

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION**

LEONARD SOKOLOW, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,	)	Case No. 1:18-cv-01039
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	Hon. Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.
	)	
vs.	)	
	)	
LJM FUNDS MANAGEMENT, LTD., et al.,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	
	)	

**DECLARATION OF JAMES W. JOHNSON IN SUPPORT OF (I) LEAD PLAINTIFFS’  
MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF PARTIAL CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT  
AND PLAN OF ALLOCATION AND (II) LEAD COUNSEL’S MOTION FOR AWARD  
OF ATTORNEYS’ FEES AND PAYMENT OF LITIGATION EXPENSES**

I, JAMES W. JOHNSON, declare as follows pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1746:

1. I am a partner of the law firm of Labaton Sucharow LLP (“Labaton Sucharow”). Labaton Sucharow and Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP (“Robbins Geller”) serve as Court-appointed Lead Counsel for Lead Plaintiffs Justin and Jenny Kaufman, Joseph N. Wilson, Dr. Larry and Marilyn Cohen, Tradition Capital Management LLC (“Tradition”), and SRS Capital Advisors, Inc. (“SRS”) (collectively, “Lead Plaintiffs”), and the proposed Settlement Class in the Action.<sup>1</sup> I have been actively involved in prosecuting and resolving the Action, am

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<sup>1</sup> All capitalized terms used herein that are not otherwise defined shall have the meanings provided in the Stipulation and Agreement of Partial Settlement, dated as of August 19, 2019 (ECF No. 192) (the “Stipulation”), which was entered into by and among (a) Lead Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and the Settlement Class; and (b) defendants Two Roads Shared Trust (the “Trust”), Northern Lights Distributors, LLC (“NLD”), NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC (“NorthStar”), and Mark D. Gersten, Mark Garbin, Neil M. Kaufman, Anita K. Krug, Andrew B. Rogers, and James Colantino (collectively, the “Individual Settling Defendants” and, with the

familiar with its proceedings, and have personal knowledge of the matters set forth herein based upon my supervision and participation in all material aspects of the Action.

2. I respectfully submit this declaration in support of Lead Plaintiffs' motion for approval of the proposed Settlement of the claims against the Settling Defendants, approval of the proposed Plan of Allocation for the proceeds of the Settlement, as well as Lead Counsel's motion for an award of attorneys' fees, payment of Litigation Expenses, and reimbursement to Lead Plaintiffs, pursuant to the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, 15 U.S.C. §77z-1(a)(4) (the "PSLRA"). Both motions have the support of Lead Plaintiffs, who supervised Lead Counsel, participated in all aspects of the litigation, and remained informed throughout the settlement negotiations. *See* Joint Declaration of the Individual Lead Plaintiffs; Declaration on Behalf of SRS Capital Advisors, Inc.; and Declaration on Behalf of Tradition Capital Management LLC, attached hereto as Exhibits 1 to 3.<sup>2</sup>

3. This declaration provides the Court with details about the litigation, the events leading to the Settlement, and the basis upon which Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel recommend their approval of the Settlement and seek an award of attorneys' fees and payment of expenses.

4. The Court is also referred to the accompanying Declaration of James E. Barz in Support of: (1) Lead Plaintiffs' Motion for Final Approval of Partial Class Action Settlement and Approval of Plan of Allocation; and (2) Lead Counsel's Motion for an Award of Attorneys' Fees

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Trust, NLD, and NorthStar, the "Settling Defendants"). Defendants LJM Funds Management, Ltd., Anthony J. Caine, and Anish Parvataneni (the "Non-Settling Defendants") are not parties to the Settlement.

<sup>2</sup> Citations to "Exhibit" or "Ex. \_\_\_" herein refer to exhibits to this Declaration. For clarity, exhibits that themselves have attached exhibits will be referenced as "Ex. \_\_-\_\_." The first numerical reference is to the designation of the entire exhibit attached hereto and the second numerical reference is to the exhibit designation within the exhibit itself.

and Expenses and an Award to Lead Plaintiffs Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §77z-1(a)(4) (“Barz Declaration”), for additional information relevant to the Court’s consideration of the motions.

## **I. PRELIMINARY STATEMENT**

5. Subject to Court approval, Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel have obtained a guaranteed and substantial recovery for the Settlement Class of \$12,850,000 in cash (the “Settlement Amount”), which avoids the uncertainty of continued litigation against the Settling Defendants, including the risk of recovering less than the Settlement Amount, after significant delay and litigation efforts, or nothing at all.

6. In entering into the Settlement with the Settling Defendants, Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel were fully informed about the strengths and weaknesses of the claims and defenses in the Action. The Parties reached an agreement in principle to settle in August 2019—more than one year after the commencement of the Action. As set forth more fully below, Lead Counsel: (i) conducted a thorough investigation; (ii) filed a comprehensive Consolidated Complaint for Violations of the Federal Securities Laws (the “Complaint”) based on counsel’s investigation; (iii) opposed a motion to dismiss filed by Defendants; and (iv) engaged in mediation and extensive follow-on negotiations with all Defendants in an effort to resolve the Action.

7. As discussed in further detail below, given the facts, the applicable law, and the challenges and expense of continued litigation against the Settling Defendants, the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, represents a favorable result under the circumstances of this case, and is in the best interests of the Settlement Class. Lead Plaintiffs may not have achieved such a recovery for the class following continued litigation and, even if they ultimately prevailed on the pending motion to dismiss and at trial, any judgment would be inevitably subject to an appeal, with any potential recovery for the class substantially delayed. The Settling Defendants asserted defenses that presented numerous risks concerning Lead

Plaintiffs' ability to prove liability, particularly with respect to falsity, loss causation, and the amount of damages suffered by Lead Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class. In spite of these obstacles, Lead Counsel obtained a highly favorable Settlement that will result in a certain recovery for the Settlement Class.

8. In addition to seeking approval of the Settlement, Lead Plaintiffs seek approval of the proposed Plan of Allocation, which was prepared in consultation with Robbins Geller's internal damages consultant. As described below, the Plan of Allocation's objective is to equitably distribute the Net Settlement Fund among Settlement Class Members who suffered economic losses allegedly as a result of the asserted violations of the federal securities laws during the Class Period (February 28, 2015 through February 7, 2018). The Plan of Allocation is intended to be generally consistent with an assessment of, among other things, the damages that Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel believe were recoverable in the Action under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act"). Under the proposed Plan of Allocation, the Net Settlement Fund will be distributed on a *pro rata* basis to members of the Settlement Class who submit timely and valid Claim Forms, based on their "Recognized Claim" amounts as calculated pursuant to the Plan of Allocation.

9. Additionally, Lead Counsel, on behalf of their law firms, Labaton Sucharow and Robbins Geller, request an award of attorneys' fees and payment of Litigation Expenses. Specifically, Lead Counsel are applying for a fee award of 28% of the Settlement Fund, or \$3,598,000.00, and payment of Litigation Expenses in the amount of \$25,869.93, plus accrued interest.

10. The requests for attorneys' fees and expenses are reasonable in light of the significant benefits conferred on the Settlement Class, the quality of the representation, and the

nature and extent of the legal services provided. Lead Plaintiffs support the Fee and Expense Request. *See* Exs. 1 to 3.

## **II. HISTORY OF THE ACTION**

### **A. Appointment of Lead Plaintiffs and the Consolidated Complaint**

11. On February 9, 2018, a securities class action complaint captioned *Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd, et al.*, Civil No. 1:18-cv-01039, was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois (the “Court”) asserting claims under Sections 11, 12(a)(2) and 15 of the Securities Act for alleged misstatements and omissions in the Registration Statement, dated February 28, 2015 and related documents set forth in paragraph 51 of the Complaint, (ECF No. 114), (the “Offering Materials”) for the continuous offering of shares in the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund (the “Fund”). The Fund was an open-ended mutual fund and its shares were sold pursuant to the aforementioned Offering Materials.

12. Thereafter, seven movant groups moved for appointment as lead plaintiff. *See generally* ECF No. 111.

13. On June 26, 2018, the Court issued an Order: (a) appointing Justin and Jenny Kaufman, Joseph N. Wilson, Dr. Larry and Marilyn Cohen, Traditional and SRS as Lead Plaintiffs; (b) approving Labaton Sucharow and Robbins Geller as Lead Counsel; and (c) consolidating the *Sokolow* action with all subsequently filed actions related to the same subject matter under the caption: *Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd.*, No. 18-cv-01039 (the “Action”). ECF No. 111.

14. Following their appointment, Lead Counsel conducted a comprehensive investigation into the facts, circumstances, and claims asserted in the initial complaint which included, among other things, a review and analysis of: (i) filings made by the Trust, an open-ended investment company with several investment funds, including the Fund, with the U.S.

Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”); (ii) public reports and news articles; (iii) research reports by securities and financial analysts; (iv) press releases, transcripts of investor calls, and other public statements issued by and disseminated by Defendants; and (v) other publicly available material and data. As part of the investigation, Lead Counsel contacted 15 potential witnesses, former employees of the Fund and other persons knowledgeable about Defendants’ businesses and industry. Based on this investigation, Lead Counsel prepared the Complaint.

15. On August 16, 2018, Lead Plaintiffs filed their Complaint, asserting claims under Sections 11, 12(a)(2) and 15 of the Securities Act. ECF No. 114. As alleged in the Complaint, the claims arise from the collapse of the Fund, beginning on February 5, 2018, wherein the Fund lost 80% of its value in just two days.

16. As alleged, LJM Partners, Ltd. (“LJM Partners”), an affiliate of LJM and the Fund, was an investment advisor that managed hedge funds. LJM Partners created the Fund in 2012. As its name suggests, the Fund was allegedly marketed to investors seeking lower risk and moderate growth through a more conservative strategy that would preserve capital and avoid the massive risks of aggressive hedge funds seeking greater returns.

17. The Complaint alleged that the Fund raised hundreds of millions of dollars from investors with shares offered pursuant to the Offering Materials, which allegedly promoted the Fund as a low-risk and trend-neutral investment, with factually inaccurate statements claiming, for example, that:

- the Fund’s “Investment Objective” was to “*seek [] capital appreciation and capital preservation with low correlation to the broader U.S. equity market*”;
- “[t]he [Preservation] Fund aims to preserve capital, particularly in down markets (including major market drawdowns), through using put option spreads as a form of mitigation risk”; and

- the Fund employed “*various risk mitigation techniques . . . in order to generate returns regardless of market direction.*”

18. The Complaint alleged that these and similar statements in the Fund’s Registration Statements and Prospectuses were materially false and misleading because rather than pursuing capital preservation in a down market and having risk mitigation techniques to preserve capital regardless of the market direction, the Fund was overexposed to the risk of volatility and a down market, as reflected in its losing 80% of its value in just two days as markets dropped and volatility spiked. The Complaint alleged that the Fund actually made massive and unmitigated bets which exposed investors to excessive risks and catastrophic losses of capital, even in only a moderately down market of less than 5%. The Complaint also alleged that the Fund was overexposed to the risk of volatility through leveraged options that required the Fund to liquidate its capital to pay off its positions when the market declined and volatility increased. The Complaint alleged that the Fund’s Offering Materials omitted and failed to disclose the material risk that Fund investors faced catastrophic losses of their capital investment.

19. The Complaint also alleged that, in February 2018, the Fund suffered a dramatic drop in the net asset value (“NAV”) of Fund shares, with more than \$600 million evaporating in two days. The NAV for the Fund’s shares fell from \$9.67 to \$4.27 on Monday, February 5, and then fell again the next day to \$1.91. On February 9, 2018, LJM informed the Fund’s shareholders that a spike in volatility caused the Fund to liquidate its open positions and suffer large losses of capital.

**B. Defendants’ Motion to Dismiss**

20. On February 4, 2019, Defendants moved to dismiss the Complaint. ECF No. 151. The motion to dismiss was comprehensive and urged dismissal of the Action on multiple grounds including, among other things, Lead Plaintiffs’ purported (i) failure to plead

misstatements and omissions in accordance with applicable laws; (ii) failure to plead loss causation; and (iii) failure to bring timely claims. ECF No. 151.

21. On March 14, 2019, Lead Plaintiffs filed a comprehensive 29 page opposition to the motion to dismiss, rebutting each argument raised by Defendants. ECF No. 159. A reply brief was filed on March 25, 2019 (ECF No. 166), and Lead Plaintiffs filed a sur-reply on April 4, 2019. ECF No. 168.

22. On May 20, 2019, the parties filed a Joint Motion for Stay Pending Settlement Discussions, ECF No. 174, which was granted by the Court on May 21, 2019. ECF No. 175. That stay remains in effect.

### **III. SETTLEMENT NEGOTIATIONS**

23. On September 20, 2018, the parties agreed to participate in a settlement conference and jointly requested a stay of the Action. The parties requested that Magistrate Judge Sidney I. Schenkier assist them in determining whether a negotiated resolution of the Action was possible.

24. On October 3, 2018, following a status conference with the parties, Judge Schenkier set a settlement conference for December 21, 2018, and set a schedule for the parties to exchange mediation statements.

25. On December 21, 2018, the parties participated in a full-day mediation with Judge Schenkier in Chicago. Although the parties remained too far apart in their respective positions to reach a resolution of the Action at the mediation, the discussions allowed each Party to better understand the others' positions.

26. Over the course of the next several months, Lead Plaintiffs pursued separate settlement discussions with (a) LJM Funds Management Ltd., Anthony J. Caine and Anish



Parvataneni (the “LJM Defendants”) and (b) the Settling Defendants. The discussions with the LJM Defendants were not successful.

27. Following further discussions with the Settling Defendants, Lead Plaintiffs and the Settling Defendants executed the Stipulation on August 19, 2019. Also on August 19, 2019, Lead Plaintiffs moved for preliminary approval, including authorization to notify the Settlement Class of the proposed Settlement and to schedule a Settlement Hearing. ECF Nos. 189-192.

28. On August 28, 2019, the Court entered an order approving the form and manner of notice to the Settlement Class and scheduling the Settlement Hearing for December 18, 2019 at 9:15 a.m. to consider whether to grant approval to the Settlement. ECF No. 197 (the “Preliminary Approval Order”).

#### **IV. CHALLENGES OF CONTINUED LITIGATION**

29. As described herein, at the time of settlement, there were considerable challenges facing Lead Plaintiffs with respect to ultimately establishing both the liability of the Settling Defendants and the damages caused by their alleged conduct. Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel carefully considered these risks, and their impact on a future recovery for the class, during the months leading up to the Settlement and throughout the settlement discussions with Defendants and the mediator.

30. Principally, there is no guarantee that Lead Plaintiffs will prevail on the pending motion to dismiss. In agreeing to settle, Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel weighed, among other things, the substantial and certain cash benefit to the Settlement Class against: (i) the difficulties involved in proving falsity and loss causation, as well as the elements of certain claims against the Settling Defendants; (ii) the fact that, even if Lead Plaintiffs prevailed on the motion to dismiss and at summary judgment and trial, any monetary recovery could have been less than the

Settlement Amount; and (iii) the delays that would follow even a favorable final judgment, including appeals.

**A. Risks Concerning Establishing the Liability of the Settling Defendants**

31. In order for Lead Plaintiffs to prevail against the Settling Defendants on their Section 11 and 15 claims at summary judgment and at trial (assuming they prevailed on the motion to dismiss), they would first have to marshal evidence to establish that the Offering Materials contained a material omission or misrepresentation. The Settling Defendants would of course argue that the Offering Materials did not contain materially false or misleading statements or omissions.

32. More specifically, the Settling Defendants have vigorously contested, and would have continued to argue, among other things, that Lead Plaintiffs' claims are barred by the risk disclosures in the Offering Materials, which they argue: (i) discussed in detail the Fund's trading strategies, including the purchase and sale of particular options on futures contracts the Fund would trade; and (ii) disclosed the risks associated with those trading strategies, including large, immediate and/or unlimited losses to the Fund from its investment strategy.

33. The Settling Defendants will also likely continue to argue that the alleged misstatements are not actionable because: (i) investment objectives only announce the goal of the Fund and do not constitute a promise to investors; and (ii) the lack of any risk controls amounts to nothing more than a claim for mismanagement or breach of fiduciary duty.

34. The Underwriter Defendants, NLD and NorthStar would likely raise additional arguments at summary judgment and trial, including that they conducted robust and thorough due diligence to confirm that accuracy and truthfulness of the Offering Material's disclosures, including reviewing key documents.

35. The Settling Defendants would also argue that the Section 12(a)(2) claim is not actionable because the Settling Defendants did not sell securities to Lead Plaintiffs or actively solicit their purchases.

36. Likewise, NorthStar would continue to argue that Lead Plaintiffs failed to properly plead, and could not establish, the only claim brought against it – a violation of Section 15. NorthStar would likely argue at summary judgment and at trial that it is not subject to control person liability under Section 15, because it had no “reasonable grounds to believe in the existence of the facts by reason of which the liability of the control person is alleged to exist.” 15 U.S.C. §77o(a).

37. Finally, even if Lead Plaintiffs succeeded in proving all elements of their case at trial and had obtained a jury verdict, the Settling Defendants would almost certainly appeal. An appeal not only would have renewed all the risks faced by Lead Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class, as the Settling Defendants would undoubtedly reassert all the arguments summarized above, but also would engender significant additional delay and costs before Settlement Class members could receive any recovery from this case.

**B. Risks Related to Loss Causation and Damages**

38. Even if liability were established, Lead Plaintiffs faced further risk and uncertainty regarding proof of loss causation and damages. In early February 2018, the Fund lost more than 80% of its assets, eradicating \$600 million in investors’ capital. However, the Settling Defendants would have retained experts to opine that not all of this loss correlates to damages attributable to the alleged misstatements, and they would have argued that some or all of the losses were caused by factors unrelated to the alleged wrongdoing. They also likely would have argued that the decline in the Fund’s NAV was due to a decline in the value of the underlying securities held by the Fund and that the loss would have occurred regardless of the

representations and/or omissions in the Offering Materials. The difficulties and cost of quantifying damages in an open-ended mutual fund case, such as this one, would have been significant. These causation and damages issues would have also devolved into a proverbial and uncertain “battle of the experts,” with no guarantee of a favorable outcome for the Settlement Class.

**C. Risks Related to Ability to Recover on a Litigated Judgment**

39. The Settling Defendants maintain, and would seek to present evidence that, they were, in many respects, peripheral to the alleged violations of the securities laws. For example, NorthStar argued that it had no involvement in NLD’s operations generally or in preparing the Offering Materials specifically and that it was precluded by FINRA rules from having any involvement in NLD’s business as it related to the Fund. Accordingly, they would strenuously argue at summary judgment and trial that any damages are attributable only to the Non-Settling Defendants.

40. There are also limits relating to the Settling Defendants’ ability to pay any potential damages award. The most likely source of a recovery in this case from the Settling Defendants is directors’ and officers’ liability insurance policies, which have a limited aggregate value. The policies are also wasting policies that cover reasonable defense costs, settlements and judgments arising from covered claims. Here, in addition to the Action, it is Lead Counsel’s understanding that the Settling Defendants are involved in several parallel actions and proceedings with the SEC.

41. The Settlement eliminates these threats to collectability and guarantees the Settlement Class a cash recovery. Further litigation would have required substantial additional expenditures of time and money, involving complex issues of law and fact, with a significant risk of a lower or no recovery.

**V. COMPLIANCE WITH THE COURT'S ORDER APPROVING NOTICE AND THE SETTLEMENT CLASS REACTION TO DATE**

42. Pursuant to the Preliminary Approval Order filed on August 28, 2019, the Court: (i) directed that notice be disseminated to the Settlement Class; (ii) set November 27, 2019 as the deadline for receipt of requests for exclusion and objections to the Settlement, Plan of Allocation, and/or the request for attorneys' fees and expenses; and (iii) set December 18, 2019, at 9:15 a.m., as the date and time for the Settlement Hearing. ECF No. 197.

43. In accordance with the Preliminary Approval Order, beginning on September 12, 2019, the Court-appointed Claims Administrator, Epiq Systems ("Epiq"), notified potential Settlement Class Members of the Settlement by mailing them a copy of the Notice by first-class mail. *See* Declaration of Michael McGuinness Regarding: (A) Mailing of the Notice and Claim Form; (B) Publication of the Summary Notice; and (C) Report on Requests for Exclusion, dated November 12, 2019 ("Mailing Decl."), attached hereto as Exhibit 4.

44. Since that time, Epiq has received additional requests for Notice Packets. As of November 12, 2019, Epiq has disseminated a total of 61,745 copies of the Notice Packet to potential Settlement Class Members and banks, brokers, and other nominees whose customers may be Settlement Class Members. *See* Mailing Decl. at ¶ 10.

45. Pursuant to the Preliminary Approval Order, Epiq arranged for the publication of the Summary Notice in *The Wall Street Journal* on September 19, 2019. Epiq also caused the Summary Notice to be released over the internet through the *PR Newswire* on September 19, 2019. Mailing Decl. at ¶ 10. Information regarding the Settlement, including downloadable copies of the Stipulation, Notice, and Claim Form, was posted on the website established by the Claims Administrator specifically for this Settlement, [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com).

*Id.* at ¶ 16.<sup>3</sup> Lead Counsel have also posted similar information on their respective firm's website.

46. Pursuant to the terms of the Preliminary Approval Order, the deadline for Settlement Class Members to submit objections to the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, and/or the Fee and Expense Application, or to request exclusion from the Settlement Class, is November 27, 2019. To date, no objections to the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, or the Fee and Expense Application have been received, and there have been two requests for exclusion. *Id.* at ¶¶ 18-19.

47. Should any objections or additional requests for exclusion be received, Lead Plaintiffs will address them in their reply papers, which are due to be filed with the Court on December 11, 2019.

## **VI. PLAN OF ALLOCATION FOR DISTRIBUTING SETTLEMENT PROCEEDS TO ELIGIBLE CLAIMANTS**

48. Pursuant to the Preliminary Approval Order, and as set forth in the Notice, all members of the Settlement Class who want to participate in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund (*i.e.*, the Settlement Fund less any (a) Taxes, (b) Notice and Administrative Costs, (c) litigation expenses as awarded by the Court, and (d) attorneys' fees awarded by the Court) must submit a valid Claim Form postmarked no later than December 11, 2019. As set forth in the Notice, the Net Settlement Fund will be distributed among members of the Settlement Class who submit eligible claims according to the plan of allocation approved by the Court.

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<sup>3</sup> Epiq also established and maintains a toll-free telephone number for Settlement Class Members to call and obtain additional information regarding the Settlement. The toll-free number uses an interactive voice response ("IVR") system with information about the Settlement. In addition, callers have the option to be transferred to an operator during business hours or to leave voice messages with any questions. Mailing Decl., ¶¶ 14-15.

49. Lead Counsel developed the proposed plan of allocation for the Net Settlement Fund (the “Plan of Allocation”) in consultation with Robbins Geller’s internal damages consultant. The Plan of Allocation provides a fair and reasonable method to equitably distribute the Net Settlement Fund among Authorized Claimants who suffered economic losses allegedly as a result of the asserted violations of federal securities laws during the Class Period (February 28, 2015, through the collapse of the Fund, on February 7, 2018).

50. The Plan of Allocation is set forth at pages 11 to 12 of the Notice. *See* Ex. 4-A. The calculations pursuant to the plan are a method to weigh the claims of Authorized Claimants against one another for the purposes of making *pro rata* allocations of the Net Settlement Fund.

51. In general, the Recognized Loss Amounts calculated under the Plan of Allocation are based principally on the statutory formula for damages under Section 11(e) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. §77k(e). That formula calculates damages as the difference between (1) the purchase price (or the price at which the securities were initially offered if such price is lower than the purchase price), and (2) the sale price (or, if sold after the initial lawsuit was brought, the value at the time the suit was filed if such price is greater than the sale price).

52. Using the Plan of Allocation, a Recognized Loss Amount is calculated for each share of the Fund purchased or acquired during the Class Period as follows. For each share of the Fund purchased on or between February 28, 2015 through February 7, 2018 and: (a) sold prior to February 8, 2018, the Recognized Loss Amount for each such share shall be the purchase price minus the sale price; (b) retained at the end of the day on February 7, 2018, the Recognized Loss Amount per share is either: (i) for shares sold before March 28, 2018 (the date the Fund was dissolved), the purchase price minus the sale price per share; or (ii) for shares held on March 28, 2018, the purchase price per share minus the proceeds received per share, if any, (a) upon

redemption of shares purchased, or (b) upon the *pro rata* per share distribution of the Fund's remaining assets received. However, to conserve administrative costs for the Settlement Class, no distribution under \$10.00 will be made. Notice at ¶ 63.

53. In sum, the Plan of Allocation was designed to equitably allocate the Net Settlement Fund among eligible Settlement Class Members according to their losses. To date, there have been no objections to the proposed Plan of Allocation.

## **VII. THE APPLICATION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES**

54. In addition to seeking approval of the Settlement and Plan of Allocation, Lead Counsel are also applying to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees and expenses.

55. The legal authorities supporting the requested fees are set forth in the accompanying Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support of Lead Counsel's Motion for an Award of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses and an Award to Lead Plaintiffs Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §77z-1(a)(4) (the "Fee Memorandum") filed contemporaneously herewith.

### **A. The Requested Fee Would be Fair and Reasonable**

56. Consistent with the Notice to the Settlement Class, Lead Counsel seek a fee award of 28% of the Settlement Fund. For the reasons discussed below and in the accompanying Fee Memorandum, such an award would be reasonable and appropriate under the circumstances before the Court.

#### **1. The Time and Labor Expended by Counsel**

57. The work undertaken by Lead Counsel in prosecuting this case and arriving at this Settlement has been time consuming and challenging. From the outset, Lead Counsel appreciated the unique and significant risks inherent in this litigation. As set forth in detail above, the claims against the Settling Defendants were resolved only after Lead Counsel



conducted a thorough investigation, filed a comprehensive Complaint, opposed a consolidated motion to dismiss and engaged in extensive settlement negotiations.

58. Listed in the accompanying declarations submitted by Counsel are summaries of Lead Counsel's time in the case through October 18, 2019, as well as the expenses incurred by category (the "Fee and Expense Schedules"). *See* Declaration on Behalf of Labaton Sucharow, Exhibit 5; Declaration on Behalf of Robbins Geller, Exhibit 6. The Fee and Expense Schedules indicate the amount of time spent by each attorney and other professionals employed by Lead Counsel, and the lodestar calculations based on their hourly rates and titles.

