassured. Her work is outstanding. Very detailed and very skilled."*
- *"Meryl Koh is a great strategist and is able to align very well with our overall objectives. We are confident that her advice is professional and her approach is to the best of our interest."*
- *"Meryl Koh has shown her integrity and delivered professionalism objectively, enabling us to call for the right decision based on her careful thoughts and views."*
- *"Meryl Koh is a prominent IP litigator and highly rated by clients, especially where the Mandarin language is required."*
- *"Meryl Koh is an excellent strategist and is dedicated in covering all bases when going to court to litigate. She did a detailed analysis of our situation and advised what our options were. Instead of recommending litigation outright, she tried to settle the matter amicably first. When the other party rejected our offer, she then took pains to prepare for hearings by amassing cases to fight our point and showed great stamina when litigating in court."*
- *"Meryl Koh is sharp and appropriately aggressive lawyer whom you will want on your side. Possessing good commercial sense and great depth of knowledge as subject matter experts, she will be able to value-add by strategising approaches for the best outcomes. First-class lawyer."*
- *Sources say that Meryl is noted for "her great eye for detail, as well as an ability to see the big picture"*

Who's Who Legal

Global Guide: IP - Patents 2024 – Recommended Lawyer for 4 consecutive years

Global Guide: Life Sciences - Patent Litigation 2024 – Recommended Lawyer for 4 consecutive years

National Guide: Southeast Asia - Patents 2024 – Recommended Lawyer for 4 consecutive years

National Guide: Southeast Asia - Life Sciences 2024 – Recommended Lawyer for 4 consecutive years

- *“Meryl Koh is highly regarded by clients for her skill in navigating the full spectrum of complex patent disputes.”*
- *“The excellent Meryl Koh is a renowned patent litigator with in-depth understanding of intricate IP disputes in the biomedical industry.”*
- *Meryl Koh is praised by peers as “the lawyer you need in highly complex litigation as she focuses in to find the needle in the haystack that often wins the case”.*
- *Meryl Koh is “at the top of the list for patent litigators”.*
- *“Meryl Koh is a top-tier advocate in contentious corporate, domain name and patent disputes. Her impressive roster of clients spans the media, pharmaceutical and agriculture sectors.”*

Asian Legal Business Asia Super 50 Disputes Lawyers 2024

Recognised as being amongst the top 50 disputes lawyers in the region (July 2024 issue)

- *“Meryl is an exceptional lawyer who has taken great care of our business and commercial interest. Although she is relatively younger compared with others whom we engaged before, her advice on litigation strategy is more on point and effective than other senior lawyers”.*
- *“As we work in new media, we needed someone who’s more progressive and able to think outside the box, and someone who understands the modern technologically focused world better. Meryl ticks all those boxes for us.”*

Asian Legal Business Singapore Rising Star 2022

Recognised as being amongst the next generation of Singapore’s leading lawyers (Dec 2022 issue)

Asian Legal Business 40 under 40

Identified as one of 40 bright legal minds in the region under the age of 40 – “40 Under 40 list” (October 2019 issue)

- *Meryl is described as “simply first-rate. She makes it a point to acquire complete mastery of the case, including the evidence, arguments and the law, no matter how complex the matter is.”*

World Trade Mark Review 1000

Enforcement and Litigation 2024 – Silver band for 2 consecutive years; Bronze band (2020 to 2022)

- *“Meryl is the deep-thinking IP attorney with great attention to detail, who digs into the evidence to find the key facts to win the day. She also has the amazing ability to zoom in on details on both a high level and macro perspective.”*
- *“Meryl is a determined fighter in court who is vigorous in her preparatory work. She backs up her points with previous cases and has a good understanding of previous cases she can draw on during the hearing.”*
- *“Her advisory was very insightful and it was her intelligible perception that gave us the much-needed confidence to proceed with our business.”*

- *“Meryl is creative in the way she approaches matters and digs into the details of cases. In terms of her work product, service and advice, she is way ahead of the pack in Singapore.”*
- *“Meryl is a perceptive strategist who precisely analyses the risks, costs and benefits of different courses of action. She empowers you to make decisions confidently, knowing that you’re not going to get blindsided by an opposing party. She practises with great moral integrity, her guiding light being her clients’ best interests.”*
- *Meryl is a “virtuoso in civil and commercial litigation”.*
- *“With civil and commercial matters her forte, contractual disputes and defamation are also [Meryl’s] strong suit.”*
- *Praised for being “detailed and methodical”, Meryl can “analyse issues from a strategical and legal perspective and is often able to lend a commercial angle to matters as well”.*
- *Meryl Koh is a “brilliant lawyer who tailors her service to the requirements of the task at hand.”*

