

# Women Leaders in Tech Law

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October 9, 2023

**K**ristin Linsley, a partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in San Francisco, is being recognized as one of 30 Women Leaders in Tech Law as part of The Recorder's California Legal Awards.

Linsley recently shared with The Recorder her accomplishments over the last year and advice for women starting out in tech.

**What's your proudest professional achievement of the past year and why?**

For me, it's the *Taamneh* and *Gonzalez* rulings. These cases drew so much attention, and the future of the

internet truly was at stake. We were proud of the result, where the U.S. Supreme Court broke important new ground in the area of civil aiding-and-abetting law and ruled that it need not decide the Section 230 issues in *Gonzalez*—a sensible result, not only because *Taamneh* mooted the issue, but because the core issues were not even presented on the *Gonzalez* facts.

**What's one piece of advice you'd give to a woman starting out in tech law?**

Keep a close eye on key developments and become an expert on what's new. The law is changing so fast in these areas that it's an extremely valuable asset to be well-versed in the latest developments. But also keep in mind that just because a case involves tech, that doesn't mean the old rules don't apply to help you win the case. We urged the Supreme Court to decide *Taamneh* on ancient common law principles, which is exactly what it did!

**What is a group or tool that has helped you grow in your career or contributes to the development of pipelines for women leaders in tech law?**

For me, it's been the privilege of getting to work with people within some of the most cutting-edge technology companies around—I've been lucky enough to work with Meta (for well over a decade), Salesforce, Expedia, Reddit, and many others, as well as other outside counsel who are also part of their circle. I have learned so much from this network of amazing people!

**What aspects of your work do you find meaningful?**

My favorite part of the work is how the fast-moving tech world raises brand-new issues that no one's ever considered before—think, for example, artificial intelligence—gets channeled into the same legal rules and principles court have been applying for decades. To me, the fun is making all of that fit together and using those principles to win the cases.