
Class Actions

Clients across a range of industries turn to WilmerHale for sophisticated representation in high-stakes class action litigation.

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WilmerHale has deep and wide-ranging experience and success defending clients in their most complex, sensitive and high-profile class actions, frequently in multi-defendant, industry-wide matters with significant overlapping regulatory or investigative dimensions. In the last decade, we have defended more than 300 class actions in state and federal trial and appellate courts. We are also experienced in handling the defense of class action arbitrations in a range of venues. Our nationally recognized lawyers combine vast class litigation experience with deep industry and subject-matter knowledge. We understand the serious financial and reputational risks our clients often face in these cases, and provide creative, aggressive and efficient representation to minimize or neutralize those risks.

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Experience

Obtaining a defense verdict as lead trial counsel in a federal class action jury trial in the Central District of California in a case brought against a financial services company seeking \$180 million in damages on behalf of 46,000 class members.

Representing a Japanese auto parts manufacturer and its US subsidiary in the largest Department of Justice antitrust investigation in US history and in more than 50 different class actions (each involving different products and sets of plaintiffs) in one of the most complex multi-district litigations in the United States.

Representing a Japanese electronic components manufacturer and its US subsidiary in civil class action litigation, following an international price fixing investigation.

Obtaining the dismissal by the US District Court for the District of Minnesota of a

derivative suit against members of a medical device company's board of directors, which had alleged that the defendants breached their fiduciary duties by failing to properly oversee the company with regard to the voluntary recall of one of its products.

Obtaining a landmark ruling in the US Supreme Court, which ruled in favor of a European shipping and tank terminal company and other parcel tanker owners, overturning decisions by the Second Circuit Court of Appeals and an arbitration panel that class arbitration could be imposed on the basis of standard marine charter-parties between the carriers and shippers of marine cargo, even though those contracts were silent on the question of class arbitration.

Representing a large UK financial institution in multi-district proceedings in the Southern District of New York and other related putative class action litigation in various federal courts alleging antitrust, RICO, CEA and other claims arising out of alleged manipulation of LIBOR.

Representing a private nonprofit educational testing organization in more than 20 class actions that were consolidated in the Eastern District of Louisiana through the multi-district litigation process arising out of a scoring anomaly on a certification exam that resulted in thousands of prospective teachers being incorrectly told that they failed the exam.

Achieving a victory for a life sciences company when the federal court for the District of Massachusetts dismissed with prejudice all claims in a shareholder class action lawsuit alleging violations of Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Obtaining dismissals with prejudice of a purported derivative and securities fraud class action against a pharmaceutical company, its management and board of directors related to the clinical trials and FDA approval prospects of its cancer treatment drug.