MILLER STARR REGALIA



Samantha Chen

Shareholder

Walnut Creek, CA
925.935.9400

samantha.chen@msrlegal.com

Sam has experience litigating in both state and federal courts. She has advised clients on a diverse range of matters including real property and land use issues. Sam graduated from the University of California, Davis School of Law.

Samantha Chen is a litigation shareholder in Miller Starr Regalia's Walnut Creek office. Sam is passionate about advocating for and serving her clients in a cost-effective and responsive manner.

Prior to joining Miller Starr Regalia, Sam was an assistant city attorney and assistant general counsel for numerous cities and special districts. She has advised public agency clients on and litigated a variety of matters including that involving the Ralph M. Brown Act, conflicts of interest of public officials, Public Records Act compliance, building and municipal code enforcement, and real property, land use, environmental, public works, ADA, and police issues. She has also worked with private clients engaged in contract and commercial disputes.

While attending the University of California, Davis School of Law, Sam served as an extern for the Hon. Troy Nunley of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California and the Hon. John Laettner of the Contra Costa Superior Court. She was also Senior Symposium editor of the UC Davis Law Review, a member of the school's Moot Court outside competitions team and secretary of the La Raza Law Students Association.

Practice Areas

- Administrative Law & Hearings
- Commercial & Business Litigation
- Land Use & CEQA
- Land Use - Litigation

Education

J.D., University of California, Davis School of Law (2015)

B.S., Emory University (2009)

Awards & Recognition

Super Lawyers Northern California Rising Star (2025)

Publications

“FPPC Finds Potential Conflict of Interest Based on Elected Officials’ Spouses’ Positions,” Best Best & Krieger LLP Legal Alert, November 30, 2020

“Another SB 1421 Decision Against Law Enforcement Agencies,” Best Best & Krieger LLP Legal Alert, February 11, 2020 (Co-Author)

“Public Agency Access to Data Does Not Make Data Disclosable Under PRA,” Best Best & Krieger LLP Legal Alert, February 12, 2019 (Co-Author)

“Certain Police Personnel Records No Longer Confidential,” Best Best & Krieger LLP Legal Alert, October 9, 2018

Bar Admissions

California

Court Admissions

United States District Court - Central District of California

United States District Court - Eastern District of California

---

© 2026 Miller Starr Regalia. All Rights Reserved. Attorney Advertising.