



# MARIANNE UY ASSOCIATE

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**FOCUS AREAS**Securities Fraud

#### **EDUCATION**

Cornell University B.S. Industrial and Labor Relations, 2020 Temple University Beasley School of Law J.D. 2024

#### **ADMISSIONS**

Pennsylvania

USDC, Eastern District of Pennsylvania

Marianne Uy, an Associate of the Firm, concentrates her practice in securities litigation.

Marianne received her law degree from Temple University - Beasley School of Law and her undergraduate degree in Industrial and Labor Relations from Cornell University. While in law school, Marianne interned at the National Labor Relations Board, the Department of Labor, and for the Honorable Nina Wright Padilla of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Commerce Program. Additionally, Marianne served as Student Attorney for the Sheller Center for Social Justice, Diversity Editor and Research Editor for Temple Law Review, and Teaching Assistant for Legal Research & Writing courses.

### **Current Cases**

Boeing Company

This securities fraud class action arises out of Boeing's alleged misstatements and concealment of the significant safety issues with its 737 MAX airliner, which caused two horrific plane crashes. In 2011, under pressure after its main competitor developed a fuel-efficient jet, Boeing announced its own fuel-efficient jet, the 737 MAX. In its rush to get the MAX to market, Boeing deliberately concealed safety risks with its updated airliner from regulators. On October 29, 2018, the 737 MAX being flown by Lion Air malfunctioned and crashed, killing 189 people. While Boeing repeatedly assured the public that the 737 MAX was safe to fly, internally, the Company was quietly overhauling the airliner's systems in an attempt to reduce the

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risk of another fatal malfunction. Despite Boeing's reassurances to the public, on March 10, 2019 another 737 MAX, this time operated by Ethiopian Airlines, experienced malfunctions before crashing and killing 157 people. Even as regulators and Congress investigated the crashes, throughout the Class Period, Boeing continued to convey to the public that the 737 MAX would return to operation while covering up the full extent of the airliner's safety issues. In December 2019, Boeing finally announced it would suspend production of the 737 MAX, causing the dramatic decline of Boeing's stock price and significant losses and damages to shareholders. Since the 737 MAX catastrophe, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission has initiated a civil fraud investigation and the U.S. Department of Justice has initiated a criminal investigation into Boeing's fraudulent conduct. In February 2020, a Consolidated Class Action Complaint was filed on behalf of a putative class of investors. The complaint alleges Boeing and its former executives—including former President, CEO, and Chairman of the Board Dennis Muilenburg and CFO Gregory Smith—violated Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act by making false and misleading statements regarding the fatal safety issues with its 737 MAX airliner. The complaint additionally alleges violations of Section 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act against Dennis Muilenburg and Gregory Smith as controlling persons liable for the false and misleading statements made by Boeing. On August 23, 2022, the Court issued an Opinion and Order

denying and granting in part the Defendants' motion to dismiss, finding Plaintiffs had sufficiently pled claims against Defendants Boeing and Mueilenburg. During fact discovery, Plaintiffs filed an amended pleading, which Defendants moved to dismiss. On September 30, 2024, the Court denied the vast majority of Defendants' motion to dismiss. The case is currently in fact discovery and the parties are engaged in briefing on Plaintiffs' motion for class certification.

Read Consolidated Class Action Complaint Here
Read Opinion and Order Denying and Granting in Part
Motion to Dismiss Here

Coinbase Global, Inc.

This securities fraud class action arises out of Defendants' representations and omissions made in connection with Coinbase going public in April 2021 (the "Direct Listing"). The Direct Listing generated tremendous excitement because Coinbase was the first cryptocurrency exchange to become publicly-traded in the United States. As alleged, Coinbase's financial success hinged almost entirely on its ability to increase and maintain its customers base, particularly its retail users, which in turn drove transaction fee revenue. Transaction fee revenue accounted for nearly all of the

## Company's revenues.

Unbeknownst to investors, however, during the run up to the Direct Listing and all relevant times thereafter, Defendants failed to disclose at all relevant times numerous material facts and risks to investors, all of which imperiled Coinbase's financial success. First, Defendants failed to disclose the material risks arising from Coinbase's inability to safeguard custodial assets in the event of bankruptcy. That is, that in the event Coinbase went bankrupt, Coinbase customers could lose some or all of their assets stored with the Company. Indeed, Coinbase would later admit on May 10, 2022, that the Company's inability to protect its customers' crypto assets from loss in the event of bankruptcy made it likely that customers would find the Company's custodial services more risky and less attractive, which could result in a discontinuation or reduction in use of the Coinbase platform.

As Plaintiff also alleges, Defendants made repeated representations throughout the Class Period that Coinbase did not engage in proprietary trading. Then on September 22, 2022, the Wall Street Journal reported that Coinbase had formed a unit specifically to engage in proprietary trading and, despite its public statements, had invested \$100 million in proprietary trades. As alleged, after both the May 10 and September 22, 2022 revelations, Coinbase's stock price dropped in response, causing significant losses and damages to Coinbase's investors.

On July 20, 2023, after the Company received a Wells Notice for potential violations of the federal securities laws, and the SEC subsequently filed a complaint alleging such violations, Plaintiffs filed a second amended complaint on behalf of a putative class of investors alleging that Defendants violated Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and Sections 11, 12 and 15 of the Securities Act. On September 21, 2023, Defendants filed a motion to dismiss the second amended complaint. On September 5, 2024, the Court denied Coinbase's motion to dismiss in a 49-page opinion. The case is now in fact discovery. Defendants' motion for judgment on the pleadings is fully briefed and pending before the Court.

Read Amended Consolidated Class Action Complaint Here
Read Second Amended Consolidated Class Action Complaint
Here

**Read Opinion Here** 

## **Speaking Engagements**

 Law and Society Association, June 1, 2023, Barriers to the American Dream: An Analysis of the International Student to Employment Pipeline, <u>View Here</u>

## **Memberships**

The Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Pennsylvania

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