59. Lead Counsel have collectively expended more than 2,681.50 hours in the investigation and prosecution of the Action. *See* Ex. 7 (Summary Table of Time and Expenses). The resulting collective lodestar is \$1,745,817.00, which does not include any time that has been, or will be, spent from October 19, 2019 forward to draft the motion for approval of the Settlement, analyze objections and requests for exclusion, prepare reply papers, prepare for and appear at the Settlement Hearing, assist members of the Settlement Class with their Claim Forms, shepherd the claims process, respond to Class Member inquiries, and distribute the Net Settlement Fund.

## **2. The Skill Required and Quality of the Legal Work**

60. The expertise and experience of counsel are important considerations in setting a fair fee. As demonstrated by the attached firm résumés, Labaton Sucharow and Robbins Geller are experienced and skilled class action securities litigators with successful track records in securities cases throughout the country—including within this Circuit—but are also not deterred from taking cases to trial. *See* Exs. 5 - F and 6 - D.

61. Labaton Sucharow has served as lead counsel in a number of high profile matters, for example: *In re Am. Int'l Grp, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, No. 04-cv-8141 (S.D.N.Y.) (representing the

Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, State Teachers Retirement System of Ohio, and Ohio Police & Fire Pension Fund and reaching settlements of \$1 billion); *In re HealthSouth Corp. Sec. Litig.*, No. 03-cv-1500 (N.D. Ala.) (representing the State of Michigan Retirement System, New Mexico State Investment Council, and the New Mexico Educational Retirement Board and securing settlements of more than \$600 million); and *In re Bear Stearns Cos. Sec., Derivative, & ERISA Litig.*, No. 07-cv-10453 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 5, 2009) (representing the State of Michigan Retirement System and reaching settlements of \$294.9 million). Labaton Sucharow has not hesitated to try securities fraud class actions that could not be satisfactorily resolved. *See, e.g., In re Real Estate Assoc. Ltd. Partnership Litig.*, No. 98-cv-7035 (C.D. Cal. 2002) (\$184 jury verdict for plaintiffs), *In re BankAtlantic Bancorp, Inc.*, No. 07-cv-61542 (S.D. Fla. 2010) (after plaintiffs' jury verdict, court granted defendants' motion for judgment as a matter of law on loss causation grounds), *aff'd*, 688 F. 3d 713 (11th Cir. 2012) (trial court erred, but defendants entitled to judgment as matter of law on lack of loss causation); *In re JDS Uniphase Sec. Litig.*, No. 02-cv-1486 (N.D. Cal. 2007) (jury verdict for defendants).

62. The qualifications of Robbins Geller and its attorneys in this Action are discussed in Exhibit 6 - D, as well as the accompanying Barz Declaration.

### **3. Standing and Caliber of Opposing Counsel**

63. The quality of the work performed by Lead Counsel in attaining the Settlement should also be evaluated in light of the quality of opposing counsel. Here, the Settling Defendants were represented by well-known defense firms Blank Rome LLP, Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP, Goodwin Procter LLP, and Sidley Austin LLP. These counsel are highly skilled and experienced securities attorneys with vast resources. In the face of this knowledgeable and formidable defense, Lead Counsel were nonetheless able to develop a case that was sufficiently

strong to persuade the Settling Defendants to settle on terms that are favorable to the Settlement Class.

#### **4. The Risks of Litigation and the Contingent Nature of the Fee**

64. Although Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel believe the case against the Settling Defendants is strong, as discussed above, this Action presented substantial challenges from the start. The specific risks Lead Plaintiffs faced in proving liability, loss causation and damages, along with the challenges and risks of proceeding to trial, are detailed in Section IV, above. The allegations would culminate in a trial of factually intricate and complex issues involving, among other things, the decline in the Fund's NAV, the decline in the value of the underlying securities held by the Fund, and whether the losses alleged by the class would have occurred regardless of the representations and/or omissions in the Offering Materials. These case-specific risks are in addition to the more typical risks accompanying securities class action litigation. There was no restatement of financial results, or governmental investigation or proceeding that provided a roadmap for Lead Counsel.

65. Here, from the outset of the case, Lead Counsel understood that they were embarking on a complex, expensive, risky, and potentially lengthy litigation with no guarantee of ever being compensated for the substantial investment of time and money the case would require. In undertaking this responsibility, Lead Counsel were obligated to ensure that sufficient resources were dedicated to the prosecution of the Action, and that funds were available to compensate staff and to cover the considerable costs that a case such as this requires. Given these concerns, the financial burden on contingent-fee counsel is far greater than on a firm that is paid on an ongoing basis.

66. Lead Counsel know from experience that the commencement of a class action does not guarantee a settlement. Lead Counsel are aware of many hard-fought lawsuits where,

because of the discovery of facts unknown when the case was commenced, or changes in the law during the pendency of the case, or a decision of a judge or jury following a trial on the merits, excellent professional efforts of members of the plaintiffs' bar produced no fee for counsel. Prosecuting securities class actions on a contingent basis is akin to navigating a minefield of hurdles. The PSLRA substantially changed the landscape. Even with the most vigorous and competent of efforts, success in contingent-fee litigation, such as this, is never assured—even after a successful trial.

67. Federal circuit court cases include numerous opinions affirming dismissals with prejudice in securities cases. The many appellate decisions affirming summary judgment dismissals show that even surviving a motion to dismiss is not a guarantee of recovery. *See, e.g., McCabe v. Ernst & Young, LLP*, 494 F.3d 418 (3d Cir. 2007); *In re Oracle Corp. Sec. Litig.*, 627 F.3d 376 (9th Cir. 2010); *In re Silicon Graphics, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 183 F.3d 970 (9th Cir. 1999); *Phillips v. Scientific-Atlanta, Inc.*, 489 F. App'x. 339 (11th Cir. 2012); *In re Smith & Wesson Holding Corp. Sec. Litig.*, 669 F.3d 68 (1st Cir. 2012); *In re Digi Int'l Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 14 F. App'x. 714 (8th Cir. 2001); *Geffon v. Micrion Corp.*, 249 F.3d 29 (1st Cir. 2001).

68. Successfully opposing a motion for summary judgment is also not a guarantee that plaintiffs will prevail at trial. While only a few securities class actions have been tried before a jury, several have been lost in their entirety, such as *In re JDS Uniphase Securities Litigation*, Case No. C-02-1486 CW (EDL), slip op. (N.D. Cal. Nov. 27, 2007) (tried by Labaton Sucharow), or substantially lost, such as *In re Clarent Corp. Securities Litigation*, Case No. C-01-3361 CRB, slip op. (N.D. Cal. Feb. 16, 2005).

69. Even plaintiffs who succeed at trial may find their verdict overturned by a post trial motion for a directed verdict or on appeal. *See, e.g., In re BankAtlantic Bancorp, Inc.*, No.

07-cv-61542 (S.D. Fla. 2010) (in case tried by Labaton Sucharow, after plaintiffs' jury verdict, court granted defendants' motion for judgment as a matter of law on loss causation grounds), *aff'd*, 688 F. 3d 713 (11th Cir. 2012) (trial court erred, but defendants entitled to judgment as matter of law on lack of loss causation); *Ward v. Succession of Freeman*, 854 F.2d 780 (5th Cir. 1998) (reversing plaintiffs' jury verdict for securities fraud); *Anixter v. Home-Stake Prod. Co.*, 77 F.3d 1215 (10th Cir. 1996) (overturning plaintiffs' verdict obtained after two decades of litigation); *Glickenhous & Co., et al. v. Household Int'l, Inc., et al.*, 787 F.3d 408 (7th Cir. 2015) (remanding for additional trial after jury verdict in favor of plaintiffs and 13 years of litigation); *Robbins v. Koger Props., Inc.*, 116 F.3d 1441 (11th Cir. 1997) (reversing \$81 million jury verdict and dismissing case with prejudice). And, the path to maintaining a favorable jury verdict can be arduous and time consuming. *See, e.g., In re Apollo Grp., Inc. Sec. Litig.*, Case No. CV-04-2147-PHX-JAT, 2008 WL 3072731 (D. Ariz. Aug. 4, 2008), *rev'd*, No. 08-16971, 2010 WL 5927988 (9th Cir. June 23, 2010) (case litigated for seven years; trial court rejecting unanimous verdict for plaintiffs, which was later reinstated by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals) and judgment re-entered (*id.*) after denial by the Supreme Court of the United States of defendants' Petition for Writ of Certiorari (*Apollo Grp. Inc. v. Police Annuity and Benefit Fund*, 562 U.S. 1270 (2011)).

70. It takes hard work and diligence by skilled counsel to develop the facts and theories that are needed to sustain a complaint, win at trial or, as particularly relevant in this case, present a strong argument necessary to tenaciously obtain a significant recovery in settlement discussions. Courts have repeatedly recognized that it is in the public interest to have experienced and able counsel enforce the securities laws and regulations pertaining to the duties

of officers and directors of public companies. If this important public policy is to be carried out, courts should award fees that adequately compensate plaintiffs' counsel.

#### **5. The Reaction of the Settlement Class to Date**

71. As set forth above, Notice has been disseminated to more than 61,000 potential Settlement Class Members and nominees. Mailing Decl. at ¶ 10. In addition, the Summary Notice was published in the *Wall Street Journal* and transmitted over the *PR Newswire*. Mailing Decl. at ¶ 13. The Notice, along with other documents related to the Settlement, was posted on a dedicated settlement website. *Id.* at ¶ 16. The Notice explains the Settlement and Lead Counsel's anticipated fee request. The deadline for receipt of objections to Lead Counsel's fee and expense request is November 27, 2019. To date, no Settlement Class Member has objected to Lead Counsel's request for attorneys' fees and payment of expenses.

#### **B. Application for Payment of Litigation Expenses**

72. Lead Counsel also seek payment of \$25,869.93 in Litigation Expenses reasonably and actually incurred by Lead Counsel in connection with commencing and prosecuting the claims against the Defendants over the course of the last two years. The Notice apprises potential Settlement Class Members that Lead Counsel intended to seek payment of expenses in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00. The amount of the Litigation Expenses actually requested is less than what was stated in the Notice and, to date, no objection has been raised to the request for expenses. These expenses were all reasonably and necessarily incurred in connection with the prosecution of this Action on behalf of the Settlement Class.

73. As set forth in the Expense Schedules in the accompanying declarations, Lead Counsel have incurred a total of \$25,869.93 in expenses through October 18, 2019, in connection with the prosecution of this Action. *See* Exs. 5 to 7. The expenses are reflected on the books and records maintained by Lead Counsel. These books and records are prepared from expense

vouchers, check records, and other source materials, and are an accurate record of the expenses incurred.

74. The expenses for which Lead Counsel seek payment are the types of expenses that are necessarily incurred in litigation and routinely charged to clients billed by the hour. These expenses include, among others, the costs of filing and service fees, long-distance telephone, duplicating, online research databases, and work-related travel.

75. The expenses incurred were reasonable and necessary to pursue the interests of the class.

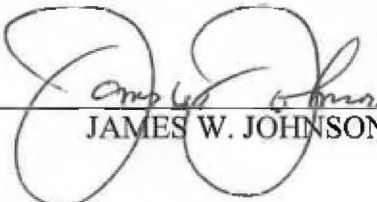
#### **VIII. MISCELLANEOUS EXHIBITS**

76. Annexed hereto as Exhibit 8 is an appendix of unreported authorities, which are cited in the accompanying Fee Memorandum.

#### **IX. CONCLUSION**

77. In view of the favorable recovery for the Settlement Class and the substantial challenges presented by the claims against the Settling Defendants and the facts of this case, as described above and in the accompanying declarations and memorandum of law, I respectfully submit that the Settlement should be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate and that the proposed Plan of Allocation should likewise be approved as fair, reasonable, and adequate. In view of the recovery achieved and the quality of work performed, among other things, as described above and in the accompanying declarations and memorandum of law, I respectfully submit that the Fee and Expense Application should be approved in full.

I declare, under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing facts are true and correct. Executed  
this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019

  
JAMES W. JOHNSON



**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on November 13, 2019, I caused the foregoing DECLARATION OF JAMES W. JOHNSON IN SUPPORT OF (I) LEAD PLAINTIFFS' MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF PARTIAL CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND PLAN OF ALLOCATION AND (II) LEAD COUNSEL'S MOTION FOR AWARD OF ATTORNEYS' FEES AND PAYMENT OF LITIGATION EXPENSES to be served electronically through the Court's ECF system upon all registered ECF participants.

/s/ James E. Barz

JAMES E. BARZ

**LIST OF EXHIBITS**

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| <b>Exhibit 1</b> | Joint Declaration of the Individual Lead Plaintiffs  |
| <b>Exhibit 2</b> | Declaration on Behalf of SRS Capital Advisors, Inc.  |
| <b>Exhibit 3</b> | Declaration on Behalf of Tradition Capital Management LLC  |
| <b>Exhibit 4</b> | Declaration of Michael McGuinness Regarding: (A) Mailing of the Notice and Claim Form; (B) Publication of the Summary Notice; and (C) Report on Requests for Exclusion |
| <b>Exhibit 5</b> | Declaration of James W. Johnson Filed on Behalf of Labaton Sucharow LLP in Support of Application for Award of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses                            |
| <b>Exhibit 6</b> | Declaration of James E. Barz Filed on Behalf of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP in Support of Application for Award of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses                   |
| <b>Exhibit 7</b> | Summary Table of Time and Expenses   |
| <b>Exhibit 8</b> | Appendix of Unreported Authorities   |

# **EXHIBIT 1**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

LEONARD SOKOLOW, Individually and on )	No. 1:18-cv-01039
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, )	
Plaintiff, )	<u>CLASS ACTION</u>
vs. )	Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.
LJM FUNDS MANAGEMENT, LTD., et al., )	
Defendants. )	
_____ )	

JOINT DECLARATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL LEAD PLAINTIFFS

We, Justin and Jenny Kaufman (a married couple), Dr. Larry and Marilyn Cohen (a married couple), and Joseph N. Wilson (collectively, the “Individual Lead Plaintiffs”), together declare as follows:

1. We moved to be appointed as Lead Plaintiffs in this action. We also moved and were later appointed to be Lead Plaintiffs with SRS Capital Advisors, Inc. and Tradition Capital Management LLC. We all reside in New Mexico. Justin and Jenny Kaufman are attorneys, Dr. Larry and Marilyn Cohen are retired, and Joseph Wilson is a management consultant. During the Class Period, we collectively purchased more than 317,000 shares of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund (the “Fund”). We each have personal knowledge of the statements herein, and, if called as witnesses, could and would testify competently thereto.

2. We respectfully submit this declaration in support of final approval of the \$12,850,000 settlement (“the Settlement”), the plan of allocation, and the reimbursement of expenses incurred by our counsel in litigating this case and an award of attorneys’ fees of 28% of the Settlement. We also submit this declaration in support of our request for an award of \$2,000 for each of the Individual Lead Plaintiffs for the time we spent monitoring and participating in the litigation.

3. On June 26, 2018, this Court appointed us to serve as Lead Plaintiffs in this action. In fulfillment of our representation of the Class, we expended time and effort monitoring and participating in the litigation, including, but not limited to:

(a) engaging in phone conferences and correspondence with each other and our counsel about case strategy and decisions regarding the litigation and settlement, including in connection with our appointment as lead plaintiff, the Consolidated Complaint, other case filings and events, the December 2018 settlement conference (which did not result in an agreement), and settlement negotiations both before and after the settlement conference;

(b) collecting and evaluating trading records;

(c) reviewing draft filings, including the Consolidated Complaint and lead plaintiff papers;

(d) keeping up to date on the status and filings of the action; and

(e) evaluating the proposed settlement.

4. Based on our involvement throughout the case, we and the other Lead Plaintiffs have authorized our counsel to settle this action against certain defendants for \$12,850,000. Before doing so, we had reviewed, considered, and discussed with our counsel the merits of the settlement and alternatives to settling, and we understood the risks and benefits of the decision to settle the action. We believe that the Settlement represents a favorable recovery for the Class, particularly in light of the risks of continued litigation. We therefore submit that the Settlement is a fair, reasonable, and adequate recovery on behalf of the Class, and that its approval is in the best interest of the Class members.

5. While we understand that the ultimate determination of fees is left to the Court, we have reviewed and approve of Lead Counsel's request for reimbursement of expenses and an award of attorneys' fees of 28% of the Settlement. In determining that the proposed fee and expense award was reasonable, we considered Lead Counsel's high-quality representation and diligence in prosecuting this litigation and in pursuing and negotiating a favorable settlement for the Class, and considered that other cases have resulted in higher fee awards of 30% or 33%.

6. Additionally, we understand that the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 authorizes “the award of reasonable costs and expenses (including lost wages) directly relating to the representation of the class to any representative party serving on behalf of a class.” We respectfully request an award of \$10,000 (\$2,000 for each of the Individual Lead Plaintiffs) for the time spent in overseeing and participating in the litigation, as described above, which was directly related to our involvement as Lead Plaintiffs in this action. But for the prosecution of this case as Lead Plaintiffs, that time could have been spent on work or personal-related matters.

We declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED: 11/5/19 \_\_\_\_\_  
JUSTIN KAUFMAN

DATED: 11/5/2019 \_\_\_\_\_  
JENNY KAUFMAN

DATED: 11/5/2019 \_\_\_\_\_  
DR. LARRY COHEN

DATED: 11/5/2019 \_\_\_\_\_  
MARILYN COHEN

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_  
JOSEPH N. WILSON

6. Additionally, we understand that the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 authorizes “the award of reasonable costs and expenses (including lost wages) directly relating to the representation of the class to any representative party serving on behalf of a class.” We respectfully request an award of \$10,000 (\$2,000 for each of the Individual Lead Plaintiffs) for the time spent in overseeing and participating in the litigation, as described above, which was directly related to our involvement as Lead Plaintiffs in this action. But for the prosecution of this case as Lead Plaintiffs, that time could have been spent on work or personal-related matters.

We declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_ JUSTIN KAUFMAN

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_ JENNY KAUFMAN

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_ DR. LARRY COHEN

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_ MARILYN COHEN

DATED: 11-8-19 \_\_\_\_\_  
JOSEPH N. WILSON



# **EXHIBIT 2**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

LEONARD SOKOLOW, Individually and on	)	No. 1:18-cv-01039
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,	)	
	)	<u>CLASS ACTION</u>
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.
vs.	)	
	)	
LJM FUNDS MANAGEMENT, LTD., et al.,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
_____	)	

DECLARATION ON BEHALF OF SRS CAPITAL ADVISORS, INC. IN SUPPORT OF  
MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF PARTIAL SETTLEMENT AND MOTION FOR  
ATTORNEYS' FEES AND PAYMENT OF LITIGATION EXPENSES

I, Michael P. Riordan, declare as follows, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746:

1. I serve as Managing Director of SRS Capital Advisors, Inc. (“SRS”), one of the Court-appointed Lead Plaintiffs in the above-captioned securities class action (the “Action”).<sup>1</sup> SRS is a Registered Investment Adviser under the Federal Investment Advisers Act and provides portfolio management and related investment planning services.

2. I respectfully submit this declaration in support of (a) approval of the proposed partial class action settlement and proposed plan of allocation and (b) Lead Counsel’s motion for an award of attorneys’ fees and litigation expenses.

3. I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth in this declaration, as I, or my colleagues at SRS, have been directly involved in monitoring the prosecution of the Action, and I could and would testify competently thereto.

4. SRS understands that this case is governed by the PSLRA, and accepted the fiduciary obligations that it assumed under the PSLRA when it was appointed as a Lead Plaintiff. SRS is an investment advisory firm in the financial services industry and was strongly motivated to recover for the significant losses incurred as a result of the Defendants’ alleged violations of the federal securities laws. Our primary goal in seeking appointment as a Lead Plaintiff was to ensure that the litigation was efficiently litigated by well-qualified counsel in order to achieve the best possible recovery for all class members from all potentially culpable parties.

5. Since SRS’s appointment as a Lead Plaintiff on June 26, 2018, SRS has monitored and been engaged in all material aspects of the prosecution and resolution of this litigation. Among other things, SRS worked with outside counsel to gather information relating

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<sup>1</sup> All capitalized terms used herein, unless otherwise defined, have the same meanings as set forth in the Stipulation and Agreement of Partial Settlement, dated as of August 19, 2019 (the “Stipulation”). (ECF. No. 192).

to the Action, communicated with them on a regular basis to discuss the status of the case and counsel's strategy for the prosecution and potential settlement of the case, and reviewed pleadings, motions, and other material documents filed during the case.

6. Based on its involvement throughout the prosecution of the Action, SRS believes that the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and in the best interest of the Settlement Class. SRS believes that the Settlement represents a favorable recovery, under the particular circumstances of this case and in light of the substantial risks of being able to obtain a greater recovery through continuing to litigate.

7. SRS has closely evaluated Lead Counsel's request for an award of attorneys' fees and payment of expenses from the Settlement Fund. While SRS defers to the Court, we also believe that the request is fair and reasonable.

8. Accordingly, SRS respectfully requests that the Court approve the motion for final approval of the proposed Settlement and the motion for an award of attorneys' fees and payment of litigation expenses.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019.



Michael P. Riordan

# **EXHIBIT 3**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

LEONARD SOKOLOW, Individually and on )	No. 1:18-cv-01039
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, )	
	) <u>CLASS ACTION</u>
Plaintiff, )	
	) Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.
vs. )	
	)
LJM FUNDS MANAGEMENT, LTD., et al., )	
	)
Defendants. )	
_____ )	

DECLARATION ON BEHALF OF TRADITION CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LLC  
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF PARTIAL SETTLEMENT  
AND MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES AND PAYMENT OF LITIGATION EXPENSES

I, Michael C. Provine, declare as follows, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746:

1. I serve as a Member and Chief Compliance Officer of Tradition Capital Management LLC (“Tradition”), one of the Court-appointed Lead Plaintiffs in the above-captioned securities class action (the “Action”).<sup>1</sup> Tradition is a Registered Investment Adviser under the Federal Investment Advisers Act and provides portfolio management and related investment planning services.

2. I respectfully submit this declaration in support of (a) approval of the proposed partial class action settlement and proposed plan of allocation and (b) Lead Counsel’s motion for an award of attorneys’ fees and litigation expenses.

3. I have personal knowledge of the matters set forth in this declaration, as I, or my colleagues at Tradition, have been directly involved in monitoring the prosecution of the Action, and I could and would testify competently thereto.

4. Tradition understands that this case is governed by the PSLRA, and accepted the fiduciary obligations that it assumed under the PSLRA when it was appointed as a Lead Plaintiff. Tradition is an investment advisory firm in the financial services industry and was strongly motivated to recover for the significant losses incurred as a result of the Defendants’ alleged violations of the federal securities laws. Our primary goal in seeking appointment as a Lead Plaintiff was to ensure that the litigation was efficiently litigated by well-qualified counsel in order to achieve the best possible recovery for all class members from all potentially culpable parties.

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<sup>1</sup> All capitalized terms used herein, unless otherwise defined, have the same meanings as set forth in the Stipulation and Agreement of Partial Settlement, dated as of August 19, 2019 (the “Stipulation”). (ECF. No. 192).

5. Since Tradition's appointment as a Lead Plaintiff on June 26, 2018, Tradition has monitored and been engaged in all material aspects of the prosecution and resolution of this litigation. Among other things, Tradition worked with outside counsel to gather information relating to the Action, communicated with them on a regular basis to discuss the status of the case and counsel's strategy for the prosecution and potential settlement of the case, and reviewed pleadings, motions, and other material documents filed during the case. I also attended the Settlement Conference with the Court in Chicago.


6. Based on its involvement throughout the prosecution of the Action, Tradition believes that the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and in the best interest of the Settlement Class. Tradition believes that the Settlement represents a favorable recovery, under the particular circumstances of this case and in light of the substantial risks of being able to obtain a greater recovery through continuing to litigate.

7. Tradition has closely evaluated Lead Counsel's request for an award of attorneys' fees and payment of expenses from the Settlement Fund. While Tradition defers to the Court, we also believe that the request is fair and reasonable.

8. Accordingly, Tradition respectfully requests that the Court approve the motion for final approval of the proposed Settlement and the motion for an award of attorneys' fees and payment of litigation expenses.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael C. Provine



**EXHIBIT 4**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

LEONARD SOKOLOW, Individually and on	)	Case No. 1:18-cv-01039
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,	)	
	)	<u>CLASS ACTION</u>
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	Hon. Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.
vs.	)	
	)	
LJM FUNDS MANAGEMENT, LTD., et al.,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
_____	)	

**DECLARATION OF MICHAEL MCGUINNESS REGARDING: (A) MAILING OF THE NOTICE AND CLAIM FORM; (B) PUBLICATION OF THE SUMMARY NOTICE; AND (C) REPORT ON REQUESTS FOR EXCLUSION**

I, Michael McGuinness, declare and state as follows, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1746:

1. I am a Project Manager employed by Epiq Class Action & Claims Solutions, Inc. (“Epiq”). The following statements are based on my personal knowledge and information provided by other Epiq employees working under my supervision and, if called on to do so, I could and would testify competently thereto.

2. Epiq was retained by Lead Counsel to provide notice and administration services in connection with the proposed partial settlement of the above-captioned class action litigation (the “Action”), and appointed by the Court as the Claims Administrator.<sup>1</sup> I submit this Declaration in order

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise defined herein, all capitalized terms shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Stipulation and Agreement of Partial Settlement, dated as of August 19, 2019 (the “Stipulation”). (ECF No. 192).

to provide the Court and the parties to the Settlement with information regarding, among other things, the mailing of the Court-approved Notice of Pendency of Class Action, Proposed Partial Class Action Settlement, and Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses (the "Notice") and the Proof of Claim and Release form ("Proof of Claim") (together, the Notice and Proof of Claim are referred to herein as the "Claim Packet"), the publication of the Summary Notice of Pendency of Class Action, Proposed Partial Class Action Settlement, and Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses (the "Summary Notice") and establishment of the website and toll-free number dedicated to the Settlement, in accordance with the Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Partial Class Action Settlement, Approving Form and Manner of Notice, and Setting Date for Hearing on Final Approval of Partial Class Action Settlement (the "Preliminary Approval Order").

### **DISSEMINATION OF THE CLAIM PACKET**

3. Epiq is responsible for disseminating the Claim Packet to potential Settlement Class Members in this Action. By definition, Settlement Class Members are all persons and entities who purchased or otherwise acquired shares of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund during the period from February 28, 2015 through February 7, 2018, inclusive (the "Class Period").

