**Shirley U. Emehelu**

**Member of the Firm**

**Chiesa Shahinian & Giantomasi PC**

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Admissions & Qualifications

New York State Bar

New Jersey State Bar

Connecticut State Bar

Southern District of New York

Eastern District of New York

District of New Jersey

Education

Yale College, B.A., 2000, with distinction in Political Science

Yale Law School, J.D., 2003, *Editor*, The Yale Law Journal

Clerkship

Law Clerk for the Honorable James R. Spencer, U.S. District Judge (ret.), Eastern District of Virginia, 2003-2004.

**Professional Experience**

Ms. Emehelu is a white collar and investigations partner in the Litigation Department of Chiesa Shahinian & Giantomasi PC (CSG), where she practices in the firm’s New Jersey and New York offices. Drawing on her almost decade-long tenure as a federal prosecutor, during which she was lead counsel in numerous trials, evidentiary hearings, and oral arguments, Ms. Emehelu leverages her extensive firsthand investigative and trial experience and understanding of prosecutorial strategy to represent individuals and companies in connection with complex financial fraud matters — including money laundering, securities fraud, Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), investment fraud, bank fraud, mail and wire fraud, theft of trade secrets, tax fraud, embezzlement, business email compromise and identity theft enforcement matters and investigations. Ms. Emehelu also represents clients in alternative dispute resolution matters, particularly those involving complex financial, tax, and asset protection and recovery related issues.

As former Chief of Asset Recovery and Anti-Money Laundering for the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the District of New Jersey, Ms. Emehelu had statewide responsibility for federal asset forfeiture, money laundering, victim restitution and federal judgment enforcement matters and prosecuted the forfeiture of the proceeds and instrumentalities of a broad array of crimes including complex white-collar fraud, health care fraud, drug trafficking, firearms, child exploitation and defense contractor fraud matters.

Select Memberships/Affiliations

* Chair, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, CSG
* Co-Chair, Diversity Subcommittee, Women’s White Collar Defense Association (WWCDA)
* Member, Compliance Committee, Bar Association of the City of New York
* Garden State Bar Association
* Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS)
* Member, Paralegal Studies Advisory Board, Montclair State University

Insights

*New FinCEN Rule Requires Private and Other Federally Unregulated Banks to Establish AML Programs*, CSG Alert (Sept. 2020).

*COVID-19 Scams: Crisis and Isolation Create an Opportunity for Exploitation – Be Aware and Be Secure*, Celesq AttorneysEd Center (Apr. 2020).

*U.S. Asset Forfeiture Tools of “Last Resort” Now in Play Against Chinese Banks*, ACAMS moneylaundering.com (Jan. 2020).

*White Collar Cases to Watch in 2020*, Law360 (Jan. 2020).

*A Shot in the Dark: Using Asset Forfeiture Tools to Identify and Restrain Criminals’ Cryptocurrency*, DOJ Journal of Federal Law and Practice (Oct. 2018).