



Class Actions

WilmerHale has wide-ranging experience and success defending clients in complex, sensitive and high-profile class actions, frequently in multi-defendant, industry-wide matters with overlapping regulatory or investigative dimensions. In the last decade, we have defended over 300 class actions in state and federal trial and appellate courts. We understand the financial and reputational risks our clients face in these cases, and provide creative, aggressive and efficient representation to minimize or neutralize those risks.

AREAS OF FOCUS

- **Trial-Court Litigation:** Our success in obtaining dismissals at the pleading stage, defeating class certification and winning on summary judgment reflects our sophisticated approach to class action litigation. We handle cases addressing cutting-edge certification issues and have defeated class certification motions or limited class exposure in precedent-setting cases. And, if the case requires it, our experience successfully defending class action litigation at trial sets us apart. Based on that experience, plaintiffs know we can, and will, take cases to trial. Our in-house discovery solutions group works with our litigation teams to minimize cost and meet the growing challenges clients face with discovery.
- **Multi-District Litigation (MDL):** We navigate alternative venues for litigation, achieve early dismissals, minimize the burden of discovery, coordinate multi-jurisdictional class actions, manage MDL proceedings, defeat class certification, manage parallel regulatory proceedings, settle cases economically and neutralize challenges to their resolution, take cases to trial when necessary, and combat adverse publicity.
- **Appellate Litigation:** We handle matters in federal and state appellate courts throughout the United States and before the US Supreme Court. *Chambers USA* calls our appellate team a “bench of talent that is ‘impressive beyond belief.’” Class certification issues often present the first opportunity for appellate review in a federal class action. Combining our trial and appellate strengths allows us to shape litigation strategy from the outset to maximize the likelihood of ultimate success.
- **Parallel Regulatory and Investigative Proceedings:** We handle class actions that proceed in parallel with federal and state criminal investigations, agency enforcement proceedings, and related congressional proceedings. Our regulatory and legislative experience allows us to advise clients on a coordinated strategy for achieving litigation, regulatory and business objectives.

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Our lawyers handle matters in federal and state appellate courts throughout the United States, and have argued more than 140 cases before the US Supreme Court.

AREAS OF FOCUS CONTINUED...

- **International Scope:** We handle class action cases that raise difficult international law issues and require that the litigation strategy mesh with political and diplomatic realities. We work with the State Department, foreign governments and international tribunals to resolve cases with global dimensions.
- **Crisis Management:** Class actions often generate the need to respond to the media, Wall Street analysts and shareholders. We address these challenges, and work with clients to ensure our litigation strategy meets their business needs.

EXPERIENCE

- Obtaining a defense verdict in a federal class action jury trial, and defending that verdict on appeal, in a case 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 DOJ antitrust investigation in US history and in more than 50 class actions 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.
- Representing a client in, and settling, a high-profile putative class action asserting various privacy and tort claims related to a major international cyberattack.
- Representing a UK financial institution in multi-district proceedings and putative class action litigation alleging antitrust, RICO and CEA claims arising from alleged manipulation of LIBOR.
- Representing a health technology and medical laboratory services company in connection with state and federal litigation, including class actions, and defeating class certification in private investor litigation.
- Defeating a class-certification motion in the US District Court and successfully defending that victory before the Second Circuit for an investment banking company in a high-profile matter alleging violations of the Fair Housing Act with respect to mortgage loans.
- Defeating class certification in a federal class action, and defending that order on appeal, in a case against a major investment bank under the Fair Housing Act.
- Representing a private nonprofit educational testing organization in more than 20 class actions consolidated through the multi-district litigation process.
- Obtaining dismissals of a purported derivative and securities fraud class action against a pharmaceutical company related to clinical trials and FDA approval prospects.

For more information, please contact:

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