IAM Patent 1000

Litigation 2024 – Silver band for 4 consecutive years; Bronze band in 2020

- *“Polished litigator Meryl Koh is well received among peers and patrons.”*
- *“Meryl provides sage IP advice on complex IP matters which are part of global litigation strategies. I trust her advice and she always brings fresh ideas and strategies to the table.”*
- *“In terms of her approach, [Meryl] is thorough, details-oriented, and always well prepared. In terms of her advice and work product, it is crisp, pragmatic and commercial – clearly drawing on her years of experience.”*
- *“I sleep well at night knowing that Meryl Koh is at the wheel on Singapore IP matters.”*
- *“Meryl [is] the attorney to have on speed dial when a complex IP issue arises and you want pragmatic legal advice.”*

Managing Intellectual Property

Identified as Top 250 Women in IP for 2 years (2023 & 2024)

IP Star 2024 – Patent Star for 2 consecutive years; Rising Star (2021 to 2022)

IFLR Rising Stars Awards Asia-Pacific 2021

Practice Area Awards: Litigation – Rising Star

Jurisdiction Awards: Singapore – Rising Star

Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific

Intellectual Property 2024 – Future Star for 3 consecutive years

- *“Meryl is an excellent strategist and provides you with the necessary information to make an informed decision.”*
- *“Meryl possesses a remarkable strategic vision, consistently formulating and executing well-thought-out legal strategies that align with our objectives. She exhibits a high level of legal expertise. Her comprehensive knowledge of the intricacies of trademark litigation has been instrumental in providing insightful guidance to the team and ensuring a robust case presentation. Facing the dynamic nature of*

legal proceedings, Meryl demonstrates a high degree of adaptability. She is quick to assess evolving situations, adjust strategies accordingly, and guide the team through challenges with resilience.”

- *“Meryl is an excellent strategist and goes to court prepared. She does extensive research on cases which she may use in her favour and delivers her arguments clearly and confidently in court”*
- *“Meryl is an excellent strategist and is candid at sharing her assessment of how the court will look at the charges and evidence presented. Empowering us with knowledge gave us much confidence when making decisions.”*
- *“Meryl took effort to understand our case completely, presented us the various strategies we may adopt and explained the pros, cons, probable outcomes and costs of each strategy so that we could make an informed decision.”*

asialaw Leading Lawyers

Intellectual Property 2024 – Notable Practitioner for 2 consecutive years

- *“She is a star! She is community builder and a champion for SMEs. She has a strong sense of mission, and she wants to make a difference in the world with her work. She is very curious and prioritises understanding the business context – that is client-centricity. She is a pragmatic problem-solver and doesn’t overcomplicate the issue and hence wins trust of the client.”*
- *“Highly responsive and takes a keen interest to know the client’s business and challenges faced. She has a can-do attitude and willing to go the extra mile for the client. Does not discriminate client based on fee earned.”*
- *“Thorough, empathetic and forward-looking.”*
- *“Meryl is an excellent strategist who understood our bottom lines and gave us reliable legal advice accordingly.”*
- *“Meryl is meticulous and will analyse the pros, cons and costs of each option for you so you can make the most informed decision for your company.”*
- *“Meryl has shown her integrity and delivers professionalism objectively, enabling us to call for the right decision based on her careful thoughts and views.”*
- *“Meryl is very helpful and detailed in analysing the situation to come up with the most suitable solution for the issue. She is able to calm and reassure the client about the situation to reduce the stressful situation.”*

Asialaw Awards 2023

Editor’s Choice – Impact Deal and Case of the Year: Riot games v NetEase Interactive Entertainment

Asia IP Experts 2024

Identified as a leading IP lawyer in Singapore for 2 consecutive years

Prestige Singapore Magazine

Featured as an accomplished industry leader under the age of 40 in the annual 40 under 40 report (September 2017 issue)

Singapore Business Review

Singapore’s 70 most influential lawyers aged 40 and under in 2016 – Listed lawyer

Euromoney Asia Women in Business Law Awards

Nominated as a Rising Star for IP in 2020 and 2016

APPOINTMENTS/MEMBERSHIPS

- Expert panellist for WIPO's Fast-Track Intellectual Property Dispute Resolution Procedure for Consumer Fairs
- Fellow, Singapore Institute of Arbitrators
- Member, Board of Directors, EB Impact
- Assessor, Panel of Assessors for COVID-19 Temporary Relief, Ministry of Law
- Member, Standing Committee on IP and Green Technology, International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI)
- Chairperson, IPBA Women Business Lawyers Committee
- Member, Young Professionals Advisory Group, International Trademark Association (INTA)
- Member, Appeals Board under the Private Education Act (MOE)
- Volunteer, Pro Bono Clearinghouse, International Trademark Association (INTA)
- Volunteer, Scheme Arbitration Committee, Singapore Institute of Arbitrators
- Mentor Volunteer, Relational Mentorship, and PracMentor Scheme, The Law Society of Singapore
- Volunteer, Pro Bono Advisory Clinic, Glyph
- Member, Inter-Pacific Bar Association
- Member, International Association for the Protection of Intellectual Property (AIPPI) Singapore Group
- Member, Intellectual Property Practice Committee, The Law Society of Singapore
- Member of the Law Society of Singapore
- Member of the Academy of Law

