

# *Harmeet Dhillon: A Legal Career Laced with Controversy and Triumphs*

**SUMMARY:** Harmeet Dhillon, a prominent American attorney and conservative political activist, has built an extensive legal career spanning over two decades. Known for her involvement in the Republican Party, Dhillon has represented clients in high-profile cases, including the Google Memo Case, the Berkeley Free Speech Case, and defending Project Veritas. Despite facing criticism for her political affiliations and personal beliefs, Dhillon remains a sought-after attorney and influential figure in the legal and political landscape. This article delves into her legal career, shedding light on the controversies she has faced and how she has become a well-known figure within the political and legal arena.

## **QUESTIONS ANSWERED IN THIS ARTICLE**

### **1. Who is Harmeet Dhillon?**

Harmeet Dhillon is a prominent conservative lawyer, political figure, and Republican National Committeewoman from California.

### **2. What was the case involving Ann Coulter about?**

The case involved an allegation that the University of California, Berkeley, had violated the plaintiffs' First Amendment rights when it attempted to shut down an event featuring conservative commentator Ann Coulter.

### **3. Who did Dhillon defend in 2020?**

In 2020, Dhillon defended Project Veritas, a conservative activist organization known for its undercover investigations and controversial reporting tactics.

### **4. What were some of the criticisms of Dhillon?**

Critics have accused her of supporting far-right causes and fostering a toxic political environment. Some detractors have also raised concerns about her ties to the Trump administration, citing her role as a delegate for Donald Trump during the 2016 Republican National Convention and her public defense of the administration's policies.

### **5. How has Dhillon impacted the political and legal arenas?**

Her influence and impact will likely continue to be felt for years as she remains a force to be reckoned with in the ever-changing landscape of American politics and law.

Harmeet Kaur Harmeet Dhillon is an accomplished attorney and conservative political activist with an extensive legal career spanning over two decades. Born on April 2, 1969, in Chandigarh, India, she moved to the United States with her family at two. Dhillon grew up in a Sikh household in rural North Carolina and later moved to New York City. She attended Dartmouth College, where she graduated with a degree in Classical Studies and English, and then earned her Juris Doctor from the University of Virginia School of Law.

Throughout her legal career, Harmeet Dhillon has represented clients in various fields, including employment law, civil rights, and First Amendment cases. She is a staunch supporter of the Republican Party and has held various leadership positions within the organization. This article discusses her legal career, the controversies surrounding her, and how she has become a well-known figure in the political and legal landscape.

## **Early Legal Career**

After obtaining her law degree, Harmeet Dhillon began her career as a law clerk for Judge Paul V. Niemeyer of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. Following her clerkship, she joined the

prestigious law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, where she gained invaluable experience in complex civil litigation, constitutional law, and appellate practice. After leaving Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, Harmeet Dhillon moved to London, where she served as in-house counsel for a technology company.

In 2006, Dhillon returned to the United States and founded her law firm, the Dhillon Law Group, based in San Francisco. The firm specializes in business litigation, employment law, and civil rights matters. Dhillon's legal acumen and strong leadership skills have contributed to the firm's success, and she has become a sought-after attorney for high-profile clients.

## Republican Party Involvement

Dhillon's dedication to the Republican Party has been a significant aspect of her career. In 2008, she was elected vice-chair of the California Republican Party, a position she held until 2010. Dhillon has also been a member of the Republican National Committee since 2016, serving as the National Committeewoman for California.

Throughout her involvement in the Republican Party, Dhillon has been an outspoken advocate for free speech, limited government intervention, and strong national defense. She has made numerous television appearances on major networks, including Fox News, CNN, and MSNBC, to discuss her political views and provide commentary on current events.

## Controversial Cases and Public Attention

Dhillon's legal career has not been without its fair share of controversies. Her representation of high-profile clients and involvement in contentious cases has often drawn praise and criticism. Here are a few notable cases and events that have brought her into the public eye:

### The Google Memo Case (2017)

One of Dhillon's most high-profile cases was her representation of James Damore, a former Google employee fired after writing a controversial memo criticizing the company's diversity policies. In the memo, Damore argued that biological differences between men and women could partially explain the gender gap in the tech industry.

Damore filed a lawsuit against Google, claiming that the company discriminated against him for his political views and for being a male. Dhillon represented Damore in this case, arguing that Google violated his rights to free speech and engaged in discriminatory employment practices. The case garnered significant media attention and sparked heated debates about free speech, political correctness, and diversity in the workplace. Ultimately, Damore and Google settled in 2019, the details of which were not disclosed to the public.

### Berkeley Free Speech Case (2017)

Dhillon became involved in another high-profile case in 2017 when she represented Young America's Foundation (YAF) and the Berkeley College Republicans in a lawsuit against the University of California, Berkeley. The suit alleged that the university had violated the plaintiffs' First Amendment rights by imposing restrictive security measures that effectively canceled a scheduled speech by conservative commentator Ann Coulter.

The university argued that the security measures were necessary due to concerns about potential violence and disruptions, citing previous incidents involving conservative speakers. However, Dhillon and her clients argued that the university used these concerns as a pretext to silence conservative voices on campus. The case was settled in 2018. The university agreed to pay \$70,000 in damages and revise its event policies to ensure that all speakers would be treated equitably, regardless of their political views.

### Defending Project Veritas (2020)

In 2020, Dhillon took on the defense of Project Veritas, a conservative activist organization known for its undercover investigations and controversial reporting tactics. The American Federation of Teachers (AFT) sued the group for allegedly violating Michigan's eavesdropping laws during an undercover investigation

into the union's activities.

Dhillon defended Project Veritas, arguing that its actions were protected under the First Amendment and that the lawsuit was an attempt by the AFT to silence its critics. The case was eventually dismissed by a federal judge, who ruled that the recordings made by Project Veritas were legal under Michigan law.

## Election Integrity and Voter Fraud Claims (2020)

In the aftermath of the 2020 presidential election, Dhillon became a vocal advocate for election integrity and was involved in several legal efforts related to allegations of voter fraud. While some of these claims were debunked, Dhillon's involvement brought her further into the public eye and solidified her status as a prominent conservative legal figure.

## Personal Controversies

In addition to her controversial cases, Dhillon has faced criticism for her political affiliations and personal beliefs. Critics have accused her of supporting far-right causes and fostering a toxic political environment. Some detractors have also raised concerns about her ties to the Trump administration, citing her role as a delegate for Donald Trump during the 2016 Republican National Convention and her public defense of the administration's policies.

However, Dhillon's supporters argue that she is a principled advocate for free speech and individual rights, regardless of her political affiliations. They point to her defense of clients with diverse political views as evidence of her commitment to the Constitution and the rule of law.

## Conclusion

Harmeet Dhillon's legal career has been marked by her dedication to conservative values, involvement in high-profile and controversial cases, and unwavering commitment to her clients. While her career has not been without its share of controversy, Dhillon has become a well-known figure in both the legal and political arenas. Her influence and impact will likely continue to be felt for years as she remains a force to be reckoned with in the ever-changing landscape of American politics and law.