4. On September 3, 2019, Epiq received an email from Lead Counsel containing a spreadsheet of information that had been provided by the Fund's administrator. The spreadsheet contained a list of record holders of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund who purchased or acquired shares during the Class Period. The file had a total of 24,339 names and addresses for noticing. Epiq added this data into a mailing database created for the Settlement.

5. As in most class actions of this nature, the large majority of potential Settlement Class Members are expected to be beneficial purchasers whose securities are held in "street name" – *i.e.*, the securities are purchased by brokerage firms, banks, institutions and other third-party nominees in

the name of the nominee, on behalf of the beneficial purchasers. Epiq maintains and updates a proprietary list of the largest and most common banks, brokers and other nominees. Accordingly, the list of known holders of LJM shares provided by LJM's fund administrator was supplemented with Epiq's internal broker list of names and addresses.

6. Epiq thereafter formatted the Claim Packet and caused it to be printed, personalized with the name and address of each nominee or potential Settlement Class Member, and mailed by first-class mail, postage prepaid, to the nominees and to the known potential Settlement Class Members on September 12, 2019 (the "Initial Mailing").

7. In total, 25,637 copies of the Claim Packet were mailed as part of the Initial Mailing. A copy of the Claim Packet is attached hereto as Exhibit A.

8. The Notice requested that brokers and nominees that purchased or otherwise acquired shares of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund (CUSIPs: LJMAX: 90213U503, LJMCMX: 90213U602, LJMIX: 90213U701) during the Class Period, for the beneficial interest of a person or entity other than themselves, either: (i) within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the Claim Packet, request sufficient copies of the Claim Packet for forwarding to all such beneficial owners and then, within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the Claim Packets, to forward them to all such beneficial owners; or (ii) within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the Claim Packet, provide a list of the names and addresses of all such beneficial owners to Epiq. Brokers and nominees were also instructed to provide email addresses of such beneficial owners to the Claims Administrator, to the extent available. Nominees also received an instruction letter with their Claim Packets. A true and accurate copy of the letter sent to nominees is attached as Exhibit B.

9. Epiq has received requests from nominees for additional unaddressed copies of the Claim Packet and for Claim Packets to be mailed directly by Epiq to potential Settlement Class

Members identified by the nominee. From the Initial Mailing through November 12, 2019, Epiq has mailed an additional 25,281 copies of the Claim Packet to potential Settlement Class Members whose names and addresses were received from individuals or nominees. Epiq has also mailed 10,825 Claim Packets to nominees who requested Claim Packets to forward to their customers. All requests for the Claim Packet have been responded to in a timely manner and Epiq will continue to timely respond to any additional requests received.

10. As of November 12, 2019, an aggregate of 61,745 Claim Packets have been disseminated to potential Settlement Class Members and nominees by first-class mail.

11. As of November 12, 2019, 718 Claim Packets have been returned by the United States Postal Service to Epiq as undelivered as addressed (“UAA”). Of those returned UAA, 242 had forwarding addresses and were promptly re-mailed to the updated address.

12. Epiq also provided a copy of the Claim Packet to the Depository Trust Company (“DTC”) for posting on its Legal Notice System (“LENS”). The LENS may be accessed by any nominee that is a participant in DTC’s security settlement system. The Claim Packet was posted on DTC’s LENS on September 16, 2019.

**PUBLICATION OF THE SUMMARY NOTICE**

13. The Court’s Preliminary Approval Order also directed that the Summary Notice be published in *The Wall Street Journal* and be transmitted over *PR Newswire* within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Notice Date. Accordingly, the Summary Notice was published in *The Wall Street Journal* and transmitted over *PR Newswire* on September 19, 2019. Attached as Exhibit C is a publication affidavit and “tearsheets” of both *The Wall Street Journal* and *PR Newswire* attesting to the publication in *The Wall Street Journal* and transmission over *PR Newswire*.

### **CALL CENTER SERVICES**

14. Epiq reserved a toll-free phone number for the Settlement, (855) 915-0913, and published that toll-free number in the Claim Packet, in the Summary Notice, and on the Settlement website.

15. The toll-free number connects callers with an Interactive Voice Recording (“IVR”). The IVR provides potential Settlement Class Members and others who call with access to pre-recorded information. The toll-free telephone line with pre-recorded information is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Specifically, the pre-recorded message provides callers with a brief summary of the Settlement and the option to select one of several more detailed recorded messages addressing frequently asked questions. The IVR also allows callers to request that a copy of the Claim Packet be mailed to them or the caller may opt to speak live with a trained operator. Callers are able to speak to an operator Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time (excluding official holidays). During other hours, callers may leave a message for an agent to call them back. Epiq has promptly responded to each telephone inquiry and will continue to address inquiries.

### **WEBSITE**

16. Epiq established and is maintaining a website dedicated to the Settlement ([www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com)) to provide information to Settlement Class Members (including the exclusion, objection and claim filing deadlines, as well as the date of the Court’s Settlement Hearing), and to answer frequently asked questions. Users of the website can download a copy of the Notice, Claim Form, Stipulation, Preliminary Approval Order, and other case-related documents. The web address is set forth in the Claim Packet and the Summary Notice. Epiq will

continue operating, maintaining and, as appropriate, updating the website with relevant case updates and court documents until the conclusion of this administration.

**REPORT ON REQUESTS FOR EXCLUSION AND OBJECTIONS**

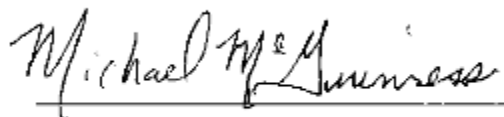
17. The Notice informed Settlement Class Members that written requests for exclusion from the Settlement Class must be mailed, so that they are received no later than November 27, 2019, addressed to *LJM Funds Securities Settlement, c/o Epiq*, P.O. Box 3058, Portland, OR 97208-3058. Epiq has monitored all mail that has been delivered to this Post Office Box.

18. Through November 12, 2019, Epiq has received 2 requests for exclusion. Copies of the requests for exclusion, which have been redacted to remove personal information, are attached as Exhibit D.

19. Objections are to be filed with the Court and mailed to counsel for the Settling Parties. Through November 12, 2019, Epiq has not received any objections to the Settlement, the Fee and Expense Application, and/or the proposed Plan of Allocation of the Net Settlement Fund. The deadline to file objections is November 27, 2019.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Executed on November 12, 2019 at Lake Success, NY.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael McGuinness". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Michael McGuinness

**INDEX OF EXHIBITS TO DECLARATION OF MICHAEL MCGUINNESS  
REGARDING: (A) MAILING OF THE NOTICE AND CLAIM FORM;  
(B) PUBLICATION OF THE SUMMARY NOTICE; AND (C) REPORT ON REQUESTS  
FOR EXCLUSION**

<b><u>Document</u></b>	<b><u>Exhibit</u></b>
Claim Packet .....	A
Correspondence to Nominees .....	B
Confirmation of Publication .....	C
Exclusion Requests .....	D



# **EXHIBIT A**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

LEONARD SOKOLOW, Individually and on Behalf of  
All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

LJM FUNDS MANAGEMENT, LTD., et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:18-cv-01039

Hon. Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.

**NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION, PROPOSED  
PARTIAL CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT, AND MOTION FOR  
ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES**

If you purchased shares of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund (LJMAX, LJMCX, or LJMIX) (the "Fund") during the period from February 28, 2015 through February 7, 2018, inclusive, you may be entitled to a payment from a class action settlement.

***A Federal Court authorized this Notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.***

- The purpose of this Notice is to inform you of the pendency of this federal securities class action (the "Action"), the proposed partial settlement of the Action with certain of the defendants (the "Settlement"),<sup>2</sup> and a hearing to be held by the Court to consider: (i) whether the Settlement should be approved; (ii) whether the Settlement Class should be certified; (iii) whether the proposed plan for allocating the proceeds of the Settlement (the "Plan of Allocation") should be approved; and (iv) Lead Counsel's application for attorneys' fees and expenses (*see* pages 3 and 8 below). This Notice describes important rights you may have if you are a member of the Settlement Class and what steps you must take if you wish to participate in the Settlement, wish to object, or wish to be excluded from the Settlement Class.
- If approved by the Court, the Settlement will create a \$12,850,000.00 cash fund, plus any earned interest, for the benefit of eligible Settlement Class Members, less the deduction of attorneys' fees and expenses awarded by the Court, Notice and Administration Expenses, and Taxes.
- The Settlement resolves claims by Court-appointed Lead Plaintiffs Justin and Jenny Kaufman, Joseph N. Wilson, Dr. Larry and Marilyn Cohen, Tradition Capital Management LLC ("Tradition"), and SRS Capital Advisors, Inc. ("SRS") (collectively, "Lead Plaintiffs") that have been asserted on behalf of the Settlement Class (defined below) against Two Roads Shared Trust (the "Trust"), Northern Lights Distributors, LLC ("NLD"), NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC ("NorthStar"), and Mark D. Gersten, Mark Garbin, Neil M. Kaufman, Anita K. Krug, Andrew B. Rogers, and James Colantino (collectively, the "Individual Settling Defendants" and, with the Trust, NLD, and NorthStar, the "Settling Defendants"). It avoids the costs and risks of continuing the litigation against the Settling Defendants, pays money to eligible investors, and releases the Released Defendant Parties (defined below) from liability.
- The claims against LJM Funds Management, Ltd. ("LJM"), Anthony J. Caine, and Anish Parvataneni (the "Non-Settling Defendants") will continue to be litigated. There is no guarantee that any additional money will be recovered in this Action.

**If you are a Settlement Class Member, your legal rights will be affected by this Settlement whether you act or do not act. Please read this Notice carefully.**

<sup>1</sup> This Action is separate from the parallel state class action also entitled *Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al.*, Case No. 18-CH-11880, pending in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois.

<sup>2</sup> The terms of the Settlement are in the Stipulation and Agreement of Partial Settlement, dated August 19, 2019 (the "Stipulation"), which can be viewed at [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com), [www.labaton.com](http://www.labaton.com), and [www.rgrdlaw.com](http://www.rgrdlaw.com). All capitalized terms not defined in this Notice have the same meanings as defined in the Stipulation.

## YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT

<b>SUBMIT A CLAIM FORM BY DECEMBER 11, 2019</b>	The <u>only</u> way to get a payment. <i>See</i> Question 8 below for details.
<b>EXCLUDE YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT CLASS BY NOVEMBER 27, 2019</b>	Get no payment. This is the only option that, assuming your claim is timely brought, might allow you to ever bring or be part of any other lawsuit against the Settling Defendants and/or the other Released Defendant Parties concerning the Released Claims. <i>See</i> Question 11 below for details.
<b>OBJECT BY NOVEMBER 27, 2019</b>	Write to the Court about why you do not like the Settlement, the Plan of Allocation, or the Fee and Expense Application. If you object, you will still be a member of the Settlement Class. <i>See</i> Question 16 below for details.
<b>GO TO A HEARING ON DECEMBER 18, 2019 AND FILE A NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPEAR BY NOVEMBER 27, 2019</b>	Ask to speak in Court at the Settlement Hearing about the Settlement. <i>See</i> Question 20 below for details.
<b>DO NOTHING</b>	Get no payment. Give up rights.

- These rights and options — **and the deadlines to exercise them** — are explained in this Notice.
- The Court in charge of this case still has to decide whether to approve the Settlement. Payments will be made to all Settlement Class Members who timely submit valid Claim Forms, if the Court approves the Settlement, at the conclusion of the Action, and after the Court awards attorneys' fees and expenses, and any appeals are resolved. Please be patient.

### SUMMARY OF THE NOTICE

#### **Statement of the Settlement Class' Recovery**

1. Subject to Court approval, Lead Plaintiffs, on behalf of the Settlement Class, have agreed to settle the claims against the Settling Defendants in exchange for a payment of \$12,850,000.00 in cash (the "Settlement Amount"), which will be deposited into an interest-bearing Escrow Account (the "Settlement Fund"). Based on Lead Counsel's estimate of the number of shares of the Fund eligible to participate in the Settlement, and assuming that all investors eligible to participate in the Settlement do so, it is estimated that the average recovery, before deduction of any Court-approved fees and expenses, such as attorneys' fees, litigation expenses, Taxes, and Notice and Administration Expenses, would be approximately \$0.18 per allegedly damaged share.<sup>3</sup> If the Court approves Lead Counsel's Fee and Expense Application (discussed below), the average recovery would be approximately \$0.13 per allegedly damaged share. **These average recovery amounts are only estimates and Settlement Class Members may recover more or less than these estimated amounts.** A Settlement Class Member's actual recovery will depend on, for example, (i) the total number of claims submitted; (ii) the amount of the Net Settlement Fund; (iii) when the Settlement Class Member purchased or acquired shares of the Fund during the Class Period; and (iv) whether and when the Settlement Class Member sold shares. *See* the Plan of Allocation beginning on page 11 for information on the calculation of your Recognized Claim.

#### **Statement of Potential Outcome of Case if the Action Continued to Be Litigated**

2. The Settling Parties disagree about both liability and damages and do not agree about the amount of damages that would be recoverable if Lead Plaintiffs were to prevail on each claim alleged. The issues on which the Settling Parties disagree include, for example, (i) whether the Settling Defendants made any statements or omitted any facts that were materially false or misleading, or otherwise actionable under the federal securities laws; (ii) whether certain of the Settling Defendants engaged in appropriate due diligence; (iii) the extent to which factors such as general market, economic, and industry conditions influenced the trading prices of the Fund's shares; and (iv) whether Settlement Class Members suffered any damages.

<sup>3</sup> An allegedly damaged share might have been traded, and potentially damaged, more than once during the Class Period, and the average recovery indicated above represents the estimated average recovery for each share that allegedly incurred damages.

3. Settling Defendants have denied and continue to deny any and all allegations of wrongdoing or fault asserted in the Action, deny that they have committed any act or omission giving rise to any liability or violation of law, and deny that Lead Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class have suffered any loss attributable to Settling Defendants' actions or omissions. While Lead Plaintiffs believe that they have meritorious claims, they recognize that there are significant obstacles in the way to recovery.

#### **Statement of Attorneys' Fees and Expenses Sought**

4. Lead Counsel will apply to the Court for an award of attorneys' fees from the Settlement Fund in an amount not to exceed 28% of the Settlement Fund, which includes any accrued interest. Lead Counsel will also apply for payment of litigation expenses incurred in prosecuting the Action in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00, plus accrued interest, which may include an application pursuant to the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 ("PSLRA") for an award to Lead Plaintiffs directly related to their litigation efforts on behalf of the Settlement Class. If the Court approves Lead Counsel's Fee and Expense Application in full, the average amount of fees and expenses, assuming claims are filed for all shares eligible to participate in the Settlement, will be approximately \$0.05 per allegedly damaged share. A copy of the Fee and Expense Application will be posted on [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com), [www.rgrdlaw.com](http://www.rgrdlaw.com), and [www.labaton.com](http://www.labaton.com) after it has been filed with the Court.

#### **Reasons for the Settlement**

5. For Lead Plaintiffs, the principal reason for the Settlement is the guaranteed cash benefit to the Settlement Class. This benefit must be compared to the uncertainty of being able to prove the allegations in the Complaint asserted against the Settling Defendants; maintaining certification of the class through trial; the risk that the Court may grant the Settling Defendants' pending motion to dismiss and the anticipated motions for summary judgment that may be filed by Settling Defendants; the uncertainty of a greater recovery after a trial and appeals, as well as Lead Plaintiffs' ability to enforce a judgment against the Settling Defendants; the risks of litigation, especially in complex actions like this; as well as the difficulties and delays inherent in such litigation (including any trial and appeals).

6. For Settling Defendants, who deny all allegations of wrongdoing or liability whatsoever and deny that Settlement Class Members were damaged, the principal reason for entering into the Settlement is to end the burden, expense, uncertainty, and risk of further litigation.

#### **Identification of Attorneys' Representatives**

7. Lead Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class are represented by Lead Counsel, James W. Johnson, Labaton Sucharow LLP, 140 Broadway, New York, NY 10005, (888) 219-6877, [www.labaton.com](http://www.labaton.com), [settlementquestions@labaton.com](mailto:settlementquestions@labaton.com); and James E. Barz, Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP, 200 S. Wacker Drive, 31<sup>st</sup> Floor, Chicago, IL 60606, (800) 449-4900, [www.rgrdlaw.com](http://www.rgrdlaw.com).

8. Further information regarding this Action, the Settlement, and this Notice may be obtained by contacting the Claims Administrator: LJM Funds Securities Settlement, c/o Epiq, P.O. Box 3058, Portland, OR 97208-3058, (855) 915-0913, [info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](mailto:info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com); or Lead Counsel.

**Please Do Not Call the Court with Questions About the Settlement.**

#### **BASIC INFORMATION**

##### **1. Why did I get this Notice?**

9. You or someone in your family may have purchased or otherwise acquired shares of the Fund during the period from February 28, 2015 through February 7, 2018, inclusive (the "Class Period"). **Receipt of this Notice does not mean that you are a member of the Settlement Class or that you will be entitled to receive a payment. If you wish to be eligible for a payment, you are required to submit the Claim Form that is being distributed with this Notice. See Question 8 below.**

10. The Court directed that this Notice be sent to Settlement Class Members because they have a right to know about the proposed partial Settlement of this class action lawsuit, and about all of their options, before the Court decides whether to approve the Settlement.

11. The Court in charge of the Action is the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, and the case is known as *Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al.*, No. 1:18-cv-01039. The Action is assigned to the Honorable Robert M. Dow, Jr., United States District Judge.

## 2. What is this case about and what has happened so far?

12. This case arises from the collapse of the Fund in early February 2018. Lead Plaintiffs allege that the Fund was marketed to investors seeking lower risk and moderate growth through a conservative strategy that would preserve capital and avoid the risks of aggressive hedge funds seeking greater returns. The Fund offered shares to investors pursuant to Registration Statements and Prospectuses. These Offering Materials allegedly promoted the Fund as a low-risk and trend-neutral investment, with allegedly inaccurate statements. Lead Plaintiffs allege the Fund was, instead, overexposed to the risk of volatility and a down market through trading strategies that exposed investors to risks and losses of capital, even in only a moderately down market. The Fund was allegedly overexposed to the risk of volatility through leveraged options that required the Fund to liquidate its capital to pay off its positions when the market declined and volatility increased.

13. As a result, in February 2018, the Fund suffered a dramatic drop in the net asset value (“NAV”) of Fund shares, wiping out 80% of the Fund’s value as markets dropped and volatility spiked. The NAV for the Fund’s shares fell from \$9.67 to \$4.27 on Monday, February 5, and then fell again the next day to \$1.91. On February 9, 2018, defendant LJM informed the Fund’s shareholders that a spike in volatility caused the Fund to liquidate its open positions and suffer massive losses of capital.

14. On February 9, 2018, a securities class action complaint was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Eastern Division on behalf of investors in the Fund, titled *Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al.*, Civil No. 1:18-cv-01039, and was assigned to the Hon. Robert M. Dow, Jr. On June 26, 2018, the Court issued an Order appointing Justin and Jenny Kaufman, Joseph N. Wilson, Dr. Larry and Marilyn Cohen, Tradition, and SRS as lead plaintiffs, and appointing Labaton Sucharow LLP and Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP as co-lead counsel.

15. The operative complaint in the Action is the Consolidated Complaint for Violations of the Federal Securities Laws, filed on August 16, 2018 (the “Complaint”). The Complaint alleges violations of §§11, 12(a)(2), and 15 of the Securities Act of 1933 (“1933 Act”) on behalf of a class of all purchasers who bought shares of the Fund during the period from February 28, 2015 through February 7, 2018, inclusive, pursuant to Offering Materials set forth in paragraph 51 of the Complaint.

16. Lead Plaintiffs, through Lead Counsel, have conducted a thorough investigation relating to the claims, defenses, and underlying events and transactions that are the subject of the Action. This process has included reviewing and analyzing, among other things, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) filings by the Trust; media and analyst reports regarding the Fund, its advisor LJM, and their affiliates; press releases and shareholder communications regarding the Fund, LJM, and their affiliates; and other publicly available information regarding the Trust, the Fund, LJM, and the industry.

17. On September 20, 2018, the parties agreed to pursue a settlement conference and jointly requested a stay of the Action. On October 3, 2018, following a status conference with the parties, Magistrate Judge Sidney I. Schenkier set a settlement conference for December 21, 2018, and set a schedule for the parties to exchange mediation statements. The December 21, 2018 settlement conference involved an extended effort to settle the claims and was preceded by the exchange of mediation statements. Although the settlement conference was unsuccessful, the parties continued to engage in settlement discussions thereafter as the Action proceeded.

18. On February 4, 2019, Defendants filed a Joint Motion to Dismiss the Complaint. In the motion, Defendants raised several grounds for dismissal, including that the Offering Materials for the Fund did not contain any false or misleading statements and fully disclosed the risks of investing in the Fund, the Complaint failed to plead loss causation, and that the claims asserted in the Complaint were not timely. Lead Plaintiffs opposed the motion, and on March 4, 2019, the motion was fully briefed. On May 20, 2019, the parties filed a Joint Motion for Stay Pending Settlement Discussions.

19. Following continued, extensive arm’s-length negotiations, Lead Plaintiffs and Northern Lights Distributors, LLC; NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC; and Two Roads Shared Trust and its trustees and officers reached an agreement in principle to settle the claims in the Action for \$12,850,000.00, subject to the execution of a customary stipulation and agreement of settlement and related papers. The Stipulation (together with the exhibits thereto) constitutes the final and binding agreement between the Settling Parties.

### 3. Why is this a class action?

20. In a class action, one or more persons or entities (in this case, Lead Plaintiffs), sue on behalf of people and entities who have similar claims. Together, these people and entities are a “class,” and each is a “class member.” Class actions allow the adjudication of many individuals’ similar claims that might be too small economically to bring as individual actions. One court resolves the issues for all class members at the same time, except for those who exclude themselves, or “opt-out,” from the class.

### 4. What are the reasons for the Settlement?

21. The Court did not finally decide in favor of Lead Plaintiffs or the Settling Defendants. Instead, the Settling Parties agreed to a settlement. Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel believe that the claims asserted in the Action are strong. They recognize, however, the expense and length of continued proceedings needed to pursue the claims through trial and appeals, as well as the difficulties in establishing liability as to the Settling Defendants. For example, the Settling Defendants have raised arguments and defenses (which they would likely continue to raise in motions for summary judgment, and at trial) countering Lead Plaintiffs’ allegations, such as that the Settling Defendants acted in good faith and in a manner they reasonably believed to be in accordance with all applicable rules, regulations, and laws. In the absence of a settlement, the Settling Parties would present factual and expert testimony on each of the issues in dispute, and there is a risk that the Court or jury would resolve these issues unfavorably against Lead Plaintiffs and the Settlement Class. Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel believe that the proposed Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class.

22. Settling Defendants have denied and continue to deny each and every one of the claims alleged by Lead Plaintiffs in the Action, including all claims in the Complaint. Nonetheless, Settling Defendants have concluded that continuation of the Action as against them would be protracted and expensive, and have taken into account the uncertainty and risks inherent in any litigation, especially a complex case like this Action, and believe that the Settlement is in the best interests of Settling Defendants.

### WHO IS IN THE SETTLEMENT

### 5. How do I know if I am part of the Settlement Class?

23. The Court directed, for the purposes of the proposed Settlement, that everyone who fits the following description is a Settlement Class Member and subject to the Settlement unless they are an excluded person (*see* Question 6 below) or take steps to exclude themselves from the Settlement Class (*see* Question 11 below):

***All persons and entities who purchased or otherwise acquired shares of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund during the period from February 28, 2015, through February 7, 2018, inclusive.***

24. The Plan of Allocation that is being proposed by Lead Plaintiffs for approval by the Court is discussed on pages 11 to 12 below. Check your investment records or contact your broker to see if you have any eligible purchases or acquisitions.

### 6. Are there exceptions to being included?

25. Yes. There are some individuals and entities that are excluded from the Settlement Class by definition. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (i) Defendants and their affiliates; (ii) the officers, directors, and/or trustees of LJM Funds Management, Ltd., the Trust, NLD, NorthStar, or the Fund; (iii) members of the immediate families of any such excluded person; (iv) any firm, trust, corporation, or entity in which any Defendant has a controlling interest; and (v) the legal representatives, heirs, successors, and assigns of any excluded person or entity. Also excluded from the Settlement Class is anyone who timely and validly seeks exclusion from the Settlement Class in accordance with the procedures described in Question 11 below.

## THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS

### 7. What does the Settlement provide?

26. In exchange for the Settlement and the release of the Released Claims against the Released Defendant Parties (see Question 10 below), Settling Defendants have agreed to pay, or cause to be paid, \$12,850,000.00, which, along with any interest earned, will be distributed at the conclusion of the Action and after deduction of Court-awarded attorneys' fees and litigation expenses, Notice and Administration Expenses, Taxes, and any other fees or expenses approved by the Court (the "Net Settlement Fund"), to Settlement Class Members who send in valid and timely Claim Forms.

### 8. How can I receive a payment?

27. To qualify for a payment from the Net Settlement Fund, you must submit a timely and valid Claim Form. A Claim Form is included with this Notice. You may also obtain one from the website for the Action [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com), or from Lead Counsels' websites, [www.labat.com](http://www.labat.com) and [www.rgrdlaw.com](http://www.rgrdlaw.com). You can also request that a Claim Form be mailed to you by calling the Claims Administrator toll-free at (855) 915-0913.

28. Please read the instructions in the Claim Form carefully. Fill out the Claim Form, include all the documents the form requests, sign it, and either mail it to the Claims Administrator using the address listed in the Claim Form or submit it online at [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com). Claim Forms must be **postmarked (if mailed) or submitted online no later than December 11, 2019**.

### 9. When will I receive my payment?

29. The Court will hold a Settlement Hearing on **December 18, 2019** to decide, among other things, whether to finally approve the Settlement. Even if the Court approves the Settlement, there may be appeals which can take time to resolve, perhaps more than a year. It also takes a long time for all of the Claim Forms to be accurately reviewed and processed. If you have an eligible claim, you will receive a payment after the Settlement reaches its Effective Date, the Action has concluded, the Court has awarded attorneys' fees and expenses, and Claim Forms have been processed and evaluated. Please be patient.

### 10. What am I giving up to receive a payment and by staying in the Settlement Class?

30. If you are a Settlement Class Member and do not timely and validly exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you will remain in the Settlement Class and that means that, upon the "Effective Date" of the Settlement, you will release all "Released Claims" against the "Released Defendant Parties."

