Katharine “Katie” Martin is considered a leader in corporate and securities law. A partner at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, she oversees some of the biggest public offerings, mergers and acquisitions in the Valley.

In 2011, she led LinkedIn’s $352.8 billion IPO, considered the largest by an Internet company since Google. She also worked on Twitter’s $1.8 billion IPO in 2013. She is a member of the firm’s board of directors and governing body.

She previously served as a member of the Policy Committee and as the leader of the firm’s business law department. She has been recognized among the Top 500 Leading Lawyers in America for four consecutive years.

Residence: Soquel

Education: J.D., University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law; B.A., University of California, Berkeley


First job: In high school, I was a clerk at Albert’s Cards & Gifts in San Jose - I worked the register and stocked the shelves.

How did you get into your career: I’ve wanted to be a lawyer for as long as I can remember, probably since the second grade. My family lived in San Jose while I was in high school, but when my mom became the principal at Santa Cruz High, we moved to Santa Cruz and I got a job at a law firm. That exposure to the legal industry really solidified my desire to become a lawyer.

When I’m not working, I’m... Spending time with my husband and two children, usually either at the beach or at my kids’ baseball or volleyball games.

Something about you that would surprise others: Don’t let my American accent fool you – I was born in England.

Business mentor/hero: There isn’t anyone who’s had a more significant impact on my career and the type of lawyer that I am than Larry Sonsini.

Best advice received? To be true to myself in everything that I do.

Favorite gadget? I’d have to say my iPhone 5. hands down.

Word that best describes you? Optimistic.

Favorite stress release? Walking along West Cliff Drive in Santa Cruz and looking at Monterey Bay.

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