



## *Christopher T. Casamassima*

**PARTNER**

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Chris Casamassima is an experienced trial lawyer who focuses on complex business disputes involving antitrust, breach of contract, fraud, trade secrets and other commercial issues. He has achieved significant victories on behalf of both plaintiffs and defendants in a variety of industries, including healthcare, entertainment, financial services and aerospace. Mr. Casamassima has led the defense for numerous corporate clients facing class action claims, *qui tam* claims and other matters involving significant potential exposure.

In addition to preparing cases for trial, Mr. Casamassima provides pre-litigation counseling on contract and antitrust issues to resolve disputes prior to litigation.

Mr. Casamassima has been recommended by *The Legal 500 United States*, named a Southern California “Super Lawyer” or “Rising Star” 15 times, and was recognized as a Top 20 lawyer under the age of 40 in California by the *Daily Journal* in 2015.

### *Professional Activities*

Mr. Casamassima has been active in the American Bar Association's Antitrust Law Section for many years, and has served as a vice chair of the Distribution and Franchising, Privacy and Information Security, and Cartel and Criminal Practice Committees. Mr. Casamassima is also a member of the State Bar of California's Antitrust and Unfair Competition Law and Litigation Sections, the Italian American Lawyers Association, and the Association of Business Trial Lawyers. Mr. Casamassima has also served on the Board of Directors of the Western Center on Law & Poverty.

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### *Solutions*

Trials  
Antitrust Litigation  
Life Sciences

Litigation  
Cybersecurity and Privacy

Antitrust and Competition  
Class Actions

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## *Experience*

- **FRAUD, BREACH OF CONTRACT AND BUSINESS TORTS**
  - Representing donor-advised charitable fund in dispute brought by donors alleging negligence and fraud in the inducement in connection with a donation
  - Representing Native American tribe in action brought by tribe's former attorneys, who alleged fraud, interference with contract, RICO and breach of contract claims
  - Won dismissal of action against director of medical technology company in action alleging breach of fiduciary duty for alleged improper dilution of company's stock
  - Successfully represented blood-testing company in class action alleging fraud and other causes of action based on allegations that the blood-testing technology was flawed
  - Defeated an action for preliminary and permanent injunctive relief filed against standardized test provider on behalf of students whose AP test scores were invalidated after discovery of testing irregularities
  - Won summary judgment for pharmaceutical manufacturer in *qui tam* litigation concerning alleged fraudulent claims submitted to insurers
  - Won summary judgment for medical device manufacturer in *qui tam* litigation concerning alleged fraudulent claims submitted to insurers
  - Trial counsel for individual and corporate defendants against SEC where SEC alleged multiple counts of securities fraud
  - Obtained \$1 million-plus restitution award for financial services company for amounts expended on attorneys' fees in connection with investigation into alleged insider trading by employee
  - Secured \$26.5 million settlement for a group of private investors for multiple banks' fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, and aiding and abetting fraud and breach of fiduciary duty in connection with the Reed Slatkin Ponzi scheme
  - Obtained successful confidential settlement on behalf of a group of Taiwanese financial institutions who brought claims for fraud, aiding and abetting fraud, and aiding and abetting breach of fiduciary duty in connection with the collapse of PEM Group
  - Conducted internal investigation into tribal governance and financial issues for Native American tribe
  - Secured confirmation of arbitration award of more than \$5 million for Spanish claimant in an arbitration regarding a cosmetics distribution contract
  - Successfully defended managing general agent of insurer in an action brought by an insured alleging inadequate property insurance coverage
- **MEDIA AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

- Defending major American brewery in trademark dispute brought by a California-based brewery
  - Successfully defended major movie studio in federal and state court class actions brought in connection with a well-publicized data breach
  - Won arbitration award as lead counsel after full evidentiary hearing on behalf of production company for full amount of damages sought—plus fees, costs and interest—for breach of agreement to distribute full-length motion picture in Latin America and Brazil
  - Successfully defended client in action alleging copyright infringement and breach of contract based on alleged overdeployment of software brought by software company against financial services company
  - Represented developer of successful video game franchise in licensing dispute involving fraud and breach of contract claim
- **ANTITRUST**
- Successfully defended public utility against monopolization and other antitrust and tort claims brought by solar panel company
  - Successfully defended major movie exhibitor in federal and state actions where other exhibitors allege unlawful clearance agreements and purported circuit dealing in violation of the Sherman Act and state laws
  - Obtained dismissal of complaint for a direct broadcast satellite television company, where plaintiffs alleged Sherman Act claims on behalf of a putative class seeking to require satellite and cable providers to offer a la carte distribution; obtained affirmance from the Ninth Circuit
  - Represents clients in Department of Justice investigations and civil class action litigation concerning alleged price fixing and collusion; non-confidential matters include: *In Re DRAM Antitrust Litigation*; *Brookshire Bros. et. al. v. Chiquita Brands International, Inc., et. al.*; *In Re Marine Hose Antitrust Litigation*; *In Re Flat Glass Antitrust Litigation (II)*; *In Re Food Service Equipment Hardware Antitrust Litigation*; *Rigo v. Kason Industries, Inc., et. al.*; *In Re Transpacific Passenger Air Transportation Litigation*; and *In Re Air Cargo Shipping Services Antitrust Litigation*
  - Obtained dismissal of monopolization and misappropriation of trade secrets claims brought by one California law school against another law school operating in the same area
  - Obtained favorable settlement for computer memory chip manufacturer facing allegations of conspiracy to boycott plaintiff and misappropriation of trade secrets
- **DEFENSE AND AEROSPACE**
- Trial counsel for major aerospace company in contract dispute against computer supplier
  - Won judgment as trial counsel in favor of a major aerospace company at the close of plaintiff's case during the trial of a dispute concerning the pricing of the F/A-18 aircraft
  - Won arbitration award for a satellite manufacturer in an international arbitration where claimant insurance companies alleged claims in subrogation for breach of contract in connection with the loss of a satellite; after arbitration, obtained confirmation of the award in federal district court

- Won \$64.5 million jury verdict on behalf of an aircraft systems company against a security and aerospace company for intentional interference with prospective economic advantage arising out of a teaming relationship to upgrade the B-1B bomber's mission computer

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## ***Recognition***

- Recommended in the areas of antitrust civil litigation and general commercial disputes in the 2016 edition of *The Legal 500 United States*
- The *Daily Journal* included Mr. Casamassima in its 2015 "Top 20 Under 40" in California list, which recognizes 20 attorneys under the age of 40 who have made significant contributions to the practice of law in California.
- Named a "Super Lawyer" in the 2014-2019 editions of *Southern California Super Lawyers*, and selected to the 2004-2008 and 2010-2013 lists of "Rising Stars."
- *Acquisition International* selected the firm's Antitrust and Competition Practice as the recipient of its "Antitrust Litigation Law Firm of the Year" in California.
- Life Fellow of the American Bar Foundation

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## ***Credentials***

### **EDUCATION**

JD, University of California,  
Los Angeles, School of Law,  
2000

*Submissions Editor, UCLA  
Entertainment Law Review*

BA, History, University of  
Pennsylvania, 1997

*magna cum laude*

### **ADMISSIONS**

California

District of Columbia