



ALISON GAFFNEY

PARTNER

Seattle Office

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(206) 623-1900



PRACTICE EMPHASIS

- ◆ Class Action & Complex Litigation
- ◆ Environmental Litigation
- ◆ Litigation on Behalf of State & Local Governments
- ◆ Opioid Litigation

EDUCATION

Swarthmore College

B.A., 2002, Linguistics and Languages
(Spanish & Mandarin Chinese);
McCabe Scholar

University of California, San Diego

M.A., 2007, Latin American Studies

University of Washington

School of Law

J.D., 2012

Alison Gaffney is a fighter.

Once she takes on a client—as a partner in Keller Rohrback’s nationally recognized Complex Litigation Group or as a cooperating attorney with the ACLU—she commits to doing everything she can to fight for justice for her client.

That tenacity was evident in her pursuit to reunite Somali refugee Joseph Doe with his family after their separation was prolonged because of the Muslim Travel Ban. Alison is a member of the team that sued the Trump Administration on behalf of Doe and other individuals and organizations harmed by the travel ban in *Doe, et al. v. Donald Trump, et al.* (W.D. Washington). Three weeks after the court granted Doe’s motion for a preliminary injunction, Alison had the honor of seeing Doe reunited with his wife and three sons in Seattle.

Alison is passionate about using litigation to combat complex world problems. In the National Prescription Opiate Multi-District Litigation, Alison represents over 70 city, county, and tribal governments in their fight to hold prescription opioid manufacturers and distributors accountable for the devastating effects these drugs have had on their communities. She has played a key role within Keller Rohrback’s Opioid Litigation team, and in the national MDL she has been involved in drafting the master complaints, dispositive briefing, discovery, and preparing and defending medical experts. In addition, Alison represents school districts and counties in litigation against JUUL Labs, Inc. and other e-cigarette manufacturers for targeting youth with their marketing and product design and addicting a new generation to nicotine.

Both before and during law school, Alison’s passion for justice and human rights drew her to immigration law and policy. She completed a master’s degree focused on international migration, and as a law student, she interned with the Seattle Immigration Court and the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NWIRP) in Tacoma, where she gave “Know Your Rights” presentations at the Northwest Detention Center. She represented clients in deportation proceedings through NWIRP as well as the law school’s Immigration Law Clinic, and she continues to volunteer as a pro bono attorney for NWIRP.

When she is not fighting for her clients, Alison is busy keeping up with her two sons, scrambling and climbing with The Mountaineers, and generally enjoying the beauty of the Pacific Northwest.

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

2012, Washington
2013, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington
2013, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
2014, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
2015, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington
2016, U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois
2017, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin
2018, U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
2020, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia

HONORS & AWARDS

Selected to Super Lawyers list in *Super Lawyers - Washington*, 2025-2026
Selected to Rising Stars list in *Super Lawyers - Washington*, 2020-2022

LANGUAGES

Spanish

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

ACLU, *Cooperating Attorney*
Washington State Bar Association, *Member*
King County Bar Association, *Member*
Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association of Seattle (MAMAS), *Member*
Northwest Immigrant Rights Project, *Pro Bono Attorney*