



The National Law Journal presents 75 of the nation's most accomplished female attorneys in the legal profession today, representing excellence in private practice, corporate counsel work, public interest law, legal education and the judiciary. In making our selections, NLJ editors evaluated hundreds of nominations submitted from around the country by law firms, corporations, nonprofit organizations and law schools. As we pared down the list, NLJ reporters and contributors investigated further to help make the final choices.



LINDA MYERS

**PARTNER, KIRKLAND & ELLIS,
CHICAGO**

For Linda Myers, billion-dollar deals are all in a day's work. As head of Kirkland & Ellis' debt finance practice group, Myers handles financ-

ing for major leveraged buyouts, public offerings, working capital financings and restructurings.

Under her leadership, the practice has grown from two lawyers—when she joined in 1994—to more than 115 lawyers.

Among her recent deals: representing Energy Future Holdings Corp. in two debtor-in-possession financings totaling almost \$10 billion. Other clients include the asset management firm Bain Capital LLC, Bristol-Myers Squibb Co., Caesars Entertainment Corp. and United Airlines Inc.

MOST INFLUENTIAL MENTOR

My grandmother, Linda Talerico, was a strong role model for me. She worked as a Rosie the Riveter during World War II, raised my mother as a single mom, and taught me that if you want something enough, it is always possible with hard work and perseverance.

—LINDA MYERS