(a) **"Released Claims"** means any and all complaints, claims, third-party claims, cross-claims, counterclaims, demands, allegations, liabilities, obligations, promises, agreements, controversies, actions, causes of action, suits, rights, damages, costs, losses, debts, charges, and expenses (including Unknown Claims (as defined below) and attorneys' fees, expert fees, and disbursements of counsel and other professionals) of any and every nature whatsoever, whether in law or in equity, whether arising under federal, state, local, or foreign statutory or common law or any other law, rule, or regulation (whether foreign or domestic), whether currently known or unknown, fixed or contingent, suspected or unsuspected, foreseen or unforeseen, ripened or unripened, accrued or unaccrued, liquidated or unliquidated, or matured or not matured, whether arising in equity or under the law of contract, tort, malpractice, statutory breach, or any other legal right or duty, whether direct, class, individual, representative, or in any other capacity, and to the fullest extent that the law permits their release in this lawsuit, that Lead Plaintiffs, or any other member of the Settlement Class: (a) asserted in the Action, or (b) could have asserted against any of the Released Defendant Parties in the Action or in any forum that arise out of, relate to, are connected with, or in any way concern (i) the allegations, transactions, facts, matters, occurrences, representations, or omissions involved, set forth, alleged, or referred to in the Action, or relating to actions or inactions with respect to the Fund, and that (ii) arise out of, are based upon, or relate to in any way, the purchase or acquisition of shares of the Fund during the Class Period. Released Claims does not include: (a) claims in any governmental or regulatory agency proceeding or action, including the right of any Settlement Class Member to recover therein; (b) claims asserted in: *David Melcher v. LJM Partners, Ltd., et al.*, 2018 CH 10346 (Cook Cty Circuit Crt, IL), *Donna Lundgren-Wiedinmyer v. LJM Partners, Ltd., et al.*, 2018 CH 10712 (Cook Cty Circuit Crt, IL), *Barney C. Guttman v. LJM Partners, Ltd., et al.*, 2018 CH 12701 (Cook Cty Circuit Crt, IL); *LJM Partners, Ltd. v. John Does*, No. 19-cv-368 (N.D. Ill.); or (c) claims to enforce the Settlement.

(b) **“Released Defendant Parties”** means the Settling Defendants, Settling Defendants’ Counsel, and each of their respective predecessors, successors, parent corporations, sister corporations, past, present, or future subsidiaries, affiliates, principals, assigns, assignors, heirs, legatees, devisees, executors, administrators, estates, heirs, spouses, immediate family members, receivers and trustees, settlors, beneficiaries, officers, directors, shareholders, employees, servants, agents, partners, insurers, reinsurers, representatives, attorneys, legal representatives, and successors-in-interest of the Settling Defendants. Released Defendant Parties does not include any of the Non-Settling Defendants.

(c) **“Unknown Claims”** means any and all Released Claims that Lead Plaintiffs or any other Settlement Class Member does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of the Released Defendant Parties, and any and all Released Defendants’ Claims that any Settling Defendant does not know or suspect to exist in his, her, or its favor at the time of the release of the Released Plaintiff Parties or, with respect to the Cross-Released Claims, any other Settling Defendant, which if known by him, her, or it might have affected his, her, or its decision(s) with respect to the Settlement, including the decision to object to the terms of the Settlement or to exclude himself, herself, or itself from the Settlement Class. With respect to any and all Released Claims and Released Defendants’ Claims, and Cross-Released Claims, the Settling Parties stipulate and agree that, upon the Effective Date, Lead Plaintiffs and Settling Defendants shall expressly, and each other Settlement Class Member shall be deemed to have, and by operation of the Judgment or Alternative Judgment shall have, to the fullest extent permitted by law, expressly waived and relinquished any and all provisions, rights and benefits conferred by any law of any state or territory of the United States or foreign law, or principle of common law, which is similar, comparable, or equivalent to Cal. Civ. Code § 1542, which provides:

**A general release does not extend to claims that the creditor or releasing party does not know or suspect to exist in his or her favor at the time of executing the release and that, if known by him or her, would have materially affected his or her settlement with the debtor or released party.**

Lead Plaintiffs and other Settlement Class Members, or Settling Defendants may hereafter discover facts, legal theories, or authorities in addition to or different from those which any of them now knows or believes to be true with respect to the subject matter of the Released Claims and the Released Defendants’ Claims, but Lead Plaintiffs and Settling Defendants shall expressly, fully, finally, and forever settle and release, and each Settlement Class Member shall be deemed to have settled and released, and upon the Effective Date and by operation of the Judgment or Alternative Judgment shall have settled and released, fully, finally, and forever, any and all Released Claims and Released Defendants’ Claims as applicable, without regard to the subsequent discovery or existence of such different or additional facts, legal theories, or authorities. Lead Plaintiffs and Settling Defendants acknowledge, and other Settlement Class Members by operation of law shall be deemed to have acknowledged, that the inclusion of “Unknown Claims” in the definition of Released Claims and Released Defendants’ Claims was separately bargained for and was a material element of the Settlement.

31. The “Effective Date” will occur when an Order entered by the Court approving the Settlement becomes Final and is not subject to appeal. If you remain a member of the Settlement Class, all of the Court’s orders about the Settlement, whether favorable or unfavorable, will apply to you and legally bind you.

32. Upon the “Effective Date,” Settling Defendants will also provide a release of any claims against Lead Plaintiffs, the Settlement Class, and the Released Plaintiff Parties arising out of or related to the institution, prosecution, or settlement of the claims in the Action.

### **EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT CLASS**

33. If you want to keep any right you may have to sue or continue to sue Settling Defendants and the other Released Defendant Parties on your own concerning the Released Claims, then you must take steps to remove yourself from the Settlement Class. This is called excluding yourself or “opting out.” **Please note:** If you decide to exclude yourself, there is a risk that any lawsuit you may file to pursue claims against the Settling Defendants may be dismissed, including because the suit is not filed within the applicable time periods required for filing suit. Settling Defendants may also terminate the Settlement if more than a certain number of Settlement Class Members request exclusion.



## 11. How do I exclude myself from the Settlement Class?

34. To exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you must mail a signed letter stating that you request to be “excluded from the Settlement Class in *Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd.*, No. 18-cv-01039 (N.D. Ill).” You cannot exclude yourself by telephone or email. Each request for exclusion must also: (i) state the name, address and telephone number of the person or entity requesting exclusion; (ii) state the number of shares of the Fund the person or entity purchased and sold during the Class Period, as well as the dates and prices of each such purchase and sale; and (iii) be signed by the person requesting exclusion or an authorized representative. A request for exclusion must be submitted so that it is **received no later than November 27, 2019** to:

*LJM Funds Securities Settlement*  
c/o Epiq  
P.O. Box 3058  
Portland, OR 97208-3058

35. This information is needed to determine whether you are a member of the Settlement Class. Your exclusion request must comply with these requirements in order to be valid. **If you do not provide your transactional information, you will not be excluded from the Settlement Class.** If you ask to be excluded, do not submit a Claim Form because you cannot receive any payment from the Net Settlement Fund. Also, you cannot object to the Settlement because you will not be a Settlement Class Member. However, if you submit a valid exclusion request, you will not be legally bound by the Settlement, and you may be able to sue (or continue to sue) the Settling Defendants and the other Released Defendant Parties in the future.

## 12. If I do not exclude myself, can I sue the Settling Defendants and the other Released Defendant Parties for the same thing later?

36. No. Unless you properly exclude yourself, you will give up any rights to sue the Settling Defendants and the other Released Defendant Parties for any and all Released Claims. If you have a pending lawsuit against any of the Released Defendant Parties, **speak to your lawyer in that case immediately.** You must exclude yourself from the Settlement Class to continue your own lawsuit. Remember, the exclusion deadline is **November 27, 2019.**

## 13. If I exclude myself, can I get money from the proposed Settlement?

37. No, only Settlement Class Members are eligible to recover money from the Settlement.

### THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

## 14. Do I have a lawyer in this case?

38. Labaton Sucharow LLP and Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP are Lead Counsel in the Action and represent all Settlement Class Members. You will not be separately charged for these lawyers. The Court will determine the amount of attorneys’ fees and expenses, which will be paid from the Settlement Fund. If you want to be represented by your own lawyer, you may hire one at your own expense.

## 15. How will the lawyers be paid?

39. Lead Counsel have been prosecuting the Action on a contingent basis and have not been paid for any of their work. Lead Counsel will apply to the Court for an award of attorneys’ fees of no more than 28% of the Settlement Fund, which will include any accrued interest. Lead Counsel will also seek payment of litigation expenses incurred in the prosecution of the Action of no more than \$100,000.00, plus accrued interest, which may include an application for awards to the Lead Plaintiffs in accordance with the PSLRA in connection with their representation of the Settlement Class. Any attorneys’ fees and expenses awarded by the Court will be paid from the Settlement Fund. Settlement Class Members are not personally liable for any such fees or expenses.

**OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT, THE PLAN OF ALLOCATION, AND THE FEE AND EXPENSE APPLICATION**

**16. How do I tell the Court that I do not like something about the proposed Settlement?**

40. If you are a Settlement Class Member, you can object to the Settlement or any of its terms, the Fee and Expense Application, and/or the proposed Plan of Allocation of the Net Settlement Fund. You may write to the Court about why you think the Court should not approve any or all of the Settlement terms or related relief. If you would like the Court to consider your views, you must file a proper objection within the deadline, and according to the following procedures.

41. To object, you must send a signed letter stating that you object to the proposed Settlement, the Fee and Expense Application, and/or the Plan of Allocation in “*Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd.*, No. 18-cv-01039 (N.D. Ill.)” Your objection must state why you are objecting and whether your objection applies only to you, a subset of the Settlement Class, or the entire Settlement Class. The objection must also: (i) state the name, address, and telephone number of the objector and must be signed by the objector; (ii) contain a statement of the Settlement Class Member’s objection or objections and the specific reasons for each objection, including any legal and evidentiary support (including witnesses) the Settlement Class Member wishes to bring to the Court’s attention; and (iii) include information sufficient to prove the objector’s membership in the Settlement Class, including the number of shares of the Fund purchased and sold during the Class Period, as well as the dates and prices of each such purchase and sale. Unless otherwise ordered by the Court, any Settlement Class Member who does not object in the manner described in this Notice will be deemed to have waived any objection and will be forever foreclosed from making any objection to the proposed Settlement and/or the Plan of Allocation. Your objection must be filed with the Court **no later than November 27, 2019** and be mailed or delivered to the following counsel so that it is **received no later than November 27, 2019**:

<u>Court</u>	<u>Lead Counsel</u>	<u>Settling Defendants’ Counsel Representative</u>
<b>Clerk of the Court</b> United States District Court Northern District of Illinois 219 S. Dearborn Chicago, IL 60604	<b>Labaton Sucharow LLP</b> James W. Johnson, Esq. 140 Broadway New York, NY 10005	<b>Sidley Austin LLP</b> Amy C. Andrews, Esq. One South Dearborn Chicago, IL 60603
	<b>Robbins Geller Rudman &amp; Dowd LLP</b> James E. Barz, Esq. 200 South Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60606	

42. You do not need to attend the Settlement Hearing to have your written objection considered by the Court. However, any Settlement Class Member who has complied with the procedures described in this Question 16 and below in Question 20 may appear at the Settlement Hearing and be heard, to the extent allowed by the Court. An objector may appear in person or arrange, at his, her, or its own expense, for a lawyer to represent him, her, or it at the Settlement Hearing.

**17. What is the difference between objecting and seeking exclusion?**

43. Objecting is telling the Court that you do not like something about the proposed Settlement, the Fee and Expense Application, or the Plan of Allocation. You can still recover money from the Settlement. You can object *only* if you stay in the Settlement Class. Excluding yourself is telling the Court that you do not want to be part of the Settlement Class. If you exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you have no basis to object because the Settlement no longer affects you.

**THE SETTLEMENT HEARING**

**18. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the proposed Settlement?**

44. The Court will hold the Settlement Hearing on **December 18, 2019 at 9:15 a.m.**, in Courtroom 2303 of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Everett McKinley Dirksen United States Courthouse, 219 S. Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois 60604.

45. At this hearing, the Court will consider whether: (i) the Settlement is fair, reasonable, adequate, and should be approved; (ii) the Plan of Allocation is fair and reasonable, and should be approved; and (iii) the application of Lead Counsel for an award of attorneys' fees and payment of litigation expenses is reasonable and should be approved. The Court will take into consideration any written objections filed in accordance with the instructions in Question 16 above. We do not know how long it will take the Court to make these decisions.

46. You should be aware that the Court may change the date and time of the Settlement Hearing without another notice being sent to Settlement Class Members. If you want to attend the hearing, you should check with Lead Counsel or visit the websites [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com), [www.rgrdlaw.com](http://www.rgrdlaw.com), or [www.labaton.com](http://www.labaton.com), beforehand to be sure that the hearing date and/or time has not changed.

## 19. Do I have to come to the Settlement Hearing?

47. No. Lead Counsel will answer any questions the Court may have. But, you are welcome to attend at your own expense. If you submit a valid and timely objection, the Court will consider it and you do not have to come to Court to discuss it. You may have your own lawyer attend (at your own expense), but it is not required. If you do hire your own lawyer, he or she must file and serve a Notice of Appearance in the manner described in the answer to Question 20 below ***no later than November 27, 2019***.

## 20. May I speak at the Settlement Hearing?

48. You may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Settlement Hearing. To do so, you must, ***no later than November 27, 2019***, submit a statement that you, or your attorney, intend to appear in "*Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd.*, No. 18-cv-01039 (N.D. Ill.)." Persons who intend to present evidence at the Settlement Hearing must also include in their objections (prepared and submitted in accordance with the answer to Question 16 above) the identities of any witnesses they may wish to call to testify and any exhibits they intend to introduce into evidence at the Settlement Hearing. You may not speak at the Settlement Hearing if you exclude yourself from the Settlement Class or if you have not provided written notice of your intention to speak at the Settlement Hearing in accordance with the procedures described in this Question 20 and Question 16 above.

### IF YOU DO NOTHING

## 21. What happens if I do nothing at all?

49. If you do nothing and you are a member of the Settlement Class, you will receive no money from this Settlement and you will be precluded from starting a lawsuit, continuing with a lawsuit, or being part of any other lawsuit against the Settling Defendants and the other Released Defendant Parties concerning the Released Claims. To share in the Net Settlement Fund, you must submit a Claim Form (*see* Question 8 above). To start, continue, or be a part of any other lawsuit against the Settling Defendants and the other Released Defendant Parties concerning the Released Claims, you must exclude yourself from the Settlement Class (*see* Question 11 above).

### GETTING MORE INFORMATION

## 22. Are there more details about the Settlement?

50. This Notice summarizes the proposed Settlement. More details are contained in the Stipulation. You may review the Stipulation filed with the Court or other documents in the case during business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the United States District Court, Northern District of Illinois, 219 S. Dearborn, Chicago, IL 60604. Subscribers to PACER, a fee-based service, can also view the papers filed publicly in the Action through the Court's online Case Management/Electronic Case Files System at <https://www.pacer.gov>.

51. You can also get a copy of the Stipulation, and other documents related to the Settlement, as well as additional information about the Settlement by visiting the Claims Administrator website, [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com), or the websites of Lead Counsel, [www.labaton.com](http://www.labaton.com) and [www.rgrdlaw.com](http://www.rgrdlaw.com). You may also call the Claims Administrator toll-free at (855) 915-0913 or write to the Claims Administrator at *LJM Funds Securities Settlement*, c/o Epiq, P.O. Box 3058, Portland, OR 97208-3058.

**Please do not call the Court with questions about the Settlement.**

## PLAN OF ALLOCATION OF THE NET SETTLEMENT FUND

### 23. How will my claim be calculated?

52. The Plan of Allocation (the “Plan of Allocation” or “Plan”) set forth below is the plan that is being proposed by Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel to the Court for approval. The Court may approve this Plan of Allocation or modify it without additional notice to the Settlement Class. Any order modifying the Plan will be posted on the Claims Administrator website at [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com), and at [www.labaton.com](http://www.labaton.com) and [www.rgrdlaw.com](http://www.rgrdlaw.com).

53. The Settlement Amount and the interest it earns is the “Settlement Fund.” The Settlement Fund, after deduction of Court-approved attorneys’ fees and expenses, Notice and Administration Expenses, Taxes, and any other fees or expenses approved by the Court is the “Net Settlement Fund.” The Net Settlement Fund will be distributed at the conclusion of the Action to members of the Settlement Class who timely submit valid Claim Forms that show a Recognized Claim according to the Plan of Allocation approved by the Court.

54. The objective of this Plan of Allocation is to equitably distribute the Net Settlement Fund among Authorized Claimants who suffered economic losses allegedly as a result of the asserted violations of the federal securities laws during the Class Period (February 28, 2015, through February 7, 2018, inclusive). In this case, Lead Plaintiffs allege that the Fund’s Registration Statements and Prospectuses contained false statements and omitted material facts that damaged members of the Settlement Class. This Plan is intended to be generally consistent with an assessment of, among other things, the damages that Lead Plaintiffs and Lead Counsel believe were recoverable in the Action pursuant to the 1933 Act.

55. The Plan of Allocation, however, is not a formal damages analysis, and the calculations made pursuant to the Plan are not intended to be estimates of, nor indicative of, the amounts that Settlement Class Members might have been able to recover after a trial. The computations under the Plan of Allocation are only a method to weigh the claims of Authorized Claimants against one another for the purposes of making *pro rata* allocations of the Net Settlement Fund. An individual Settlement Class Member’s recovery will depend on, for example, (i) the total number and value of claims submitted; (ii) when the claimant purchased or acquired shares of the Fund; and (iii) whether and when the claimant sold his, her, or its shares of the Fund.

56. Because the Net Settlement Fund is less than the total losses alleged to be suffered by Settlement Class Members, the formulas described below for calculating Recognized Losses are not intended to estimate the amount that will actually be paid to Authorized Claimants. Rather, these formulas provide the basis on which the Net Settlement Fund will be distributed among Authorized Claimants on a *pro rata* basis. An Authorized Claimant’s “Recognized Claim” shall be the amount used to calculate the Authorized Claimant’s *pro rata* share of the Net Settlement Fund. The *pro rata* share shall be the Authorized Claimant’s Recognized Claim divided by the total of the Recognized Claims of all Authorized Claimants, multiplied by the total amount in the Net Settlement Fund.

57. Settling Defendants, their respective counsel, and all other Released Defendant Parties will have no responsibility or liability for the investment of the Settlement Fund, the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, the Plan of Allocation or the payment of any claim. Lead Plaintiffs, Lead Counsel, and anyone acting on their behalf, likewise will have no liability for their reasonable efforts to execute, administer, and distribute the Settlement.

### CALCULATION OF RECOGNIZED LOSS AMOUNTS

58. For purposes of determining whether a claimant has a Recognized Claim, purchases and sales of shares of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund (LJMAX, LJMCX, or LJMIX) will first be matched on a First In/First Out (“FIFO”) basis. If a Settlement Class Member has more than one purchase or sale of the Fund during the Class Period, all purchases and sales shall be matched on a FIFO basis. Class Period sales will be matched first against any holdings at the beginning of the Class Period and then against purchases in chronological order, beginning with the earliest purchase made during the Class Period. For purposes of this Plan, “sales price” refers to the proceeds received, if any, upon the redemption of each share.

59. The Claims Administrator will calculate a “Recognized Loss Amount,” as set forth below, for each purchase of shares of the Fund during the Class Period from February 28, 2015, through February 7, 2018, that is listed in the Claim Form and for which adequate documentation is provided. To the extent that the calculation of a claimant’s Recognized Loss Amount results in a negative number, that number shall be set to zero.

60. The sum of a claimant’s Recognized Loss Amounts will be the claimant’s “Recognized Claim.”

61. For each share of the Fund purchased on or between February 28, 2015 through February 7, 2018, and:

- (a) Sold prior to February 8, 2018, the Recognized Loss per share is the purchase price per share less the sales price per share.
- (b) Retained at the end of the day on February 7, 2018, the Recognized Loss per share is either:
  - (i) For shares sold before March 28, 2018 (the date the Fund was dissolved), the purchase price per share less the sales price per share; or
  - (ii) For shares held on March 28, 2018, the purchase price per share less the proceeds per share received, if any, (a) upon redemption of shares purchased, or (b) upon the *pro rata* per share distribution of the Fund's remaining assets received.

#### **ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS**

62. Purchases and sales of shares of the Fund shall be deemed to have occurred on the "contract" or "trade" date as opposed to the "settlement" or "payment" date. The receipt or grant by gift, inheritance or operation of law of shares during the Class Period shall not be deemed a purchase of such shares for the calculation of an Authorized Claimant's Recognized Claim, nor shall the receipt or grant be deemed an assignment of any claim relating to the purchase of such shares unless: (i) the donor or decedent purchased or otherwise acquired such shares during the Class Period; (ii) no Claim Form was submitted by or on behalf of the donor, on behalf of the decedent, or by anyone else with respect to such shares; and (iii) it is specifically so provided in the instrument of gift or assignment.

63. The Net Settlement Fund will be allocated among all Authorized Claimants whose prorated payment is \$10.00 or greater. If the prorated payment to any Authorized Claimant calculates to less than \$10.00, it will not be included in the calculation and a distribution will not be made to that Authorized Claimant.

64. Payment according to this Plan of Allocation will be deemed conclusive against all Authorized Claimants. Recognized Claims will be calculated as defined herein by the Claims Administrator and cannot be less than zero. Please contact the Claims Administrator or Lead Counsel if you disagree with any determinations made by the Claims Administrator regarding your Claim Form. If you are dissatisfied with the determination of your claim, you may ask the Court, which retains jurisdiction over all Settlement Class Members and the claims administration process, to decide the issue by submitting a written request to the Claims Administrator.

65. Distributions will be made to eligible Authorized Claimants after all claims have been processed, after the Court has finally approved the Settlement, after the Court has awarded attorneys' fees and expenses to Lead Counsel in connection with the Settlement, and at the conclusion of the Action. If there is any balance remaining in the Net Settlement Fund (whether by reason of tax refunds, uncashed checks or otherwise) after at least six (6) months from the date of initial distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, the Claims Administrator shall, if feasible and economical after payment of Notice and Administration Expenses, Taxes, and attorneys' fees and expenses, if any, redistribute such balance among Authorized Claimants who have cashed their initial checks in an equitable and economic fashion. These redistributions will be repeated until the balance remaining in the Net Settlement Fund is no longer feasible or economical to reallocate. After payment of outstanding Notice and Administration Expenses, Taxes, and attorneys' fees and expenses, if any, the remaining balance shall be contributed to a non-sectarian, not-for-profit charitable organization(s) serving the public interest, designated by Lead Plaintiffs and approved by the Court.

66. Payment pursuant to the Plan of Allocation or such other plan as may be approved by the Court shall be conclusive against all Authorized Claimants. No person shall have any claim against Lead Plaintiffs, Lead Counsel, the Claims Administrator, or other agent designated by Lead Counsel, arising from determinations or distributions to claimants made substantially in accordance with the Stipulation, the Plan of Allocation approved by the Court, or further orders of the Court. Settling Defendants, their respective counsel, and all other Released Defendant Parties shall have no responsibility for or liability whatsoever for the investment or distribution of the Settlement Fund, the Net Settlement Fund, the Plan of Allocation or the determination, administration, calculation, or payment of any Claim Form or non-performance of the Claims Administrator, the payment or withholding of taxes owed by the Settlement Fund or any losses incurred in connection therewith.

67. Each claimant is deemed to have submitted to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois with respect to his, her, or its claim.

**SPECIAL NOTICE TO SECURITIES BROKERS AND NOMINEES**

68. If you purchased shares of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund (CUSIPs: LJMAX: 90213U503, LJMCX: 90213U602, LJMIX: 90213U701) during the Class Period for the beneficial interest of a person or entity other than yourself, the Court has directed that **WITHIN TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE, YOU MUST EITHER** (a) provide to the Claims Administrator the name and last known address of each person or entity for whom or which you purchased shares of the Fund during the Class Period; or (b) request additional copies of this Notice and the Claim Form from the Claims Administrator, which will be provided to you free of charge, and **WITHIN TEN (10) CALENDAR DAYS** of receipt, mail the Notice and Claim Form directly to all the beneficial owners of those securities. You must also provide email addresses of such beneficial owners to the Claims Administrator, to the extent available. If you choose to follow procedure (b), the Court has also directed that, upon making that mailing, **YOU MUST SEND A STATEMENT** to the Claims Administrator confirming that the mailing was made as directed and keep a record of the names and mailing addresses used. You are entitled to reimbursement from the Settlement Fund of your reasonable expenses actually incurred in connection with the foregoing, assuming the expenses would not have been incurred except for the sending of such Notice. Expenses will be paid upon request and submission of appropriate supporting documentation and timely compliance with the above directives. All communications concerning the foregoing should be addressed to the Claims Administrator:

*LJM Funds Securities Settlement*  
c/o Epiq  
P.O. Box 3058  
Portland, OR 97208-3058  
www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com  
info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com  
(855) 915-0913

Dated: September 12, 2019

BY ORDER OF THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

LEONARD SOKOLOW, Individually and on Behalf of  
All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.

LJM FUNDS MANAGEMENT, LTD., et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:18-cv-01039

Hon. Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.

**PROOF OF CLAIM AND RELEASE**

**A. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS**

1. To recover as a member of the Settlement Class based on your claims against Two Roads Shared Trust, Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC, Mark D. Gersten, Mark Garbin, Neil M. Kaufman, Anita K. Krug, Andrew B. Rogers, and James Colantino (collectively, the “Settling Defendants”) in the partial settlement of the above-captioned federal class action (the “Action”), you must complete and, on page 7 below, sign this Proof of Claim and Release form (“Claim Form”). If you fail to submit a timely and properly addressed Claim Form, your claim may be rejected, and you may not receive any recovery from the Net Settlement Fund created in connection with the proposed Settlement.

2. Submission of this Claim Form, however, does not assure that you will share in the proceeds of the settlement of the Action.

**3. THIS CLAIM FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE AT [WWW.LJMFUNDSSECURITIESSETTLEMENT.COM](http://WWW.LJMFUNDSSECURITIESSETTLEMENT.COM) NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 11, 2019 OR, IF MAILED, BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 11, 2019, ADDRESSED AS FOLLOWS:**

*LJM Funds Securities Settlement*  
c/o Epiq  
P.O. Box 3058  
Portland, OR 97208-3058  
[info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](mailto:info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com)  
(855) 915-0913

4. If you are a member of the Settlement Class and you do not timely request exclusion in response to the accompanying Notice dated September 12, 2019, you will be bound by the terms of the Settlement, including the releases provided therein, **WHETHER OR NOT YOU SUBMIT A CLAIM FORM OR RECEIVE A PAYMENT.**

5. Payments will not be made until the Settlement is approved by the Court, the Court has ruled on Lead Counsel’s application for attorneys’ fees and expenses, and the Action has been fully resolved.

