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## 40 UNDER 40



### Lopez handles litigation with ease



**Angela Lopez**

**Age** 31

**Title** Partner

**Company** LightGabler

Angela Lopez doesn't just handle pressure well — she thrives under it.

At her Camarillo-based law firm LightGabler, Lopez has worked her way up to partner, where she practices employment law advice and employment litigation.

Lopez said she originally pursued law because she enjoyed reading and writing and felt the versatility of a law degree would present lots of learning opportunities.

“In retrospect, it's probably not the best way to make a decision,” Lopez said. “But hey, it worked out.”

Long before being named partner at LightGabler in April, Lopez was doing clerking work at a law firm in Los Angeles while enduring through law school. Before taking the bar, the firm's partners at the time made sure Lopez understood the gravity of the exam.

“They told me, ‘No one from this firm has ever failed the bar,’” Lopez said.

Even after the exam, she said the pressure continued.

“We got the results at night, everyone was there, crowding the door to see if I made it,” Lopez said.

Needless to say, she didn't disappoint.

The one thing Lopez said she is the most thankful for is the confidence LightGabler has in her now, and the confidence they had in her before they even hired her.

“The firm that I'm at is so progressive, they hired me when I nine months pregnant,” she said. “That's pretty unheard of in this industry and this firm was awesome for that.”

A daughter of police officers, Lopez was born in Mission Hills. She earned her bachelor's degree from UC Davis and her law degree from USC. Lopez resides in Oxnard with her husband and their two children. And yet another great fortune for Lopez is her part-time gig at LightGabler, which lets her focus on her first career; her family.

“I get to spend so much time with my family and kids,” Lopez said. “My kids are still so cute, I would love to freeze them and keep them at this age.”

- **Last song listened to on your playlist?** Tom Petty, “Running Down a Dream”
- **First Job?** A lifeguard at the LA Police Academy
- **Favorite movie/TV show?** “Romy and Michele's High School Reunion”