PUBLICATIONS

Meryl also contributed to various legal publications, guides and precedents concerning intellectual property and dispute resolution. These include but are not limited to:

- Co-authored the Singapore chapter of Chambers Global Practice Guide: Life Sciences & Pharma IP Litigation, 2024 and 2025
- Co-authored the Singapore chapter of Lexology GTDT on Patents, 2023
- Co-authored Practical Law's Practice Note on Scope of Patent Protection (Singapore), Thomson Reuters, 2022
- Co-authored the Singapore Chapter in the Kluwer IP Law's Manual IP, 2022
- Contributed to an article for Lianhe Zaobao's legal column, Speaking and Knowing the Law, on the legal framework for preventing online harassment and how victims can seek help ("*Understanding relevant legal protections. Surfing the Internet safely. Stop harassment*") (2 January 2022).
- Co-authored the Brunei Chapter of Manual for the Handling of Applications for Patents, Designs and Trade Marks Throughout the World 2021
- Co-authored the Singapore Chapter in The Legal 500 Patent Litigation Country Comparative Guide, 2021 and 2024

- Contributing author for Asia IP's article on how brand owners were successful in their disputes against the trademark infringers ("*Defeating trademark infringers*") (30 September 2020).
- Co-authored the Singapore International Chamber of Commerce's position paper on the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for Packaging in Singapore (23 September 2020).
- Contributing author for Asia IP's cover story on significant trademark enforcement law and regulation changes in Singapore ("*Birds of Fake*") (30 June 2020).
- Co-authored the Singapore Chapter in the 2019/2020 LexisNexis' Dispute Resolution Law Guide.
- Co-authored an article for Straits Times Supplement, Digital Life, on Defamation on the Internet ("*Be Careful, Not Sorry*") (August 2009).
- Co-authored an article for Straits Times Supplement, Digital Life, on Copyright Issues in Home-made Productions ("*Watch What you Post*") (August 2009).
- LexisNexis Guides and IP/IT Modules, Practitioners' Tool Kit for LawNet (the leading online legal resource in Singapore for case and precedent research), the Wolters Kluwer Manual of Industrial Property (Brunei Chapters on IP law), and the Katsarov's Manual on Industrial Property.

SEMINARS/CONFERENCES

- "Navigating the Pixels and Pitfalls: Gaming Law in Cross-Border Operations" Panel session – (Organised by *Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA)*), 2024
- "Managing your Intellectual Property on Digital Platforms" as part of the "Growing with Resilience through InTangibles" (GRIT) series Webinar – (Organised by *IPOS*), 20 October 2022
- "Singapore's new copyright act and copyright laws' impact on the digital world" – (Organised by *World Intellectual Property Forum (WIPF)*), 10 to 12 October 2022
- "Understanding the Copyright Act 2021 - Part 2" Webinar – (Organised by *The Law Society of Singapore*), 25 March 2022
- "This house believes that the received wisdom that litigation practice is the best foundation for a successful career in arbitration should no longer be so readily received" SIArb Annual Debate – (Organised by *Singapore Institute of Arbitrators*), 9 December 2021
- "Singapore IP Strategy 2030 & IP Arbitration" Webinar – (Organised by *Singapore International Chamber of Commerce (SICC)*), 25 June 2021
- "Preparing for Agenda 2030. Sustainable Public Procurement - adding the environment to the equation" and "Women Lawyers Unlimited" Sessions, IPBA Virtual Conference 2021 – (Organised by *Inter-Pacific Bar Association (IPBA)*), 15 to 19 June 2021
- "IP101 - Introduction to Intellectual Property - Rights, Protection, Enforcement" Webinar – (Organised by *Singapore International Chamber of Commerce (SICC)*), 12 March 2021
- "Industry 4.0 - Patent filing trends, developments and case studies" Webinar – (Organised by *Drew & Napier*), 17 December 2020
- "Mediation for IP and Technology Disputes" Webinar – (Organised by *The Law Society of Singapore and WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center*), 9 November 2020
- "Advocacy Workshop on Questioning of Expert Witnesses in International Arbitration" – (Organised by *Foundation for International Arbitration Advocacy (FIAA)*), 3 to 5 September 2020
- "IP concerns during COVID-19: some thoughts for businesses" video content for IP Week @ SG 2020 – (Organised by *Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (IPOS)*), 25 to 27 August 2020