**B. CLAIMANT IDENTIFICATION**

1. If you purchased shares of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund (LJMAX, LJMCX, or LJMIX) (the “Fund”) during the period from February 28, 2015 through February 7, 2018, inclusive (the “Class Period”) and held the shares in your name, you are the beneficial purchaser as well as the record purchaser. If, however, you purchased or otherwise acquired shares of the Fund during the Class Period through a third party, such as a brokerage firm, you are the beneficial purchaser and the third party is the record purchaser.



If you are going to forward the Notice Packet to the beneficial owners, request the needed number of copies of the Notice Packet via email to [info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](mailto:info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com). You must mail the Notice Packets to the beneficial owners within ten (10) calendar days of your receipt of the Notice Packets.

### **Expense Reimbursement**

Reasonable expenses are eligible for reimbursement (including postage and costs to compile names and addresses), provided an invoice documenting the expenses is timely submitted to the Claims Administrator. Please submit your invoice within one month of completing the mailing or providing your file.

### **Electronic Name and Address File Layout**

<b>Column</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Notes</b>
A	Account #	15	Unique identifier for each record
B	Beneficial owner's first name	25	
C	Beneficial owner's middle name	15	
D	Beneficial owner's last name	30	
E	Joint beneficial owner's first name	25	
F	Joint beneficial owner's middle name	15	
G	Joint beneficial owner's last name	30	
H	Business or record owner's name	60	
I	Representative or contact name	45	
J	Address 1	35	
K	Address 2	25	
L	City	25	
M	U.S. state or Canadian province	2	U.S. and Canada addresses only <sup>1</sup>
N	ZIP Code	10	
O	Country (other than U.S.)	15	

**For further details, please refer to page 13 of the enclosed Notice.**

If you have any questions, you may contact the Claims Administrator at 1 (855) 915-0913 or by email at [info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](mailto:info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com). Thank you for your cooperation.

<sup>1</sup> For countries other than the U.S. and Canada, place any territorial subdivision in "Address 2" field.

**For questions, please call 1 (855) 915-0913**

**PART I – CLAIMANT INFORMATION**

The Claims Administrator will use this information for all communications regarding this Claim Form. If this information changes, you MUST notify the Claims Administrator in writing at the address above. Complete names of all persons and entities must be provided.

Beneficial Owner's First Name	MI	Beneficial Owner's Last Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Co-Beneficial Owner's First Name	MI	Co-Beneficial Owner's Last Name
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Entity Name (if Beneficial Owner is not an individual)

Representative or Custodian Name (if different from Beneficial Owner[s] listed above)

Address 1 (street name and number)

Address 2 (apartment, unit or box number)

City	State	ZIP/Postal Code
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>

Country

Last four digits of Social Security Number or Taxpayer Identification Number

Telephone Number (home)	Telephone Number (work)
<input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/>

Email Address (Email address is not required, but if you provide it you authorize the Claims Administrator to use it in providing you with information relevant to this claim.)

Account Number (if filing for multiple accounts, file a separate Proof of Claim for each account)

Claimant Account Type (check appropriate box)

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual (includes joint owner accounts)	<input type="checkbox"/> Pension Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Trust
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporation	<input type="checkbox"/> Estate	
<input type="checkbox"/> IRA/401(k)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	(please specify)

**PART II - SCHEDULE OF TRANSACTIONS IN THE FUND - TICKER: LJMAX**

**1. HOLDINGS AS OF OPENING OF TRADING ON FEBRUARY 28, 2015** – State the total number of LJMAX shares of the Fund held as of the opening of trading on February 28, 2015. (Must be documented.) If none, write “zero” or “0.”

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**2. PURCHASES/ACQUISITIONS FROM FEBRUARY 28, 2015 THROUGH FEBRUARY 7, 2018** – Separately list each and every purchase/acquisition of LJMAX shares of the Fund from after the opening of trading on February 28, 2015 through and including the close of trading on February 7, 2018. (Must be documented.)

Date of Purchase/ Acquisition (List Chronologically) (Month/Day/Year)	Number of Shares Purchased/ Acquired	Purchase/ Acquisition Price Per Share	Total Purchase/ Acquisition Price (excluding taxes, commissions, and fees)

**3. PURCHASES/ACQUISITIONS FROM FEBRUARY 8, 2018 THROUGH MARCH 27, 2018** – State the total number of LJMAX shares of the Fund purchased/acquired from after the opening of trading on February 8, 2018 through and including the close of trading on March 27, 2018. If none, write “zero” or “0.”<sup>1</sup>

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**4. SALES FROM FEBRUARY 28, 2015 THROUGH MARCH 28, 2018** – Separately list each and every sale of LJMAX shares of the Fund from after the opening of trading on February 28, 2015 through and including the end of the day on March 28, 2018. (Must be documented.)

Date of Sale (List Chronologically) (Month/Day/Year)	Number of Shares Sold	Sales Price Per Share	Proceeds Per Share Received (excluding taxes, commissions, and fees)

**5. HOLDINGS AS OF MARCH 28, 2018** – State the total number of LJMAX shares of the Fund held as of the opening of trading on March 28, 2018. (Must be documented.) If none, write “zero” or “0.”

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**6. DISTRIBUTION OF FUND’S REMAINING ASSETS** – State the total value of sums received from the distribution of the Fund’s remaining assets on or after March 28, 2018 relating to your LJMAX shares. (Must be documented.) If none, write “zero” or “0.”

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**IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SPACE TO LIST YOUR LJMAX TRANSACTIONS, PLEASE PHOTOCOPY THIS PAGE, WRITE YOUR NAME, AND CHECK THIS BOX:**

<sup>1</sup> **Please note:** Information requested with respect to your purchases/acquisitions of the Fund during this period is needed in order to balance your claim. Purchases during this period, however, are not eligible for a recovery and will not be used for purposes of calculating your Recognized Claim pursuant to the Plan of Allocation.

**PART II - SCHEDULE OF TRANSACTIONS IN THE FUND - TICKER: LJMCMX**

**1. HOLDINGS AS OF OPENING OF TRADING ON FEBRUARY 28, 2015** – State the total number of **LJMCMX** shares of the Fund held as of the opening of trading on February 28, 2015. (Must be documented.) If none, write “zero” or “0.”

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**2. PURCHASES/ACQUISITIONS FROM FEBRUARY 28, 2015 THROUGH FEBRUARY 7, 2018** – Separately list each and every purchase/acquisition of **LJMCMX** shares of the Fund from after the opening of trading on February 28, 2015 through and including the close of trading on February 7, 2018. (Must be documented.)

Date of Purchase/ Acquisition (List Chronologically) (Month/Day/Year)	Number of Shares Purchased/ Acquired	Purchase/ Acquisition Price Per Share	Total Purchase/ Acquisition Price (excluding taxes, commissions, and fees)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>

**3. PURCHASES/ACQUISITIONS FROM FEBRUARY 8, 2018 THROUGH MARCH 27, 2018** – State the total number of **LJMCMX** shares of the Fund purchased/acquired from after the opening of trading on February 8, 2018 through and including the close of trading on March 27, 2018. If none, write “zero” or “0.”<sup>1</sup>

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**4. SALES FROM FEBRUARY 28, 2015 THROUGH MARCH 28, 2018** – Separately list each and every sale of **LJMCMX** shares of the Fund from after the opening of trading on February 28, 2015 through and including the end of the day on March 28, 2018. (Must be documented.)

Date of Sale (List Chronologically) (Month/Day/Year)	Number of Shares Sold	Sales Price Per Share	Proceeds Per Share Received (excluding taxes, commissions, and fees)
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>
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<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> • <input type="text"/>

**5. HOLDINGS AS OF MARCH 28, 2018** – State the total number of **LJMCMX** shares of the Fund held as of the opening of trading on March 28, 2018. (Must be documented.) If none, write “zero” or “0.”

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**6. DISTRIBUTION OF FUND’S REMAINING ASSETS** – State the total value of sums received from the distribution of the Fund’s remaining assets on or after March 28, 2018 relating to your **LJMCMX** shares. (Must be documented.) If none, write “zero” or “0.”

<input type="text"/>	•	<input type="text"/>
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**IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SPACE TO LIST YOUR LJMCMX TRANSACTIONS, PLEASE PHOTOCOPY THIS PAGE, WRITE YOUR NAME, AND CHECK THIS BOX:**

<sup>1</sup> **Please note:** Information requested with respect to your purchases/acquisitions of the Fund during this period is needed in order to balance your claim. Purchases during this period, however, are not eligible for a recovery and will not be used for purposes of calculating your Recognized Claim pursuant to the Plan of Allocation.

**PART II - SCHEDULE OF TRANSACTIONS IN THE FUND - TICKER: LJMIX**

**1. HOLDINGS AS OF OPENING OF TRADING ON FEBRUARY 28, 2015** – State the total number of LJMIX shares of the Fund held as of the opening of trading on February 28, 2015. (Must be documented.) If none, write “zero” or “0.”

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**2. PURCHASES/ACQUISITIONS FROM FEBRUARY 28, 2015 THROUGH FEBRUARY 7, 2018** – Separately list each and every purchase/acquisition of LJMIX shares of the Fund from after the opening of trading on February 28, 2015 through and including the close of trading on February 7, 2018. (Must be documented.)

Date of Purchase/ Acquisition (List Chronologically) (Month/Day/Year)	Number of Shares Purchased/ Acquired	Purchase/ Acquisition Price Per Share	Total Purchase/ Acquisition Price (excluding taxes, commissions, and fees)

**3. PURCHASES/ACQUISITIONS FROM FEBRUARY 8, 2018 THROUGH MARCH 27, 2018** – State the total number of LJMIX shares of the Fund purchased/acquired from after the opening of trading on February 8, 2018 through and including the close of trading on March 27, 2018. If none, write “zero” or “0.”<sup>1</sup>

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**4. SALES FROM FEBRUARY 28, 2015 THROUGH MARCH 28, 2018** – Separately list each and every sale of LJMIX shares of the Fund from after the opening of trading on February 28, 2015 through and including the end of the day on March 28, 2018. (Must be documented.)

Date of Sale (List Chronologically) (Month/Day/Year)	Number of Shares Sold	Sales Price Per Share	Proceeds Per Share Received (excluding taxes, commissions, and fees)

**5. HOLDINGS AS OF MARCH 28, 2018** – State the total number of LJMIX shares of the Fund held as of the opening of trading on March 28, 2018. (Must be documented.) If none, write “zero” or “0.”

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**6. DISTRIBUTION OF FUND’S REMAINING ASSETS** – State the total value of sums received from the distribution of the Fund’s remaining assets on or after March 28, 2018 relating to your LJMIX shares. (Must be documented.) If none, write “zero” or “0.”

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**IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SPACE TO LIST YOUR LJMIX TRANSACTIONS, PLEASE PHOTOCOPY THIS PAGE, WRITE YOUR NAME, AND CHECK THIS BOX:**

<sup>1</sup> **Please note:** Information requested with respect to your purchases/acquisitions of the Fund during this period is needed in order to balance your claim. Purchases during this period, however, are not eligible for a recovery and will not be used for purposes of calculating your Recognized Claim pursuant to the Plan of Allocation.

**PART III – SUBMISSION TO JURISDICTION OF COURT AND  
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

**YOU MUST READ AND SIGN THE RELEASE BELOW. FAILURE TO SIGN MAY RESULT IN A DELAY IN  
PROCESSING OR THE REJECTION OF YOUR CLAIM.**

1. I (We) submit this Proof of Claim and Release under the terms of the Stipulation and Agreement of Partial Settlement, dated August 19, 2019 (the “Stipulation”) described in the accompanying Notice. I (We) also submit to the jurisdiction of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, with respect to my (our) claim as a Settlement Class Member and for purposes of enforcing the release set forth herein. I (We) further acknowledge that I am (we are) bound by and subject to the terms of any judgment that may be entered in the Action. I (We) agree to furnish additional information to the Claims Administrator to support this claim (including transactions in other securities) if requested to do so. I (We) have not submitted any other claim in the Action covering the same purchases or sales of shares of the Fund during the Class Period and know of no other person having done so on my (our) behalf.

2. I (We) hereby acknowledge full and complete satisfaction of, and do hereby fully, finally, and forever settle, release, and discharge from the Released Claims each and all of the Released Defendant Parties, both as defined in the accompanying Notice. This release shall be of no force or effect unless and until the Court approves the Settlement and the Settlement becomes effective on the Effective Date (as defined in the Stipulation).

3. I (We) hereby warrant and represent that I (we) have not assigned or transferred or purported to assign or transfer, voluntarily or involuntarily, any matter released pursuant to this release or any other part or portion thereof.

4. I (We) hereby warrant and represent that I (we) have included the information requested about all of my (our) transactions in the Fund that are the subject of this claim, as well as the opening and closing positions in such securities held by me (us) on the dates requested in this Claim Form.

5. I (We) certify that I am (we are) not subject to backup withholding under the provisions of Section 3406(a)(1)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code. (Note: If you have been notified by the Internal Revenue Service that you are subject to backup withholding, please strike out the prior sentence.)

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that all of the foregoing information supplied on this Claim Form by the undersigned is true and correct.

(Sign your name here)  Executed  day of  –   
(Day) (Month) (Year)

(Type or print your name here)

(Signature of joint claimant, if any)  Date  –  –   
MM DD YY

(Print joint claimant name here)

Capacity of person[s] signing on behalf of claimant, if other than the individual claimant, e.g., Executor or Administrator (Must provide evidence of authority to act on behalf of claimant – see Section B, ¶3 on page 2 of this Claim Form)

ACCURATE CLAIMS PROCESSING TAKES A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF TIME.  
PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE MADE UNTIL THE ACTION IS RESOLVED.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE.

Reminder Checklist:

1. Please sign the above release and acknowledgement.
2. If this claim is being made on behalf of joint claimants, then both must sign.
3. Remember to attach copies of supporting documentation, if available.
4. **Do not send** originals of certificates.
5. Keep a copy of your Claim Form and all supporting documentation for your records.
6. If you desire an acknowledgment of receipt of your Claim Form, please send it Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested.
7. If you move, please send your new address to:  
*LJM Funds Securities Settlement*  
c/o Epiq  
P.O. Box 3058  
Portland, OR 97208-3058  
info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com  
(855) 915-0913
8. **Do not use red pen or highlighter** on the Claim Form or supporting documentation.

# **EXHIBIT B**



LJM Funds Securities Settlement  
c/o Epiq  
P.O. Box 3058  
Portland, OR 97208-3058

Website: [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com)  
Email: [info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](mailto:info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com)  
Phone: 1 (855) 915-0913

**NOTICE TO BROKERS, BANKS, AND OTHER NOMINEES**

**TIME-SENSITIVE, COURT-ORDERED  
ACTION REQUIRED ON YOUR PART**

***Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al.*  
No. 1:18-cv-01039 (N.D. Ill.)**

A proposed partial settlement of the above-noted federal securities class action has been reached. Enclosed is the Notice of Pendency of Class Action, Proposed Partial Class Action Settlement, and Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses and Proof of Claim and Release (the "Notice Packet") that the Court has ordered be timely sent to potential Settlement Class Members. **PLEASE NOTE:** This Action is separate from the parallel state class action also entitled *Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al.*, Case No. 18-CH-11880, pending in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois.

The Settlement Class consists of **all persons and entities who purchased shares of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund (LJMAX, LJMCX, or LJMIX) (the "Fund") during the period from February 28, 2015 through February 7, 2018, inclusive (the "Class Period")**. The CUSIPs for the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund are LJMAX: 90213U503, LJMCX: 90213U602, LJMIX: 90213U701.

If you are a broker or other nominee who purchased shares of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund during the period from February 28, 2015 through February 7, 2018, inclusive, for the beneficial interest of a person or entity other than yourself, **WITHIN TEN (10) DAYS OF YOUR RECEIPT OF THE ENCLOSED NOTICE PACKET, you must either:**

- (a) provide the Claims Administrator, Epiq, with a list of the names, last known addresses, and email addresses (to the extent they are available) of all such beneficial owners described above; or
- (b) request from the Claims Administrator sufficient copies of the enclosed Notice Packet to forward to all such beneficial owners and, within ten (10) days of receipt of those copies, forward the Notice Packet to all such beneficial owners. You must also provide Epiq with the email addresses of the beneficial owners (to the extent they are available).

**PLEASE NOTE: The Notice Packet contains deadlines that will impact your customers' rights.**

**If you are providing a list of names and addresses to the Claims Administrator, please do the following:**

- (a) Compile a list of names, last known addresses, and email addresses (if available) of the beneficial owners described above.
- (b) Prepare the list in Microsoft Excel format following the "Electronic Name and Address File Layout" set forth on page 2 below. A preformatted spreadsheet can also be found on the "Nominees" page of the website, [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com).
- (c) Then you must do one of the following:
  1. Save the Microsoft Excel file(s) to a CD or DVD and mail the CD or DVD to the following address:  

*LJM Funds Securities Settlement*  
c/o Epiq  
P.O. Box 3058  
Portland, OR 97208-3058
  2. Email the spreadsheet(s) to [info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](mailto:info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com); or
  3. Upload the spreadsheet(s) to the "Nominees" page of the website, [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com).

**For questions, please call 1 (855) 915-0913**

If you are going to forward the Notice Packet to the beneficial owners, request the needed number of copies of the Notice Packet via email to [info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](mailto:info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com). You must mail the Notice Packets to the beneficial owners within ten (10) calendar days of your receipt of the Notice Packets.

### **Expense Reimbursement**

Reasonable expenses are eligible for reimbursement (including postage and costs to compile names and addresses), provided an invoice documenting the expenses is timely submitted to the Claims Administrator. Please submit your invoice within one month of completing the mailing or providing your file.

### **Electronic Name and Address File Layout**

<b>Column</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Length</b>	<b>Notes</b>
A	Account #	15	Unique identifier for each record
B	Beneficial owner's first name	25	
C	Beneficial owner's middle name	15	
D	Beneficial owner's last name	30	
E	Joint beneficial owner's first name	25	
F	Joint beneficial owner's middle name	15	
G	Joint beneficial owner's last name	30	
H	Business or record owner's name	60	
I	Representative or contact name	45	
J	Address 1	35	
K	Address 2	25	
L	City	25	
M	U.S. state or Canadian province	2	U.S. and Canada addresses only <sup>1</sup>
N	ZIP Code	10	
O	Country (other than U.S.)	15	

**For further details, please refer to page 13 of the enclosed Notice.**

If you have any questions, you may contact the Claims Administrator at 1 (855) 915-0913 or by email at [info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](mailto:info@LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com). Thank you for your cooperation.

<sup>1</sup> For countries other than the U.S. and Canada, place any territorial subdivision in "Address 2" field.

**For questions, please call 1 (855) 915-0913**

# **EXHIBIT C**

## CONFIRMATION OF PUBLICATION

IN THE MATTER OF: *Sokolow v LJM Funds Management*

I, Kathleen Komraus, hereby certify that

- (a) I am the Media & Design Manager at Epiq Class Action & Claims Solutions, a noticing administrator, and;
- (b) The Notice of which the annexed is a copy was published in the following publications on the following dates:

*9.19.19 – Wall Street Journal*  
*9.19.19 – PR Newswire*

X Kathleen Komraus  
(Signature)

Media & Design Manager  
(Title)

# Cybersecurity Group Freezes Out Huawei

Global first responder to hacks temporarily suspends company over U.S. sanctions

By ANNA ISAAC

**Huawei Technologies** Co. has been suspended from membership in a global trade group of companies, governments and experts set up to tackle computer security breaches and share information about vulnerabilities.

The Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams, called "First," was set up in the 1990s to encourage international cooperation in addressing and preventing hacking incidents. It has grown into a sort of informal first responder to big global hacks and cybersecurity incidents. Members share information and intelligence to identify and isolate cyberattacks or vulner-

abilities quickly, and disseminate information to protect against their rapid spread.

While largely working under the radar, the group's collective expertise on security has long been valued by governments and companies. The group's board of directors includes representatives from multinational companies including **Cisco Systems Inc.**, **Hitachi Ltd.**, **Siemens AG** and **Juniper Networks Inc.** The cybersecurity arm of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the U.K.'s National Cyber Security Centre are members.

A spokesman for Huawei said the company wouldn't comment on the suspension. The company has said the U.S. is "using every tool at its disposal" to disrupt its operations.

The step effectively freezes Huawei out of discussions among members of the group over matters such as software glitches. That could slow the company's ability to patch or



Multinational companies and governments are part of the global trade group. Surveillance cameras at a Huawei event in China.

fix holes in its own systems. Huawei will also no longer have access to sensitive discussions within the forum's so-called special interest groups. Those groups share details on cybersecurity vulnerabilities between member organizations. It also won't be able to use an automated platform for sharing information on malware.

The trigger of Huawei's suspension, according to a memo to members viewed by The Wall Street Journal, was legal advice provided the group following changes last month to U.S. export rules.

The group, in the email to members, said the suspension was temporary and was taken after changes to U.S. rules to

restrict technology exports to Huawei. The group said there wasn't clarity on what that covered, but lawyers had determined that some of the information shared on mailing lists and between members could fit the U.S. definition. It said it was working with U.S. officials to reinstate Huawei.

A spokesman for First said

that "after extensive consultation and review, we regret ending up in a position where we had to suspend Huawei's membership."

Washington has repeatedly raised security concerns about Huawei's operations, saying it can be compelled by Beijing to spy on its behalf, a charge the company has denied.

# Microsoft Sets \$40 Billion Buyback

By KIMBERLY CHIN

**Microsoft Corp.** said it plans to buy back as much as \$40 billion in stock and raise its dividend 11%, maintaining its track record of sharing its flood of cash with shareholders.

This is the third time the software giant has authorized a buyback plan of that size. The board previously authorized such repurchases in 2013 and again in 2016.

Microsoft said there is no expiration date for the latest share-repurchase program. The company also said it could cut the program short.

Microsoft, now the largest publicly traded company, has posted strong earnings growth from a bet on cloud computing that helped it beat Wall Street estimates in the fiscal fourth quarter, which ended June 30. Sales rose 12% and profit



The company, which makes Surface devices, also lifted its dividend.

soared 49% from a year earlier.

The Redmond, Wash., company made the repurchase announcement Wednesday as it was on pace to reach the end of its 2016 share-buyback program within a few months. The company had \$11.4 billion of that program remaining as of June 30, according to filings. Microsoft bought about

\$4.6 billion of its own stock in the April-through-June quarter.

The buyback represents about 3.8% of Microsoft's more than \$1 trillion market value.

From the fiscal years between 2017 and 2019, the company repurchased a combined 419 million shares for roughly \$35.7 billion, the company

said. Shares have risen 36% in the year to date.

Microsoft also raised its quarterly dividend by 5 cents to 51 cents a share, or 11% above the prior quarter's payout and a slightly higher dividend increase than the company announced a year ago. The dividend will be payable Dec. 12 to shareholders of record Nov. 21.

Microsoft's cash from operations was \$52.2 billion for the fiscal year ended June 30. The company in July said its growth momentum was continuing.

Chief Financial Officer Amy Hood told analysts that the current fiscal year should again include a double-digit sales gain in the cloud-computing business, where Microsoft is the No. 2 competitor behind Amazon.com Inc.

# Comcast Ups Ante On Video

Continued from page B1

way for the company to remain a video-content provider.

"Not all video customers are profitable to us anymore, and programming costs can be lumpy," Mr. Roberts said, adding it isn't always worth fighting the cord-cutting trend for those reasons.

Comcast said Flex is able to stream videos in 4K resolution and comes with a voice-activated remote control. The technology behind the Flex platform and remote control stems from Comcast's cable system, Xfinity X1, which gives cable subscribers access to their pay-TV package and streaming apps through Comcast's set-top box. A majority of Comcast's cable customers use the X1 platform and its voice remote.

The company said Flex would provide a "digital dashboard," similar to X1 and Xfinity's xFi internet service, so that customers can manage their related internet-home products, and use other functions similar to a smartphone.

Comcast said there wouldn't be any advertising on Flex. It declined to say whether it would take a cut of subscriptions purchased through its platform. As with other streaming devices, apps from rivals

including Hulu and Netflix are available on the platform.

Peacock will be added to Flex once the service is live. Skinny bundles, such as Dish Network Corp.'s Sling TV or Alphabet Inc.'s YouTube TV—which provide access to a limited selection of live TV channels—aren't available on Flex yet, although Sling International, which provides international TV shows, is.

The company will reach out to its current internet-only customers, with and without Flex, to notify them that Flex is now available free of charge. (Customers will still have to pay \$5 a month if they want a

## Apps from rivals including Hulu and Netflix are available on the platform.

second device.).

Flex is currently offered only to Comcast customers. Matt Strauss, Comcast Cable's executive vice president of Xfinity Services, on Wednesday said the company was exploring whether license Flex to rivals—similar to the X1 cable platform that is licensed to Cox Communications, among others.

While Comcast has focused on speed upgrades to improve broadband customers' experience, offering Flex at no cost is meant to improve the internet-only customers' experience, a spokeswoman said.

## Facebook Jumps On the Streaming Bandwagon

**Facebook Inc.** is getting into the streaming game, launching a new set-top version of its Portal device that adds to the company's bet that the future of smart homes will be social.

The second-generation Portal devices will include one with television chat and video-streaming capabilities, while all models are equipped with speakers and a camera that track people as they move around a room. The devices use artificial intelligence to home in on voices as well as create special effects and casual games among friends.

The products announced Wednesday are a update of the original Portal devices released in October, which were lauded for their ease of use but caught up in scrutiny of privacy missteps by Facebook. At a demonstration of the new devices, the company stressed that users could opt out of sending any data to Facebook, and designers stressed numerous physical features that would clearly demonstrate to users when the device was off.

With the launch, Facebook joins an increasingly crowded field of players offering streaming devices, including Roku Inc. and Amazon.com Inc. Andrew Bosworth, who heads Facebook's hardware business, played down the com-

petition among providers to offer more content, saying Portal's strength was access to people.

"You will be hard-pressed to find another device that you can use to contact as many people as you care about," said Mr. Bosworth. "This is the killer feature for a device like this in your home."

