



## John Chiang

**Age:** 28

**Firm:** Citigroup

**City:** New York

**Trades:** Equity index derivatives

Just two months into a Citigroup training program following his graduation from Penn in 2001, Chiang endured the unthinkable: His father, Alex, was working in IT at insurance broker Marsh &

McLennan in the north tower of the World Trade Center on 9/11. From just blocks away, Chiang did his best to stay calm while fielding calls from his distraught mother in California. He charged down Chambers Street, but was forced to turn back when the first tower fell. He would eventually learn that his dad was among the many lost. "Only recently have I come to grips with the whole thing," Chiang says. "It really has shaped who I am, how I approach life. It was a grounding moment" – because these days, he has the perspective not to get rattled or upset by everyday ups and downs.

Chiang took two months off to mourn but then returned to Citi, transitioning in 2003 to equity index options and eventually becoming a VP. Trading \$1 billion-plus, notional, of principal, Chiang makes markets and takes prop positions in all the major indices. "Huge size," an industry peer confirms.