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Linda Bithell Oliver was born in Portsmouth, Virginia, and reared in Blackfoot, Idaho. She received a Bachelor's Degree in American History from Connecticut College for Women and a Juris Doctor's Degree from San Diego State University.

Ms. Oliver is a veteran trial lawyer and a member of the Bar Associations of California, Washington, Idaho, Hawaii, Virginia and the District of Columbia. After several years in private practice, she began her career with the Navy in 1987 when she became an Assistant Counsel at the Office of the Chief of Naval Research in Arlington, Virginia.

In 1988, she transferred to the Naval Electronic Systems Engineering Center in San Diego, California, where she established the Office of Counsel for the command. In 1990, she became the Associate Counsel at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C., where she served until joining the Naval Criminal Investigative Service in 1991.

Mrs. Oliver is the author of articles on tax law that have been published in the United States and Japan, and has been a regular columnist for several professional periodicals.