Along with its video-chat features, the Portal TV device will be able to stream content from Facebook, Amazon Prime, Spotify and a limited number of other services. Asked why other major providers—including Netflix and the forthcoming Disney—chose not to make their products accessible via the device, Mr. Bosworth said he hoped more would sign on later.

"I think people are still learning about it," he said.

In addition to Facebook messenger, users of the new Portal devices can make video calls using Facebook's WhatsApp platform, employing the product's end-to-end encryption. The new Portal devices are cheaper than the original models, with the Portal Mini selling for \$129, the Portal at \$179 and Portal TV at \$149. Mr. Bosworth declined to say whether the products break even at their current retail price, but said Facebook viewed Portal and its other augmented and virtual-reality hardware initiatives as longer-term investments.

"At some point, they have the potential to be mainstream for consumers," he said.

—Jeff Horwitz

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### CLASS ACTION

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

LEONARD SOKOLOW, Individually and on Behalf of  
All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiff,

vs.  
LJM FUNDS MANAGEMENT, LTD., et al.,  
Defendants.

Case No. 1:18-cv-01039

Hon. Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.

### SUMMARY NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION, PROPOSED PARTIAL CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT, AND MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES

TO: All persons and entities who purchased or otherwise acquired shares of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund (LJMAX, LJMCX, or LJMIX) (the "Fund") during the period from February 28, 2015 through February 7, 2018, inclusive (the "Settlement Class").

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and an Order of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, that Court-appointed Lead Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and all members of the proposed Settlement Class, and Two Roads Shared Trust, Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC, Mark D. Gersten, Mark Garbin, Neil M. Kaufman, Anita K. Krug, Andrew B. Rogers, and James Colantino (collectively, the "Settling Defendants"), have reached a proposed settlement of the claims against the Settling Defendants in the above-captioned action (the "Action") in the amount of \$12,850,000 (the "Settlement"). Claims against the remaining defendants are continuing to be litigated. This Action is separate from the state class action, *Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al.*, Case No. 18-CH-11880, pending in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois.

A hearing will be held before the Honorable Robert M. Dow, Jr. of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Everett McKinley Dirksen United States Courthouse, 219 S. Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois 60604, in Courtroom 2303 at 9:15 a.m. on December 18, 2019 (the "Settlement Hearing"), to, among other things, determine whether the Court should: (i) approve the proposed Settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate; (ii) dismiss the claims against the Settling Defendants with prejudice as provided in the Stipulation and Agreement of Partial Settlement, dated August 19, 2019; (iii) approve the proposed Plan of Allocation for distribution of the Net Settlement Fund; and (iv) approve Lead Counsel's Fee and Expense Application. The Court may change the date of the Settlement Hearing without providing another notice. You do NOT need to attend the Settlement Hearing to receive a distribution from the Net Settlement Fund.

IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE SETTLEMENT CLASS, YOUR RIGHTS WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AND YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO A MONETARY PAYMENT. If you have not yet received a Notice of Pendency of Class Action, Proposed Partial Class Action Settlement, and Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses ("Notice") and Proof of Claim and Release form ("Claim Form"), you may obtain copies of these documents by visiting the website dedicated to the Settlement, [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com), or by contacting the Claims Administrator at:

*LJM Funds Securities Settlement*  
Claims Administrator  
P.O. Box 3058  
Portland, OR 97208-3058  
[www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com)  
(855) 915-0913

Inquiries, other than requests for the Notice/Claim Form or for information about the status of a claim, may also be made to Lead Counsel:

James W. Johnson, Esq.  
**Labaton Sucharow LLP**  
140 Broadway  
New York, NY 10005  
[www.labaton.com](http://www.labaton.com)  
[settlementquestions@labaton.com](mailto:settlementquestions@labaton.com)  
(888) 219-6877

James E. Barz, Esq.  
**Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP**  
200 South Wacker Drive  
Chicago, IL 60606  
[www.rgrdlaw.com](http://www.rgrdlaw.com)  
(800) 449-4900

If you are a Settlement Class Member, to be eligible to share in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, you must submit a Claim Form *postmarked or submitted online no later than December 11, 2019*. If you are a Settlement Class Member and do not timely submit a valid Claim Form, you will not be eligible to share in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, but you will nevertheless be bound by all judgments or orders entered by the Court relating to the Settlement, whether favorable or unfavorable.

If you are a Settlement Class Member and wish to exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you must submit a written request for exclusion in accordance with the instructions set forth in the Notice such that it is *received no later than November 27, 2019*. If you properly exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you will not be bound by any judgments or orders entered by the Court relating to the Settlement, whether favorable or unfavorable, and you will not be eligible to share in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund.

Any objections to the proposed Settlement, the Fee and Expense Application, and/or the proposed Plan of Allocation must be filed with the Court and mailed to counsel for the Settling Parties in accordance with the instructions in the Notice, such that they are *filed and received no later than November 27, 2019*.

PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT, DEFENDANTS, OR DEFENDANTS' COUNSEL REGARDING THIS NOTICE.

DATED: September 19, 2019

BY ORDER OF THE COURT  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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Conservation Easement Advisors, LLC

### PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1981 OF  
BERMUDA  
and  
IN THE MATTER OF HEALTHSTAR INDEMNITY  
COMPANY, LTD.  
(the "Company")

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 104B of the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda that the Company intends to merge and the surviving corporation shall continue as a company in the State of Vermont, in the United States of America.

Dated: 9th September 2019 at Hamilton, Bermuda.

Secretary  
HEALTHSTAR INDEMNITY COMPANY, LTD.

### TRAVEL



#### Luxury Barge Cruises

Barge Meanderer is an Exquisite, Top-Rated, Owner-Operated, Luxury Canal Barge. We offer a Six-Day, FULLY-INCLUSIVE cruise on French Canals, with 6 passengers and 6 crew. Transfers to and from the barge, all meals, wines, open bar, shore visits to visit wineries, markets, chateaux and antiquing. Included are optional guided biking tours and golf. Highly customized!!

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or contact us today to book your adventure!  
[info@bargemeanderer.com](mailto:info@bargemeanderer.com)  
602.790.0049

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# Labaton Sucharow LLP and Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP Announce Pendency of Class Action and Proposed Partial Class Action Settlement Involving the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund

NEWS PROVIDED BY

**Labaton Sucharow LLP and Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP →**

Sep 19, 2019, 08:00 ET

CHICAGO, Sept. 19, 2019 /PRNewswire/ --

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION**

LEONARD SOKOLOW, Individually and on Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,  Plaintiff,  vs.  LJM FUNDS MANAGEMENT, LTD., et al.,  Defendants.
---

Case No. 1:18-cv-01039

Hon. Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.

**SUMMARY NOTICE OF PENDENCY OF CLASS ACTION,  
PROPOSED PARTIAL CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT, AND MOTION FOR  
ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES**

**To: All persons and entities who purchased or otherwise acquired shares of the LJM Preservation and Growth Fund (LJMAX, LJMCX, or LJMIX) (the "Fund") during the period from February 28, 2015 through February 7, 2018, inclusive (the "Settlement Class").**

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED, pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and an Order of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, that Court-appointed Lead Plaintiffs, on behalf of themselves and all members of the proposed Settlement Class, and Two Roads Shared Trust, Northern Lights Distributors, LLC, NorthStar Financial Services Group, LLC, Mark D. Gersten, Mark Garbin, Neil M. Kaufman, Anita K. Krug, Andrew B. Rogers, and James Colantino (collectively, the "Settling Defendants"), have reached a proposed settlement of the claims against the Settling

Defendants in the above-captioned action (the "Action") in the amount of \$12,850,000 (the "Settlement"). Claims against the remaining defendants are continuing to be litigated. This Action is separate from the state class action, *Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al.*, Case No. 18-CH-11880, pending in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois.

A hearing will be held before the Honorable Robert M. Dow, Jr. of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, Everett McKinley Dirksen United States Courthouse, 219 S. Dearborn, Chicago, Illinois 60604, in Courtroom 2303 at **9:15 a.m. on December 18, 2019** (the "Settlement Hearing") to, among other things, determine whether the Court should: (i) approve the proposed Settlement as fair, reasonable, and adequate; (ii) dismiss the claims against the Settling Defendants with prejudice as provided in the Stipulation and Agreement of Partial Settlement, dated August 19, 2019; (iii) approve the proposed Plan of Allocation for distribution of the Net Settlement Fund; and (iv) approve Lead Counsel's Fee and Expense Application. The Court may change the date of the Settlement Hearing without providing another notice. You do NOT need to attend the Settlement Hearing to receive a distribution from the Net Settlement Fund.

**IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE SETTLEMENT CLASS, YOUR RIGHTS WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AND YOU MAY BE ENTITLED TO A MONETARY PAYMENT.** If you have not yet received a Notice of Pendency of Class Action, Proposed Partial Class Action Settlement, and Motion for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses ("Notice") and Proof of Claim and Release form ("Claim Form"), you may obtain copies of these documents by visiting the website dedicated to the Settlement, [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com), or by contacting the Claims Administrator at:

*LJM Funds Securities Settlement*  
Claims Administrator  
P.O. Box 3058  
Portland, OR 97208-3058  
[www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com)  
(855) 915-0913

Inquiries, other than requests for the Notice/Claim Form or for information about the status of a claim, may also be made to Lead Counsel:

James W. Johnson, Esq.  
**Labaton Sucharow LLP**  
140 Broadway  
New York, NY 10005  
[www.labaton.com](http://www.labaton.com)  
[settlementquestions@labaton.com](mailto:settlementquestions@labaton.com)  
(888) 219-6877

James E. Barz, Esq.  
**Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP**  
200 South Wacker Drive  
Chicago, IL 60606  
[www.rgrdlaw.com](http://www.rgrdlaw.com)  
(800) 449-4900

If you are a Settlement Class Member, to be eligible to share in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, you must submit a Claim Form **postmarked or submitted online no later than December 11, 2019**. If you are a Settlement Class Member and do not timely submit a valid Claim Form, you will not be eligible to share in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund, but you will nevertheless be bound by all judgments or orders entered by the Court relating to the Settlement, whether favorable or unfavorable.

If you are a Settlement Class Member and wish to exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you must submit a written request for exclusion in accordance with the instructions set forth in the Notice such that it is **received no later than November 27, 2019**. If you properly exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you will not be bound by any judgments or orders entered by the Court relating to the Settlement, whether favorable or unfavorable, and you will not be eligible to share in the distribution of the Net Settlement Fund.

Any objections to the proposed Settlement, the Fee and Expense Application, and/or the proposed Plan of Allocation must be filed with the Court and mailed to counsel for the Settling Parties in accordance with the instructions in the Notice, such that they are **filed and received no later than November 27, 2019**.

**PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE COURT, DEFENDANTS, OR  
DEFENDANTS' COUNSEL REGARDING THIS NOTICE.**

DATED: September 19, 2019 BY ORDER OF THE COURT  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

SOURCE: Labaton Sucharow LLP and Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP

URL: [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com)

SOURCE Labaton Sucharow LLP and Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP

Related Links

<http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com>



# **EXHIBIT D**

Exhibit D

Exclusion Requests

<b>Request No.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>
1	Frances Lee	Irvine	CA
2	Joseph Plubell & Marie Pubell TTEE Joseph Plubell Revocable Living Trust	Leawood	KS

# LJM Exclusion Request No. 1

**RECEIVED**  
OCT 28 2019  
**LEGAL SERVICES**

**Sokolow v LJM Funds Management**

**Opt-Out #**



**900000001**

Claims Administrator:

11/25/19



September 27, 2019

Dear Client,

The purpose of this letter is to update you on the status of the litigation against LJM Funds Management, Northern Lights Distributors, Two Roads Shared Trust, et al. Our last communication to you regarding the LJM class action lawsuit was on April 11, 2019. At that point the courts had set a new briefing schedule for a motion to dismiss after settlement negotiations conducted in January ended in an impasse.

Following motion to dismiss filings, the parties once again entered into settlement negotiations. On September 19, 2019 it was announced that a settlement agreement was reached between some of the parties for \$12.875 million. Notably, LJM Funds Management itself was not included in the settlement.

If you are a Settlement Class Member you should receive a Notice of Pendency of Class Action, Proposed Class Action Settlement, Motion for Attorney's Fees and Expenses and Proof of Claim and Release Form ("Claim Form"). If you have not received these documents you may obtain them at the settlement website [www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com](http://www.LJMFundsSecuritiesSettlement.com)

**As a settlement class member you will be required to submit the Claim Form to be eligible for a distribution. All of the information you need to complete the Claim Form should be readily available from your custodial account statements.**

If you wish to exclude yourself from the settlement you must submit a signed letter requesting exclusion. Please note that you must submit either a Claim Form or request for exclusion.

The next key court date in this matter is December 18, 2019. A settlement hearing will be held on this date to determine whether the Court should approve the settlement as fair, reasonable and accurate.

We will continue to update you as soon as we learn more information, including the continuing lawsuit against LJM Funds Management. If you have any questions, comments or need additional information you can call me at

*Please exclude me from this lawsuit:*  
*LJM Funds Securities Settlement*  
*Frances Lee*

Best Regards,

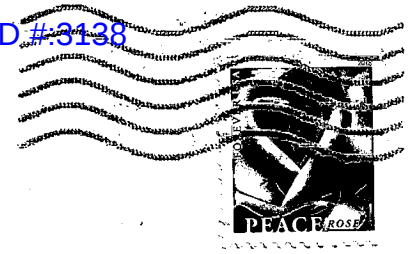
Drew K. Horter, Founder

*Frances Lee*

FRANCES L. LEE

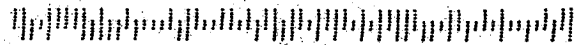
SANTA ANA CA 926

25 OCT 2019 PM 8 L



LJM Funds Securities Settlement  
c/o Epiq  
PO Box 3058  
Portland, OR 97208-3058

97208-305858



## LJM Exclusion Request No. 2

**RECEIVED**

**NOV 05 2019**

**LEGAL SERVICES**

**Sokolow v LJM Funds Management**

**Opt-Out #**



**900000002**



November 1, 2019

LJM Securities Settlement  
c/o Epiq  
PO Box 3058  
Portland OR 97208-3058

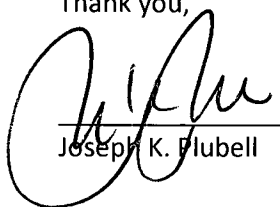
I am requesting to be excluded from the settlement class in Sokolow v. LJM funds management LTD NO. 18-cv-01039 (N.D. Ill.).


Phone number

Joseph Plubell & Marie Plubell TTEE  
Joseph Plubell Revocable Living Trust  
U/A DTD 4/15/05

Purchased 2028.929 shares at \$11.15 for \$22,622.56 on 8/8/2017  
Purchased 1130.569 shares at \$10.40 for \$11,757.92 on 1/24/18  
Sold 3,287.30 shares at \$1.99 for proceeds of \$6,525.72 on 2/13/18

Thank you,

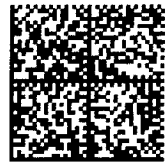
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph K. Plubell      Date      11/1/2019

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Maria Plubell      Date      11/1/2019



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FIRST-CLASS

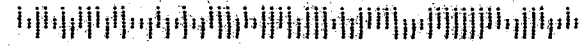


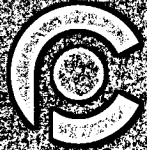
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0002108932 NOV 01 2019  
MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 66211  
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LJM Funds Securities Settlement  
c/o Epiq  
P.O. BOX 3058  
Portland, OR 97208-3058

PCIAWealth.com

97208-305858





.....

# **EXHIBIT 5**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

LEONARD SOKOLOW, Individually and on )	No. 1:18-cv-01039
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, )	
)	<u>CLASS ACTION</u>
Plaintiff, )	
)	Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.
vs. )	
)	
LJM FUNDS MANAGEMENT, LTD., et al., )	
)	
Defendants. )	
)	
_____ )	

DECLARATION OF JAMES W. JOHNSON FILED ON BEHALF OF  
LABATON SUCHAROW LLP IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR  
AWARD OF ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES

I, JAMES W. JOHNSON, declare as follows:

1. I am a partner of the law firm of Labaton Sucharow LLP (“Labaton Sucharow”). I am submitting this declaration in support of my firm’s application for an award of attorneys’ fees and expenses/charges (“expenses”) in connection with services rendered in the above-entitled class action.

2. This firm is Court-appointed Lead Counsel, together with Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP, and counsel of record for Lead Plaintiffs Tradition Capital Management LLC and SRS Capital Advisors, Inc.

3. The information in this declaration regarding my firm’s time and expenses is taken from time and expense printouts and supporting documentation prepared and/or maintained by the firm in the ordinary course of business. I am the partner who oversaw the day-to-day activities in the litigation and others working under my direction reviewed these printouts (and backup documentation where necessary or appropriate) in connection with the preparation of this declaration. The purpose of this review was to confirm both the accuracy of the entries on the printouts as well as the necessity for, and reasonableness of, the time and expenses committed to the litigation. As a result of this review, reductions were made to both time and expenses in the exercise of billing judgment. As a result of this review and the adjustments made, I believe that the time reflected in the firm’s lodestar calculation and the expenses for which payment is sought, as set forth in this declaration, are reasonable in amount and were necessary for the effective and efficient prosecution and resolution of the claims against the Settling Defendants. In addition, I believe that the expenses are all of a type that would normally be charged to a fee-paying client in the private legal marketplace.

4. After the reductions referred to above, the number of hours spent to date by my firm is 1,350.70. A breakdown of the lodestar is provided in Exhibit A. The lodestar amount for

attorney/paralegal (or attorney/paraprofessional) time based on my firm's current rates is \$881,650.00. The hourly rates shown in Exhibit A are the usual and customary rates set by the firm for each individual.

5. My firm seeks an award of \$17,972.45 in expenses and charges in connection with the prosecution of the litigation to date. Those expenses and charges are summarized by category in Exhibit B.

6. The following is additional information regarding certain of these expenses:

(a) Filing, Witness and Other Fees: \$750.00. These expenses have been paid to the Court for the filing of *Pro Hac Vice* motions. The vendors who were paid for these services are set forth in Exhibit C.

(b) Work-Related Transportation, Hotels & Meals: \$10,218.54. In connection with the prosecution of this case, the firm has paid for work-related transportation (such as airfare, transportation related to traveling outside New York, and transportation when working past 8:00 p.m.), meals (while traveling outside New York or when working past 8:00 p.m.), and lodging related to, among other things, attending court hearings and conferences. All airfare is at economy rates. The date, destination and purpose of each out-of-town trip are set forth in Exhibit D.

(c) Duplicating: \$1,484.80. In connection with this case, the firm made 4,586 in-house black and white copies/print outs, at \$0.20 per page for a total cost of \$917.20. In addition, the firm made 1,419 in-house color copies/print outs, at \$0.40 per page for a total of \$567.60. Each time an in-house copy machine or printer is used, our system requires that a case or administrative client-matter code be entered and that is how the 6,005 copies were identified as related to this case. A breakdown of these charges is set forth in Exhibit E.

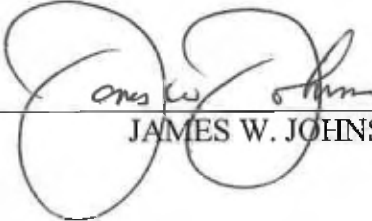
(d) Online Legal and Factual Research: \$5,346.57. This category includes service fees for databases such as Bloomberg, PACER and Westlaw. These resources were used to obtain

access to legal research, factual information, and financial information. The fees for these vendors vary depending upon the type of services requested.

7. The expenses pertaining to this case are reflected in the books and records of my firm. These books and records are prepared from receipts, expense vouchers, check records and other documents and are an accurate record of the expenses.

8. With respect to the standing of my firm, attached hereto as Exhibit F is a brief biography of my firm as well as biographies of the firm's partners and of counsels.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2019, at New York, New York.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES W. JOHNSON



**LIST OF EXHIBITS**

<b>Exhibit A</b>	Labaton Sucharow LLP Lodestar Table
<b>Exhibit B</b>	Labaton Sucharow LLP Summary Expense Table
<b>Exhibit C</b>	Labaton Sucharow LLP Table of Filing, Witness and Other Fees
<b>Exhibit D</b>	Labaton Sucharow LLP Table of Work-Related Transportation, Hotel & Meal Expenses
<b>Exhibit E</b>	Labaton Sucharow LLP Table of Duplicating Expenses
<b>Exhibit F</b>	Firm Resume

**Exhibit A**

**EXHIBIT A**

*Leonard Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al,*  
No. 1:18-cv-01039

LABATON SUCHAROW LLP  
Inception through October 18, 2019

<i>NAME</i>		<i>HOURS</i>	<i>RATE</i>	<i>LODESTAR</i>
Johnson, J.	P	238.70	\$985	\$235,119.50
Keller, C.	P	95.00	\$975	\$92,625.00
Zeiss, N.	P	85.20	\$900	\$76,680.00
Rogers, M.	P	37.30	\$850	\$31,705.00
Rosenberg, E.	OC	16.20	\$675	\$10,935.00
Esmay, J.	OC	172.20	\$650	\$111,930.00
McConville, F.	OC	112.20	\$635	\$71,247.00
Einstein, J.	OC	106.10	\$600	\$63,660.00
Halloran, J.	A	22.90	\$475	\$10,877.50
Schmidt, M.	A	169.70	\$450	\$76,365.00
Leggio, P.	A	74.00	\$400	\$29,600.00
Ahn, E.	RA	24.60	\$325	\$7,995.00
Rivera, E.	RA	52.00	\$275	\$14,300.00
Pontrelli, J.	I	13.80	\$495	\$6,831.00
Crowley, M.	I	14.00	\$435	\$6,090.00
Briant, R.	LC	45.40	\$275	\$12,485.00
Mundo, S.	PL	52.80	\$325	\$17,160.00
Alayo, J.	PL	11.00	\$325	\$3,575.00
Rogers, D.	PL	7.60	\$325	\$2,470.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,350.70</b>		<b>\$881,650.00</b>

(P) Partner

(OC) Of Counsel

(A) Associate

(RA) Research Assistant

(I) Investigator

(LC) Law Clerk

(PL) Paralegal

**Exhibit B**

**EXHIBIT B**

*Leonard Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al,*  
No. 1:18-cv-01039

Labaton Sucharow LLP  
Inception through October 18, 2019

<b><i>CATEGORY</i></b>		<b><i>AMOUNT</i></b>
Filing, Witness and Other Fees		\$750.00
Work-Related Transportation, Hotels & Meals		\$10,218.54
Out-of-Town Transportation, Hotels & Meals <sup>1</sup>	\$9,016.90	
Local Work-Related Transportation & Meals	\$1,201.64	
Telephone, Facsimile		\$128.91
Messenger, Overnight Delivery		\$43.63
Duplicating		\$1,484.80
In-House Black and White: (4,586 pages at \$0.20 per page)	\$917.20	
In-House Color: (1,419 pages at \$0.40 per page)	\$567.60	
Online Legal and Factual Research		\$5,346.57
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>		<b><i>\$17,972.45</i></b>

---

<sup>1</sup> \$1,500.00 in estimated travel costs related to attendance at the final Settlement Hearing has been included. If less than this amount is incurred, only the actual amount incurred will be deducted from the Settlement Fund. If more than \$1,500.00 is incurred, \$1,500.00 will be the cap and only that amount will be deducted from the Settlement Fund.

## **Exhibit C**

**EXHIBIT C**

*Leonard Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al,*  
No. 1:18-cv-01039

Labaton Sucharow LLP  
Inception through October 18, 2019

Filing, Witness and Other Fees: \$750.00

<b><i>DATE</i></b>	<b><i>VENDOR</i></b>	<b><i>PURPOSE</i></b>
04/12/2018	Clerk of the Court, USDC IL	Francis McConville - <i>Pro Hac Vice</i> Fees
09/25/2018	Clerk of the Court, USDC IL	Michael Rogers - <i>Pro Hac Vice</i> Fees
02/22/2019	Clerk of the Court, USDC IL	Margaret Schmidt - <i>Pro Hac Vice</i> Fees
02/21/2019	Clerk of the Court, USDC IL	John Esmay - <i>Pro Hac Vice</i> Fees
08/23/2019	Clerk of the Court, USDC IL	Nicole Zeiss - <i>Pro Hac Vice</i> Fees

## **Exhibit D**



**EXHIBIT D**

*Leonard Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al,*  
 No. 1:18-cv-01039

Labaton Sucharow LLP  
 Inception through October 18, 2019

Work-Related Transportation, Hotels & Meals: \$10,218.54

Out-of-Town Transportation, Hotels & Meals	\$9,016.90
Local Work-Related Transportation & Meals	\$1,201.64

<b><i>NAME</i></b>	<b><i>DATE</i></b>	<b><i>DESTINATION</i></b>	<b><i>PURPOSE</i></b>
James Johnson	04/17/2018	Chicago, IL	Court Appearance
Francis McConville	04/17/2018	Chicago, IL	Court Appearance
James Johnson	07/17/2018	Chicago, IL	Court Appearance
James Johnson	10/03/2018	Chicago, IL	Court Appearance
James Johnson	12/21/2018	Chicago, IL	Settlement Conference
Joseph Einstein	12/21/2018	Chicago, IL	Settlement Conference
Nicole Zeiss	08/28/2019	Chicago, IL	Preliminary Approval Hearing
James Johnson	12/18/2019	Chicago, IL	Final Approval Hearing

## **Exhibit E**

**EXHIBIT E**

*Leonard Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al,*  
No. 1:18-cv-01039

Labaton Sucharow LLP  
Inception through October 18, 2019

Duplicating: \$1,484.80

In-house black and white: \$917.20 (4,586 pages at \$0.20 per page)

In-house color: \$567.60 (1,419 pages at \$0.40 per page)

## **Exhibit F**



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# Firm Resume

## Securities Class Action Litigation

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New York, NY | Wilmington, DE | Washington, D.C.

[www.labaton.com](http://www.labaton.com)



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## About the Firm

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Founded in 1963, Labaton Sucharow LLP has earned a reputation as one of the leading plaintiffs' firms in the United States. We have recovered more than \$12 billion and secured corporate governance reforms on behalf of the nation's largest institutional investors, including public pension and Taft-Hartley funds, hedge funds, investment banks, and other financial institutions. These recoveries include more than \$1 billion in *In re American International Group, Inc. Securities Litigation*, \$671 million in *In re HealthSouth Securities Litigation*, \$624 million in *In re Countrywide Financial Corporation Securities Litigation*, and \$473 million in *In re Schering-Plough/ENHANCE Securities Litigation*.

As a leader in the field of complex litigation, the Firm has successfully conducted class, mass, and derivative actions in the following areas: securities; antitrust; financial products and services; corporate governance and shareholder rights; mergers and acquisitions; derivative; REITs and limited partnerships; consumer protection; and whistleblower representation.

Along with securing newsworthy recoveries, the Firm has a track record for successfully prosecuting complex cases from discovery to trial to verdict. In court, as *Law360* has noted, our attorneys are known for "fighting defendants tooth and nail." Our appellate experience includes winning appeals that increased settlement value for clients, and securing a landmark 2013 U.S. Supreme Court victory benefitting all investors by reducing barriers to the certification of securities class action cases.

Our Firm is equipped to deliver results with a robust infrastructure of more than 60 full-time attorneys, a dynamic professional staff, and innovative technological resources. Labaton Sucharow attorneys are skilled in every stage of business litigation and have challenged corporations from every sector of the financial markets. Our professional staff includes paralegals, financial analysts, e-discovery specialists, a certified public accountant, a certified fraud examiner, and a forensic accountant. With seven investigators, including former members of federal and state law enforcement, we have one of the largest in-house investigative teams in the securities bar. Managed by a law enforcement veteran who spent 12 years with the FBI, our internal investigative group provides us with information that is often key to the success of our cases.

Outside of the courtroom, the Firm is known for its leadership and participation in investor protection organizations, such as the Council for Institutional Investors, World Federation of Investors, National Association of Shareholder and Consumer Attorneys, as well as serving as a patron of the John L. Weinberg Center for Corporate Governance of the University of Delaware. The Firm shares these groups' commitment to a market that operates with greater transparency, fairness, and accountability.

Labaton Sucharow has been consistently ranked as a top-tier firm in leading industry publications such as *Chambers & Partners USA*, *The Legal 500*, and *Benchmark Litigation*. For the past decade, the Firm was listed on *The National Law Journal's* Plaintiffs' Hot List and was inducted to the Hall of Fame for successive honors. The Firm has also been featured as one of *Law360's* Most Feared Plaintiffs Firms and Class Action and Securities Law Practice Groups of the Year.

Visit [www.labaton.com](http://www.labaton.com) for more information about our Firm.

## Securities Class Action Litigation

---

Labaton Sucharow is a leader in securities litigation and a trusted advisor to more than 300 institutional investors. Since the passage of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (PSLRA), the Firm has recovered more than \$9 billion in the aggregate for injured investors through securities class actions prosecuted throughout the United States and against numerous public corporations and other corporate wrongdoers.

These notable recoveries would not be possible without our exhaustive case evaluation process. The Firm has developed a proprietary system for portfolio monitoring and reporting on domestic and international securities litigation, and currently provides these services to more than 300 institutional investors, which manage collective assets of more than \$2 trillion. The Firm's in-house licensed investigators also gather crucial details to support our cases, whereas other firms rely on outside vendors, or conduct no confidential investigation at all.

As a result of our thorough case evaluation process, our securities litigators can focus solely on cases with strong merits. The benefits of our selective approach are reflected in the low dismissal rate of the securities cases we pursue, which is well below the industry average. Over the past decade, we have successfully prosecuted headline-making class actions against AIG, Countrywide, Fannie Mae, and Bear Stearns, among others.

### Notable Successes

Labaton Sucharow has achieved notable successes in financial and securities class actions on behalf of investors, including the following:

- ***In re American International Group, Inc. Securities Litigation, No. 04-cv-8141 (S.D.N.Y.)***

In one of the most complex and challenging securities cases in history, Labaton Sucharow secured more than \$1 billion in recoveries on behalf of lead plaintiff Ohio Public Employees' Retirement System in a case arising from allegations of bid rigging and accounting fraud. To achieve this remarkable recovery, the Firm took over 100 depositions and briefed 22 motions to dismiss. The settlement entailed a \$725 million settlement with American International Group (AIG), \$97.5 million settlement with AIG's auditors, \$115 million settlement with former AIG officers and related defendants, and an additional \$72 million settlement with General Reinsurance Corporation, which was approved by the Second Circuit on September 11, 2013.

- ***In re Countrywide Financial Corp. Securities Litigation, No. 07-cv-05295 (C.D. Cal.)***

Labaton Sucharow, as lead counsel for the New York State Common Retirement Fund and the five New York City public pension funds, sued one of the nation's largest issuers of mortgage loans for credit risk misrepresentations. The Firm's focused investigation and discovery efforts uncovered incriminating evidence that led to a \$624 million settlement for investors. On February 25, 2011, the court granted final approval to the settlement, which is one of the top 20 securities class action settlements in the history of the PSLRA.

- ***In re HealthSouth Corp. Securities Litigation, No. 03-cv-01500 (N.D. Ala.)***

Labaton Sucharow served as co-lead counsel to New Mexico State Investment Council in a case stemming from one of the largest frauds ever perpetrated in the healthcare industry. Recovering \$671 million for the class, the settlement is one of the top 15 securities class action settlements of all



time. In early 2006, lead plaintiffs negotiated a settlement of \$445 million with defendant HealthSouth. On June 12, 2009, the court also granted final approval to a \$109 million settlement with defendant Ernst & Young LLP. In addition, on July 26, 2010, the court granted final approval to a \$117 million partial settlement with the remaining principal defendants in the case, UBS AG, UBS Warburg LLC, Howard Capek, Benjamin Lorello, and William McGahan.

- ***In re Schering-Plough/ENHANCE Securities Litigation, No. 08-cv-00397 (D. N.J.)***

As co-lead counsel, Labaton Sucharow obtained a \$473 million settlement on behalf of co-lead plaintiff Massachusetts Pension Reserves Investment Management Board. After five years of litigation, and three weeks before trial, the settlement was approved on October 1, 2013. This recovery is one of the largest securities fraud class action settlements against a pharmaceutical company. The Special Masters' Report noted, "**the outstanding result achieved for the class is the direct product of outstanding skill and perseverance by Co-Lead Counsel...no one else...could have produced the result here—no government agency or corporate litigant to lead the charge and the Settlement Fund is the product solely of the efforts of Plaintiffs' Counsel.**"

- ***In re Waste Management, Inc. Securities Litigation, No. H-99-2183 (S.D. Tex.)***

In 2002, the court approved an extraordinary settlement that provided for recovery of \$457 million in cash, plus an array of far-reaching corporate governance measures. Labaton Sucharow represented lead plaintiff Connecticut Retirement Plans and Trust Funds. At that time, this settlement was the largest common fund settlement of a securities action achieved in any court within the Fifth Circuit and the third largest achieved in any federal court in the nation. Judge Harmon noted, among other things, that Labaton Sucharow "**obtained an outstanding result by virtue of the quality of the work and vigorous representation of the class.**"

- ***In re General Motors Corp. Securities Litigation, No. 06-cv-1749 (E.D. Mich.)***

As co-lead counsel in a case against automotive giant, General Motors (GM), and Deloitte & Touche LLP (Deloitte), its auditor, Labaton Sucharow obtained a settlement of \$303 million—one of the largest settlements ever secured in the early stages of a securities fraud case. Lead plaintiff Deka Investment GmbH alleged that GM, its officers, and its outside auditor overstated GM's income by billions of dollars, and GM's operating cash flows by tens of billions of dollars, through a series of accounting manipulations. The final settlement, approved on July 21, 2008, consisted of a cash payment of \$277 million by GM and \$26 million in cash from Deloitte.

- ***Arkansas Teacher Retirement System v. State Street Corp., No. 11-cv-10230 (D. Mass)***

Labaton Sucharow served as lead counsel for the plaintiff Arkansas Teacher Retirement System (ATRS) in this securities class action against Boston-based financial services company, State Street Corporation (State Street). On November 2, 2016, the court granted final approval of the \$300 million settlement with State Street. The plaintiffs claimed that State Street, as custodian bank to a number of public pension funds, including ATRS, was responsible for foreign exchange (FX) trading in connection with its clients global trading. Over a period of many years, State Street systematically overcharged those pension fund clients, including Arkansas, for those FX trades.

- ***Wyatt v. El Paso Corp., No. H-02-2717 (S.D. Tex.)***

Labaton Sucharow secured a \$285 million class action settlement against the El Paso Corporation on behalf of co-lead plaintiff, an individual. The case involved a securities fraud stemming from the company's inflated earnings statements, which cost shareholders hundreds of millions of dollars during a four-year span. On March 6, 2007, the court approved the settlement and also commended the

efficiency with which the case had been prosecuted, particularly in light of the complexity of the allegations and the legal issues.

- ***In re Bear Stearns Cos., Inc. Securities, Derivative & ERISA Litigation, No. 08-cv-2793 (S.D.N.Y.)***

Labaton Sucharow served as co-lead counsel, representing lead plaintiff, the State of Michigan Retirement Systems, and the class. The action alleged that Bear Stearns and certain officers and directors made misstatements and omissions in connection with Bear Stearns' financial condition, including losses in the value of its mortgage-backed assets and Bear Stearns' risk profile and liquidity. The action further claimed that Bear Stearns' outside auditor, Deloitte & Touche LLP, made misstatements and omissions in connection with its audits of Bear Stearns' financial statements for fiscal years 2006 and 2007. Our prosecution of this action required us to develop a detailed understanding of the arcane world of packaging and selling subprime mortgages. Our complaint has been called a "tutorial" for plaintiffs and defendants alike in this fast-evolving area. After surviving motions to dismiss, on November 9, 2012, the court granted final approval to settlements with the Bear Stearns defendants for \$275 million and with Deloitte for \$19.9 million.

- ***In re Massey Energy Co. Securities Litigation, No. 10-CV-00689 (S.D. W.Va.)***

As co-lead counsel representing the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Pension Reserves Investment Trust, Labaton Sucharow achieved a \$265 million all-cash settlement in a case arising from one of the most notorious mining disasters in U.S. history. On June 4, 2014, the settlement was reached with Alpha Natural Resources, Massey's parent company. Investors alleged that Massey falsely told investors it had embarked on safety improvement initiatives and presented a new corporate image following a deadly fire at one of its coal mines in 2006. After another devastating explosion which killed 29 miners in 2010, Massey's market capitalization dropped by more than \$3 billion. Judge Irene C. Berger noted that "**Class counsel has done an expert job of representing all of the class members to reach an excellent resolution and maximize recovery for the class.**"

- ***Eastwood Enterprises, LLC v. Farha (WellCare Securities Litigation), No. 07-cv-1940 (M.D. Fla.)***

On behalf of The New Mexico State Investment Council and the Public Employees Retirement Association of New Mexico, Labaton Sucharow served as co-lead counsel and negotiated a \$200 million settlement over allegations that WellCare Health Plans, Inc., a Florida-based managed healthcare service provider, disguised its profitability by overcharging state Medicaid programs. Under the terms of the settlement approved by the court on May 4, 2011, WellCare agreed to pay an additional \$25 million in cash if, at any time in the next three years, WellCare was acquired or otherwise experienced a change in control at a share price of \$30 or more after adjustments for dilution or stock splits.

- ***In re Bristol-Myers Squibb Securities Litigation, No. 00-cv-1990 (D.N.J.)***

Labaton Sucharow served as lead counsel representing the lead plaintiff, union-owned LongView Collective Investment Fund of the Amalgamated Bank, against drug company Bristol-Myers Squibb (BMS). Lead plaintiff claimed that the company's press release touting its new blood pressure medication, Vanlev, left out critical information, other results from the clinical trials indicated that Vanlev appeared to have life-threatening side effects. The FDA expressed serious concerns about these side effects, and BMS released a statement that it was withdrawing the drug's FDA application, resulting in the company's stock price falling and losing nearly 30 percent of its value in a single day. After a five year battle, we won relief on two critical fronts. First, we secured a \$185 million recovery for shareholders, and second, we negotiated major reforms to the company's drug development

process that will have a significant impact on consumers and medical professionals across the globe. Due to our advocacy, BMS must now disclose the results of clinical studies on all of its drugs marketed in any country.

- ***In re Fannie Mae 2008 Securities Litigation, No. 08-cv-7831 (S.D.N.Y.)***

As co-lead counsel representing co-lead plaintiff Boston Retirement System, Labaton Sucharow secured a \$170 million settlement on March 3, 2015 with Fannie Mae. Lead plaintiffs alleged that Fannie Mae and certain of its current and former senior officers violated federal securities laws, by making false and misleading statements concerning the company's internal controls and risk management with respect to Alt-A and subprime mortgages. Lead plaintiffs also alleged that defendants made misstatements with respect to Fannie Mae's core capital, deferred tax assets, other-than-temporary losses, and loss reserves. This settlement is a significant feat, particularly following the unfavorable result in a similar case for investors of Fannie Mae's sibling company, Freddie Mac. Labaton Sucharow successfully argued that investors' losses were caused by Fannie Mae's misrepresentations and poor risk management, rather than by the financial crisis.

- ***In re Broadcom Corp. Class Action Litigation, No. 06-cv-05036 (C.D. Cal.)***

Labaton Sucharow served as lead counsel on behalf of lead plaintiff New Mexico State Investment Council in a case stemming from Broadcom Corp.'s \$2.2 billion restatement of its historic financial statements for 1998 - 2005. In August 2010, the court granted final approval of a \$160.5 million settlement with Broadcom and two individual defendants to resolve this matter, the second largest up-front cash settlement ever recovered from a company accused of options backdating. Following a Ninth Circuit ruling confirming that outside auditors are subject to the same pleading standards as all other defendants, the district court denied Broadcom's auditor Ernst & Young's motion to dismiss on the ground of loss causation. This ruling is a major victory for the class and a landmark decision by the court—the first of its kind in a case arising from stock-options backdating. In October 2012, the court approved a \$13 million settlement with Ernst & Young.

- ***In re Satyam Computer Services Ltd. Securities Litigation, No. 09-md-2027 (S.D.N.Y.)***

Satyam, referred to as "India's Enron," engaged in one of the most egregious frauds on record. In a case that rivals the Enron and Bernie Madoff scandals, the Firm represented lead plaintiff UK-based Mineworkers' Pension Scheme, which alleged that Satyam Computer Services Ltd., related entities, its auditors, and certain directors and officers made materially false and misleading statements to the investing public about the company's earnings and assets, artificially inflating the price of Satyam securities. On September 13, 2011, the court granted final approval to a settlement with Satyam of \$125 million and a settlement with the company's auditor, PricewaterhouseCoopers, in the amount of \$25.5 million. Judge Barbara S. Jones commended lead counsel during the final approval hearing noting that the "...quality of representation which I found to be very high..."

- ***In re Mercury Interactive Corp. Securities Litigation, No. 05-cv-3395 (N.D. Cal.)***

Labaton Sucharow served as co-lead counsel on behalf of co-lead plaintiff Steamship Trade Association/International Longshoremen's Association Pension Fund, which alleged Mercury backdated option grants used to compensate employees and officers of the company. Mercury's former CEO, CFO, and General Counsel actively participated in and benefited from the options backdating scheme, which came at the expense of the company's shareholders and the investing public. On September 25, 2008, the court granted final approval of the \$117.5 million settlement.

- ***In re Oppenheimer Champion Fund Securities Fraud Class Actions, No. 09-cv-525 (D. Colo.) and In re Core Bond Fund, No. 09-cv-1186 (D. Colo.)***

Labaton Sucharow served as lead counsel and represented individuals and the proposed class in two related securities class actions brought against OppenheimerFunds, Inc., among others, and certain officers and trustees of two funds—Oppenheimer Core Bond Fund and Oppenheimer Champion Income Fund. The lawsuits alleged that the investment policies followed by the funds resulted in investor losses when the funds suffered drops in net asset value although the funds were presented as safe and conservative investments to consumers. In May 2011, the Firm achieved settlements amounting to \$100 million: \$52.5 million in *In re Oppenheimer Champion Fund Securities Fraud Class Actions*, and a \$47.5 million settlement in *In re Core Bond Fund*.

- ***In re Computer Sciences Corporation Securities Litigation, No. 11-cv-610 (E.D. Va.)***

As lead counsel representing Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board, Labaton Sucharow secured a \$97.5 million settlement in this "rocket docket" case involving accounting fraud. The settlement was the third largest all cash recovery in a securities class action in the Fourth Circuit and the second largest all cash recovery in such a case in the Eastern District of Virginia. The plaintiffs alleged that IT consulting and outsourcing company Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC) fraudulently inflated its stock price by misrepresenting and omitting the truth about the state of its most visible contract and the state of its internal controls. In particular, the plaintiffs alleged that CSC assured the market that it was performing on a \$5.4 billion contract with the UK National Health Services when CSC internally knew that it could not deliver on the contract, departed from the terms of the contract, and as a result, was not properly accounting for the contract. Judge T.S. Ellis, III stated, "**I have no doubt—that the work product I saw was always of the highest quality for both sides.**"

## Lead Counsel Appointments in Ongoing Litigation

Labaton Sucharow's institutional investor clients are regularly chosen by federal judges to serve as lead plaintiffs in prominent securities litigations brought under the PSLRA. Dozens of public pension funds and union funds have selected Labaton Sucharow to represent them in federal securities class actions and advise them as securities litigation/investigation counsel. Our recent notable lead and co-lead counsel appointments include the following:

- ***In re AT&T/DirectTV Now Securities Litigation, No. 19-cv-2892 (S.D.N.Y.)***

Labaton Sucharow represents Steamfitters Local 449 Pension Plan in this securities class action against AT&T and multiple executives and directors of the company alleging wide-ranging fraud, abusive sales tactics, and misleading statements to the market concerning its streaming service, DirecTV Now.

- ***In re PG&E Corporation Securities Litigation, No. 18-cv-03509 (N.D. Cal.)***

Labaton Sucharow represents the Public Employees Retirement Association of New Mexico in a securities class action lawsuit against PG&E related to wildfires that devastated Northern California in 2017.

- ***In re SCANA Corporation Securities Litigation, No. 17-cv-2616 (D.S.C.)***

Labaton Sucharow represents the West Virginia Investment Management Board against SCANA Corporation and certain of the company's senior executives in this securities class action alleging false and misleading statements about the construction of two new nuclear power plants.

- **Murphy v. Precision Castparts Corp., No. 16-cv-00521 (D. Or.)**

Labaton Sucharow represents Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System in this securities class action against Precision Castparts Corp., an aviation parts manufacturing conglomerate that produces complex metal parts primarily marketed to industrial and aerospace customers.

- **In re Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. Securities Litigation, No. 10-cv-03461 (S.D.N.Y.)**

Labaton Sucharow represents Arkansas Teacher Retirement System in this high-profile litigation based on the scandals involving Goldman Sachs' sales of the Abacus CDO.

## Innovative Legal Strategy

Bringing successful litigation against corporate behemoths during a time of financial turmoil presents many challenges, but Labaton Sucharow has kept pace with the evolving financial markets and with corporate wrongdoer's novel approaches to committing fraud.

Our Firm's innovative litigation strategies on behalf of clients include the following:

- **Mortgage-Related Litigation**

In *In re Countrywide Financial Corporation Securities Litigation*, No. 07-cv-5295 (C.D. Cal.), our client's claims involved complex and data-intensive arguments relating to the mortgage securitization process and the market for residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) in the United States. To prove that defendants made false and misleading statements concerning Countrywide's business as an issuer of residential mortgages, Labaton Sucharow utilized both in-house and external expert analysis. This included state-of-the-art statistical analysis of loan level data associated with the creditworthiness of individual mortgage loans. The Firm recovered \$624 million on behalf of investors.

Building on its experience in this area, the Firm has pursued claims on behalf of individual purchasers of RMBS against a variety of investment banks for misrepresentations in the offering documents associated with individual RMBS deals.

- **Options Backdating**

In 2005, Labaton Sucharow took a pioneering role in identifying options-backdating practices as both damaging to investors and susceptible to securities fraud claims, bringing a case, *In re Mercury Interactive Securities Litigation*, No. 05-cv-3395 (N.D. Cal.), that spawned many other plaintiff recoveries.

Leveraging its experience, the Firm went on to secure other significant options backdating settlements, in, for example, *In re Broadcom Corp. Class Action Litigation*, No. 06-cv-5036 (C.D. Cal.), and in *In re Take-Two Interactive Securities Litigation*, No. 06-cv-0803 (S.D.N.Y.). Moreover, in *Take-Two*, Labaton Sucharow was able to prompt the SEC to reverse its initial position and agree to distribute a disgorgement fund to investors, including class members. The SEC had originally planned for the fund to be distributed to the U.S. Treasury. As a result, investors received a very significant percentage of their recoverable damages.

- **Foreign Exchange Transactions Litigation**

The Firm has pursued or is pursuing claims for state pension funds against BNY Mellon and State Street Bank, the two largest custodian banks in the world. For more than a decade, these banks failed

to disclose that they were overcharging their custodial clients for foreign exchange transactions. Given the number of individual transactions this practice affected, the damages caused to our clients and the class were significant. Our claims, involving complex statistical analysis, as well as qui tam jurisprudence, were filed ahead of major actions by federal and state authorities related to similar allegations commenced in 2011. Our team favorably resolved the BNY Mellon matter in 2012. The case against State Street Bank resulted in a \$300 million recovery.

## Appellate Advocacy and Trial Experience

When it is in the best interest of our clients, Labaton Sucharow repeatedly has demonstrated our willingness and ability to litigate these complex cases all the way to trial, a skill unmatched by many firms in the plaintiffs bar.

Labaton Sucharow is one of the few firms in the plaintiffs securities bar to have prevailed in a case before the U.S. Supreme Court. In *Amgen Inc. v. Connecticut Retirement Plans and Trust Funds*, 568 U.S. 455 (2013), the Firm persuaded the court to reject efforts to thwart the certification of a class of investors seeking monetary damages in a securities class action. This represents a significant victory for all plaintiffs in securities class actions.

In *In re Real Estate Associates Limited Partnership Litigation*, Labaton Sucharow's advocacy significantly increased the settlement value for shareholders. The defendants were unwilling to settle for an amount the Firm and its clients viewed as fair, which led to a six-week trial. The Firm and co-counsel ultimately obtained a landmark \$184 million jury verdict. The jury supported the plaintiffs' position that the defendants knowingly violated the federal securities laws, and that the general partner had breached his fiduciary duties to shareholders. The \$184 million award was one of the largest jury verdicts returned in any PSLRA action and one in which the class, consisting of 18,000 investors, recovered 100 percent of their damages.

## Our Clients

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Labaton Sucharow represents and advises the following institutional investor clients, among others:

- Arkansas Teacher Retirement System
- Baltimore County Retirement System
- Boston Retirement System
- California State Teachers' Retirement System
- Chicago Teachers' Pension Fund
- City of New Orleans Employees' Retirement System
- Connecticut Retirement Plans & Trust Funds
- Division of Investment of the New Jersey Department of the Treasury
- Genesee County Employees' Retirement System
- Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund
- Indiana Public Retirement System
- Los Angeles City Employees' Retirement System
- Macomb County Employees Retirement System
- Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority
- Michigan Retirement Systems
- New York State Common Retirement Fund
- Norfolk County Retirement System
- Office of the Ohio Attorney General and several of its Retirement Systems
- Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System
- Plymouth County Retirement System
- Office of the New Mexico Attorney General and several of its Retirement Systems
- Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi
- Public Employee Retirement System of Idaho
- Rhode Island State Investment Commission
- Santa Barbara County Employees' Retirement System
- State of Oregon Public Employees' Retirement System
- State of Wisconsin Investment Board
- Utah Retirement Systems
- Virginia Retirement System
- West Virginia Investment Management Board

## Awards and Accolades

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Industry publications and peer rankings consistently recognize the Firm as a respected leader in securities litigation.

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### Chambers & Partners USA

Leading Plaintiffs Securities Litigation Firm (2009-2019)

“effective and greatly respected...a bench of partners who are highly esteemed by competitors and adversaries alike”

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### The Legal 500

Leading Plaintiffs Securities Litigation Firm and also recognized in Antitrust (2010-2019) and M&A Litigation (2013, 2015-2019)

“'Superb' and 'at the top of its game.' The Firm's team of 'hard-working lawyers, who push themselves to thoroughly investigate the facts' and conduct 'very diligent research.'”

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### Benchmark Litigation

Recommended in Securities Litigation Nationwide and in New York State (2012-2020); and Noted for Corporate Governance and Shareholder Rights Litigation in the Delaware Court of Chancery (2016-2020), Top 10 Plaintiffs Firm in the United States (2017-2020)

“clearly living up to its stated mission 'reputation matters'...consistently earning mention as a respected litigation-focused firm fighting for the rights of institutional investors”

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### Law360

Most Feared Plaintiffs Firm (2013-2015); Class Action Practice Group of the Year (2012 and 2014-2018); and Securities Practice Group of the Year (2018)

“known for thoroughly investigating claims and conducting due diligence before filing suit, and for fighting defendants tooth and nail in court”

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### The National Law Journal

Winner of the Elite Trial Lawyers Award in Securities Law (2015, 2019), Hall of Fame Honoree, and Top Plaintiffs' Firm on the annual Hot List (2006-2016)

“definitely at the top of their field on the plaintiffs' side”



## Community Involvement

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To demonstrate our deep commitment to the community, Labaton Sucharow has devoted significant resources to pro bono legal work and public and community service.

### Firm Commitments

#### Immigration Justice Campaign

Labaton Sucharow has partnered with the Immigration Justice Campaign to represent immigrants in their asylum proceedings.

#### Brooklyn Law School Securities Arbitration Clinic

Labaton Sucharow partnered with Brooklyn Law School to establish a securities arbitration clinic. The program, which ran for five years, assisted defrauded individual investors who could not otherwise afford to pay for legal counsel and provided students with real-world experience in securities arbitration and litigation. Former Partners Mark S. Arisohn and Joel H. Bernstein led the program as adjunct professors.

#### Change for Kids

Labaton Sucharow supports Change for Kids (CFK) as a Strategic Partner of P.S. 182 in East Harlem. One school at a time, CFK rallies communities to provide a broad range of essential educational opportunities at under-resourced public elementary schools. By creating inspiring learning environments at our partner schools, CFK enables students to discover their unique strengths and develop the confidence to achieve.

#### The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law Edward Labaton, Member, Board of Directors

The Firm is a long-time supporter of The Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization formed in 1963 at the request of President John F. Kennedy. The Lawyers' Committee involves the private bar in providing legal services to address racial discrimination.

Labaton Sucharow attorneys have contributed on the federal level to U.S. Supreme Court nominee analyses (analyzing nominees for their views on such topics as ethnic equality, corporate diversity, and gender discrimination) and national voters' rights initiatives.

#### Sidney Hillman Foundation

Labaton Sucharow supports the Sidney Hillman Foundation. Created in honor of the first president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, Sidney Hillman, the foundation supports investigative and progressive journalism by awarding monthly and yearly prizes. Partner Thomas A. Dubbs is frequently invited to present these awards.

## Individual Attorney Commitments

Labaton Sucharow attorneys give of themselves in many ways, both by volunteering and in leadership positions in charitable organizations. A few of the awards our attorneys have received or organizations they are involved in are:

- Awarded “Champion of Justice” by the Alliance for Justice, a national nonprofit association of over 100 organizations which represent a broad array of groups “committed to progressive values and the creation of an equitable, just, and free society.”
- Pro bono representation of mentally ill tenants facing eviction, appointed as guardian ad litem in several housing court actions.
- Recipient of a Volunteer and Leadership Award from a tenants' advocacy organization for work defending the rights of city residents and preserving their fundamental sense of public safety and home.
- Board Member of the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund—the largest private funding agency of its kind supporting research into a method of early detection and, ultimately, a cure for ovarian cancer.

Our attorneys have also contributed to or continue to volunteer with the following charitable organizations, among others:

- American Heart Association
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters of New York City
- Boys and Girls Club of America
- Carter Burden Center for the Aging
- City Harvest
- City Meals-on-Wheels
- Coalition for the Homeless
- Cycle for Survival
- Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
- Dana Farber Cancer Institute
- Food Bank for New York City
- Fresh Air Fund
- Habitat for Humanity
- Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights
- Legal Aid Society
- Mentoring USA
- National Lung Cancer Partnership
- National MS Society
- National Parkinson Foundation
- New York Cares
- New York Common Pantry
- Peggy Browning Fund
- Sanctuary for Families
- Sandy Hook School Support Fund
- Save the Children
- Special Olympics
- Toys for Tots
- Williams Syndrome Association

## Commitment to Diversity

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Recognizing that business does not always offer equal opportunities for advancement and collaboration to women, Labaton Sucharow launched its Women's Networking and Mentoring Initiative in 2007.

Led by Firm partners and co-chairs Serena P. Hallowell and Carol C. Villegas, the Women's Initiative reflects our commitment to the advancement of women professionals. The goal of the Initiative is to bring professional women together to collectively advance women's influence in business. Each event showcases a successful woman role model as a guest speaker. We actively discuss our respective business initiatives and hear the guest speaker's strategies for success. Labaton Sucharow mentors young women inside and outside of the firm and promotes their professional achievements. The Firm also is a member of the National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL). For more information regarding Labaton Sucharow's Women's Initiative, please visit [www.labaton.com/en/about/women/Womens-Initiative.cfm](http://www.labaton.com/en/about/women/Womens-Initiative.cfm).

Further demonstrating our commitment to diversity in the legal profession and within our Firm, in 2006, we established the Labaton Sucharow Minority Scholarship and Internship. The annual award—a grant and a summer associate position—is presented to a first-year minority student who is enrolled at a metropolitan New York law school and who has demonstrated academic excellence, community commitment, and personal integrity.

Labaton Sucharow has also instituted a diversity internship which brings two Hunter College students to work at the Firm each summer. These interns rotate through various departments, shadowing Firm partners and getting a feel for the inner workings of the Firm.

## Securities Litigation Attorneys

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Our team of securities class action litigators includes:

### Partners

Christopher J. Keller (Chairman)  
Lawrence A. Sucharow (Chairman Emeritus)  
Eric J. Belfi  
Michael P. Canty  
Marisa N. DeMato  
Thomas A. Dubbs  
Christine M. Fox  
Jonathan Gardner  
David J. Goldsmith  
Louis Gottlieb  
Serena P. Hallowell  
Thomas G. Hoffman, Jr.  
James W. Johnson  
Edward Labaton  
Christopher J. McDonald  
Michael H. Rogers  
Ira A. Schochet  
David J. Schwartz  
Irina Vasilchenko  
Carol C. Villegas  
Ned Weinberger  
Mark S. Willis  
Nicole M. Zeiss

### Of Counsel

Rachel A. Avan  
Mark Bogen  
Joseph H. Einstein  
John J. Esmay  
Derrick Farrell  
Alfred L. Fatale III  
Mark Goldman  
Lara Goldstone  
Francis P. McConville  
James McGovern  
Domenico Minerva  
Corban S. Rhodes  
Elizabeth Rosenberg

Detailed biographies of the team's qualifications and accomplishments follow.

**Christopher J. Keller, Chairman**  
[ckeller@labaton.com](mailto:ckeller@labaton.com)

Christopher J. Keller focuses on complex securities litigation. His clients are institutional investors, including some of the world's largest public and private pension funds with tens of billions of dollars under management.

Described by *The Legal 500* as a "sharp and tenacious advocate" who "has his pulse on the trends," Chris has been instrumental in the Firm's appointments as lead counsel in some of the largest securities matters arising out of the financial crisis, such as actions against Countrywide (\$624 million settlement), Bear Stearns (\$275 million settlement with Bear Stearns Companies, plus a \$19.9 million settlement with Deloitte & Touche LLP, Bear Stearns' outside auditor), Fannie Mae (\$170 million settlement), and Goldman Sachs.

Chris has also been integral in the prosecution of traditional fraud cases such as *In re Schering-Plough Corporation / ENHANCE Securities Litigation*; *In re Massey Energy Co. Securities Litigation*, where the Firm obtained a \$265 million all-cash settlement with Alpha Natural Resources, Massey's parent company; as well as *In re Satyam Computer Services, Ltd. Securities Litigation*, where the Firm obtained a settlement of more than \$150 million. Chris was also a principal litigator on the trial team of *In re Real Estate Associates Limited Partnership Litigation*. The six-week jury trial resulted in a \$184 million plaintiffs' verdict, one of the largest jury verdicts since the passage of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act.

In addition to his active caseload, Chris holds a variety of leadership positions within the Firm, including serving on the Firm's Executive Committee. In response to the evolving needs of clients, Chris also established, and currently leads, the Case Development Group, which is composed of attorneys, in-house investigators, financial analysts, and forensic accountants. The group is responsible for evaluating clients' financial losses and analyzing their potential legal claims both in and outside of the U.S. and tracking trends that are of potential concern to investors.

Educating institutional investors is a significant element of Chris' advocacy efforts for shareholder rights. He is regularly called upon for presentations on developing trends in the law and new case theories at annual meetings and seminars for institutional investors.

He is a member of several professional groups, including the New York State Bar Association and the New York County Lawyers' Association. In 2017, he was elected to the New York City Bar Fund Board of Directors. The City Bar Fund is the nonprofit 501(c)(3) arm of the New York City Bar Association aimed at engaging and supporting the legal profession in advancing social justice."

He is admitted to practice in the States of New York and Ohio, as well as before the Supreme Court of the United States, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, the Eastern District of Wisconsin, and the District of Colorado.

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**Lawrence A. Sucharow, Chairman Emeritus**  
[lsucharow@labaton.com](mailto:lsucharow@labaton.com)

With more than four decades of experience, Lawrence A. Sucharow is an internationally recognized trial lawyer and a leader of the class action bar. Under his guidance, the Firm has grown into and earned its position as one of the top plaintiffs securities and antitrust class action firms in the world. As Chairman Emeritus, Larry focuses on counseling the Firm's large institutional clients, developing creative and compelling strategies to advance and protect clients' interests, and the prosecution and resolution of many of the Firm's leading cases.

Over the course of his career, Larry has prosecuted hundreds of cases and the Firm has recovered billions in groundbreaking securities, antitrust, business transaction, product liability, and other class actions. In fact, a landmark case tried in 2002—*In re Real Estate Associates Limited Partnership Litigation*—was the very first securities action successfully tried to a jury verdict following the enactment of the Private Securities Litigation

Reform Act (PSLRA). Experience such as this has made Larry uniquely qualified to evaluate and successfully prosecute class actions.

Other representative matters include: *In re CNL Resorts, Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$225 million settlement); *In re Paine Webber Incorporated Limited Partnerships Litigation* (\$200 million settlement); *In re Prudential Securities Incorporated Limited Partnerships Litigation* (\$110 million partial settlement); *In re Prudential Bache Energy Income Partnerships Securities Litigation* (\$91 million settlement) and *Shea v. New York Life Insurance Company* (over \$92 million settlement).

Larry's consumer protection experience includes leading the national litigation against the tobacco companies in *Castano v. American Tobacco Co.*, as well as litigating *In re Imprelis Herbicide Marketing, Sales Practices and Products Liability Litigation*. Currently, he plays a key role in *In re Takata Airbag Products Liability Litigation* and a nationwide consumer class action against Volkswagen Group of America, Inc., arising out of the wide-scale fraud concerning Volkswagen's "Clean Diesel" vehicles. Larry further conceptualized the establishment of two Dutch foundations, or "Stichtingen" to pursue settlement of claims against Volkswagen on behalf of injured car owners and investors in Europe.

In recognition of his career accomplishments and standing in the securities bar at the Bar, Larry was selected by *Law360* as one the 10 Most Admired Securities Attorneys in the United States and as a Titan of the Plaintiffs Bar. Further, he is one of a small handful of plaintiffs' securities lawyers in the United States recognized by *Chambers & Partners USA*, *The Legal 500*, *Benchmark Litigation*, and *Lawdragon 500* for his successes in securities litigation. Referred to as a "legend" by his peers in *Benchmark Litigation*, *Chambers* describes him as an "an immensely respected plaintiff advocate" and a "renowned figure in the securities plaintiff world...[that] has handled some of the most high-profile litigation in this field." According to *The Legal 500*, clients characterize Larry as a "a strong and passionate advocate with a desire to win." In addition, Brooklyn Law School honored Larry with the 2012 Alumni of the Year Award for his notable achievements in the field.

In 2018, Larry was appointed to serve on Brooklyn Law School's Board of Trustees. He has served a two-year term as President of the National Association of Shareholder and Consumer Attorneys, a membership organization of approximately 100 law firms that practice complex civil litigation including class actions. A longtime supporter of the Federal Bar Council, Larry serves as a trustee of the Federal Bar Council Foundation. He is a member of the Federal Bar Council's Committee on Second Circuit Courts, and the Federal Courts Committee of the New York County Lawyers' Association. He is also a member of the Securities Law Committee of the New Jersey State Bar Association and was the Founding Chairman of the Class Action Committee of the Commercial and Federal Litigation Section of the New York State Bar Association, a position he held from 1988-1994. In addition, Larry serves on the Advocacy Committee of the World Federation of Investors Corporation, a worldwide umbrella organization of national shareholder associations. In 2019, Larry was honored with the National Law Journal's Elite Trial Lawyers Lifetime Achievement Award. In May 2013, Larry was elected Vice Chair of the International Financial Litigation Network, a network of law firms from 15 countries seeking international solutions to cross-border financial problems.

Larry is admitted to practice in the States of New York, New Jersey, and Arizona as well as before the Supreme Court of the United States, the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and the District of New Jersey.

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**Eric J. Belfi, Partner**  
[ebelfi@labaton.com](mailto:ebelfi@labaton.com)

Representing many of the world's leading pension funds and other institutional investors, Eric J. Belfi is an accomplished litigator with experience in a broad range of commercial matters. Eric focuses on domestic and international securities and shareholder litigation, as well as direct actions on behalf of governmental entities. He serves as a member of the Firm's Executive Committee.

As an integral member of the Firm's Case Development Group, Eric has brought numerous high-profile domestic securities cases that resulted from the credit crisis, including the prosecution against Goldman Sachs. In *In re Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. Securities Litigation*, he played a significant role in the investigation and drafting of the operative complaint. Eric was also actively involved in securing a combined settlement of \$18.4 million in *In re Colonial BancGroup, Inc. Securities Litigation*, regarding material misstatements and omissions in SEC filings by Colonial BancGroup and certain underwriters.

Along with his domestic securities litigation practice, Eric leads the Firm's Non-U.S. Securities Litigation Practice, which is dedicated exclusively to analyzing potential claims in non-U.S. jurisdictions and advising on the risk and benefits of litigation in those forums. The practice, one of the first of its kind, also serves as liaison counsel to institutional investors in such cases, where appropriate. Currently, Eric represents nearly 30 institutional investors in over a dozen non-U.S. cases against companies including SNC-Lavalin Group Inc. in Canada, Vivendi Universal, S.A. in France, OZ Minerals Ltd. in Australia, Lloyds Banking Group in the UK, and Olympus Corporation in Japan.

Eric's international experience also includes securing settlements on behalf of non-U.S. clients including the UK-based Mineworkers' Pension Scheme in *In re Satyam Computer Securities Services Ltd. Securities Litigation*, an action related to one of the largest securities fraud in India which resulted in \$150.5 million in collective settlements. Representing two of Europe's leading pension funds, Deka Investment GmbH and Deka International S.A., Luxembourg, in *In re General Motors Corp. Securities Litigation*, Eric was integral in securing a \$303 million settlement in a case regarding multiple accounting manipulations and overstatements by General Motors.

Additionally, Eric oversees the Financial Products and Services Litigation Practice, focusing on individual actions against malfeasant investment bankers, including cases against custodial banks that allegedly committed deceptive practices relating to certain foreign currency transactions. Most recently, he served as lead counsel to Arkansas Teacher Retirement System in a class action against State Street Corporation and certain affiliated entities alleging misleading actions in connection with foreign currency exchange trades, which resulted in a \$300 million recovery. He has also represented the Commonwealth of Virginia in its False Claims Act case against Bank of New York Mellon, Inc.

Eric's M&A and derivative experience includes noteworthy cases such as *In re Medco Health Solutions Inc. Shareholders Litigation*, in which he was integrally involved in the negotiation of the settlement that included a significant reduction in the termination fee.

Eric's prior experience included serving as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of New York and as an Assistant District Attorney for the County of Westchester. As a prosecutor, Eric investigated and prosecuted white-collar criminal cases, including many securities law violations. He presented hundreds of cases to the grand jury and obtained numerous felony convictions after jury trials.

Eric is a member of the National Association of Public Pension Attorneys (NAPPA) Securities Litigation Working Group. He has spoken on the topics of shareholder litigation and U.S.-style class actions in European countries and has discussed socially responsible investments for public pension funds.

Eric is admitted to practice in the State of New York, as well as before the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, the Eastern District of Michigan, the District of Colorado, the District of Nebraska, and the Eastern District of Wisconsin.

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**Michael P. Canty, Partner**  
[mcanty@labaton.com](mailto:mcanty@labaton.com)

Michael P. Canty prosecutes complex fraud cases on behalf of institutional investors and consumers. Upon joining Labaton, Michael successfully prosecuted a number of high profile securities matters involving

technology companies including cases against AMD, a multi-national semiconductor company and Ubiquiti Networks, Inc., a global software company. In both cases Michael played a pivotal role in securing favorable settlements for investors. Recommended by *The Legal 500* in the field of securities litigation, Michael also is an accomplished litigator with more than a decade of trial experience in matters relating to national security, white collar crime, and cybercrime. He currently serves as General Counsel to the Firm.

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, Michael was a federal prosecutor in the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York, where he served as the Deputy Chief of the Office's General Crimes Section. Michael also served in the Office's National Security and Cybercrimes Section. During his time as lead prosecutor, Michael investigated and prosecuted complex and high-profile white collar, national security, and cybercrime offenses. He also served as an Assistant District Attorney for the Nassau County District Attorney's Office, where he handled complex state criminal offenses and served in the Office's Homicide Unit.

Michael has extensive trial experience both from his days as a prosecutor in New York City for the United States Department of Justice and during his six years as an Assistant District Attorney. He served as trial counsel in more than 35 matters, many of which related to violent crime, white collar and terrorism related offenses. He played a pivotal role in *United States v. Abid Naseer*, where he prosecuted and convicted an al-Qaeda operative who conspired to carry out attacks in the United States and Europe. Michael also led the investigation in *United States v. Marcos Alonso Zea*, a case in which he successfully prosecuted a citizen for attempting to join a terrorist organization in the Arabian Peninsula and for providing material support intended for planned attacks.

Michael also has a depth of experience investigating and prosecuting cases involving the distribution of prescription opioids. In January 2012, Michael was assigned to the U.S. Attorney's Office Prescription Drug Initiative to mount a comprehensive response to what the United States Department of Health and Human Services' Center for Disease Control and Prevention has called an epidemic increase in the abuse of so-called opioid analgesics. As a member of the initiative, in *United States v. Conway* and *United States v. Deslouches* Michael successfully prosecuted medical professionals who were illegally prescribing opioids. In *United States v. Moss et al.* he was responsible for dismantling one of the largest oxycodone rings operating in the New York metropolitan area at the time. In addition to prosecuting these cases, Michael spoke regularly to the community on the dangers of opioid abuse as part of the Office's community outreach.

Additionally, Michael has extensive experience in investigating and prosecuting data breach cases

Before becoming a prosecutor, Michael worked as a Congressional Staff Member for the United States House of Representatives. He primarily served as a liaison between the Majority Leader's Office and the Government Reform and Oversight Committee. During his time with the House of Representatives, Michael managed congressional oversight of the United States Postal Service and reviewed and analyzed counter-narcotics legislation as it related to national security matters.

Michael is admitted to practice in the State of New York as well as before the United States Courts of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York.

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**Marisa N. DeMato, Partner**  
[mdemato@labaton.com](mailto:mdemato@labaton.com)

With more than 15 years of securities litigation experience, Marisa N. DeMato advises leading pension funds and other institutional investors in the United States and Canada on issues related to corporate fraud in the U.S. securities markets and represents them in complex civil actions. Her work focuses on counseling clients on best practices in corporate governance of publicly traded companies and advising institutional investors on monitoring the well-being of their investments. Marisa also advises and counsels municipalities and health plans on issues related to U.S. antitrust law and potential violations.



Recently, Marisa represented Seattle City Employees' Retirement System and helped reach a \$90 million derivative settlement and historic corporate governance changes with Twenty-First Century Fox, Inc., regarding allegations surrounding workplace harassment incidents at Fox News. Marisa also represented the Oklahoma Firefighters Pension and Retirement System in securing an \$11 million settlement with Rent-A-Center, Inc. to resolve claims that the company made false and misleading statements regarding its point of sale information management system. She also served as legal adviser to the West Palm Beach Police Pension Fund in *In re Walgreen Co. Derivative Litigation*, which secured significant corporate governance reforms and required Walgreens to extend its Drug Enforcement Agency commitments as part of the settlement related to the company's violation of the U.S. Controlled Substances Act.

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, Marisa worked for a nationally recognized securities litigation firm and devoted a substantial portion of her time to litigating securities fraud, derivative, mergers and acquisitions, and consumer fraud. Over the course of those eight years she represented numerous pension funds, municipalities, and individual investors throughout the United States and was an integral member of the legal teams that helped secure multimillion dollar settlements, including *In re Managed Care Litigation* (\$135 million recovery); *Cornwell v. Credit Suisse Group* (\$70 million recovery); *Michael v. SFBC International, Inc.* (\$28.5 million recovery); *Ross v. Career Education Corporation* (\$27.5 million recovery); and *Village of Dolton v. Taser International Inc.* (\$20 million recovery).

Marisa has spoken on shareholder litigation-related matters, frequently lecturing on topics pertaining to securities fraud litigation, fiduciary responsibility, and corporate governance issues. Most recently, she testified before the Texas House of Representatives Pensions Committee to address the changing legal landscape public pensions have faced since the Supreme Court's Morrison decision and highlighted the best practices for non-U.S. investment recovery. During the 2008 financial crisis, Marisa spoke widely on the subprime mortgage crisis and its disastrous effect on the pension fund community at regional and national conferences, and addressed the crisis' global implications and related fraud to institutional investors internationally in Italy, France, and the United Kingdom. Marisa has also presented on issues pertaining to the federal regulatory response to the 2008 crisis, including implications of the Dodd-Frank legislation and the national debate on executive compensation and proxy access for shareholders.

Marisa is an active member of the National Association of Public Pension Attorneys (NAPPA) and the National Association of Securities Professionals (NASP). She is also a member of the Federal Bar Council, an organization of lawyers dedicated to promoting excellence in federal practice and fellowship among federal practitioners.

Marisa has also become one of the leading advocates for institutional investing in women and minority-owned investment firms. In 2018, she served as co-chair of the Firm's first annual Women's Initiative forum focusing on institutional investing in women and minority-owned investment firms. Marisa was instrumental in the development and execution of the programming for the inaugural event, which featured two all-female panels, and was praised by attendees for offering an insightful discussion on how pension funds and other institutional investors can provide opportunities for women and minority-owned firms.

In the spring of 2006, Marisa was selected over 250,000 applicants to appear on the sixth season of *The Apprentice*, which aired on January 7, 2007, on NBC. As a result of her role on *The Apprentice*, Marisa has appeared in numerous news media outlets, such as *The Wall Street Journal*, *People* magazine, and various national legal journals.

Marisa is admitted to practice in the State of Florida and the District of Columbia as well as before the United States District Courts for the Northern, Middle, and Southern Districts of Florida.

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**Thomas A. Dubbs, Partner**  
tdubbs@labaton.com

Thomas A. Dubbs focuses on the representation of institutional investors in domestic and multinational securities cases. Recognized as a leading securities class action attorney, Tom has been named as a top litigator by *Chambers & Partners* for nine consecutive years.

Tom has served or is currently serving as lead or co-lead counsel in some of the most important federal securities class actions in recent years, including those against American International Group, Goldman Sachs, the Bear Stearns Companies, Facebook, Fannie Mae, Broadcom, and WellCare. Tom has also played an integral role in securing significant settlements in several high-profile cases including: *In re American International Group, Inc. Securities Litigation* (settlements totaling more than \$1 billion); *In re Bear Stearns Companies, Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$275 million settlement with Bear Stearns Companies, plus a \$19.9 million settlement with Deloitte & Touche LLP, Bear Stearns' outside auditor); *In re HealthSouth Securities Litigation* (\$671 million settlement); *Eastwood Enterprises LLC v. Farha et al. (WellCare Securities Litigation)* (over \$200 million settlement); *In re Fannie Mae 2008 Securities Litigation* (\$170 million settlement); *In re Broadcom Corp. Securities Litigation* (\$160.5 million settlement with Broadcom, plus \$13 million settlement with Ernst & Young LLP, Broadcom's outside auditor); *In re St. Paul Travelers Securities Litigation* (\$144.5 million settlement); *In re Amgen Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$95 million settlement); and *In re Vesta Insurance Group, Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$79 million settlement).

Representing an affiliate of the Amalgamated Bank, the largest labor-owned bank in the United States, a team led by Tom successfully litigated a class action against Bristol-Myers Squibb, which resulted in a settlement of \$185 million as well as major corporate governance reforms. He has argued before the United States Supreme Court and has argued 10 appeals dealing with securities or commodities issues before the United States Courts of Appeals.

Due to his reputation in securities law, Tom frequently lectures to institutional investors and other groups such as the Government Finance Officers Association, the National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems, and the Council of Institutional Investors. He is a prolific author of articles related to his field, and he recently penned "Textualism and Transnational Securities Law: A Reappraisal of Justice Scalia's Analysis in *Morrison v. National Australia Bank*," *Southwestern Journal of International Law* (2014). He has also written several columns in UK-wide publications regarding securities class action and corporate governance.

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, Tom was Senior Vice President & Senior Litigation Counsel for Kidder, Peabody & Co. Incorporated, where he represented the company in many class actions, including the First Executive and Orange County litigation and was first chair in many securities trials. Before joining Kidder, Tom was head of the litigation department at Hall, McNicol, Hamilton & Clark, where he was the principal partner representing Thomson McKinnon Securities Inc. in many matters, including the Petro Lewis and Baldwin-United class actions.

In addition to his *Chambers & Partners* recognition, Tom was named a Leading Lawyer by *The Legal 500*, and inducted into its Hall of Fame, an honor presented to only three other plaintiffs securities litigation lawyers "who have received constant praise by their clients for continued excellence." *Law360* also named him an "MVP of the Year" for distinction in class action litigation in 2012 and 2015, and he has been recognized by *The National Law Journal*, *Lawdragon 500*, and *Benchmark Litigation* as a Securities Litigation Star. Tom has received a rating of AV Preeminent from the publishers of the Martindale-Hubbell directory.

Tom serves as a FINRA Arbitrator and is an Advisory Board Member for the Institute for Transnational Arbitration. He is a member of the New York State Bar Association, the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, the American Law Institute, and he is a Patron of the American Society of International Law. He was previously a member of the Members Consultative Group for the Principles of the Law of Aggregate Litigation and the Department of State Advisory Committee on Private International Law. Tom also serves on the Board of Directors for The Sidney Hillman Foundation.

Tom is admitted to practice in the State of New York as well as before the Supreme Court of the United States, the United States Courts of Appeals for the Second, Third, Fourth, Ninth, and Eleventh Circuits, and the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

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**Christine M. Fox, Partner**  
[cfox@labaton.com](mailto:cfox@labaton.com)

With more than 20 years of securities litigation experience, Christine M. Fox prosecutes complex securities fraud cases on behalf of institutional investors. Christine is actively involved in litigating matters against Molina Healthcare, Hain Celestial, Avon, Adient, AT&T, and Apple.

Christine has played a pivotal role in securing favorable settle for investors in class actions against Barrick Gold Corporation, one of the largest gold mining companies in the world (\$140 million recovery); CVS Caremark, the nation's largest pharmacy retail chain (\$48 million recovery); Nu Skin Enterprises, a multilevel marketing company (\$47 million recovery); and Intuitive Surgical, a manufacturer of robotic-assisted technologies for surgery (\$42.5 million recovery).

Prior to joining the Firm, Christine worked at a national litigation firm focusing on securities, antitrust, and consumer litigation in state and federal courts. She played a significant role in securing class action recoveries in a number of high-profile securities cases, including *In re Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc. Research Reports Securities Litigation* (\$475 million recovery); *In re Informix Corp. Securities Litigation* (\$136.5 million recovery); *In re Alcatel Alsthom Securities Litigation* (\$75 million recovery); and *In re Ambac Financial Group, Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$33 million recovery).

Christine received her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School and her B.A. from Cornell University. She is a member of the American Bar Association, the New York State Bar Association, and the Puerto Rican Bar Association. Christine is actively involved in Labaton Sucharow's pro bono immigration program and recently reunited a father and child separated at the border. She is currently working on their asylum application.

Christine is conversant in Spanish.

Christine is admitted to the practice in the State of New York as well as before the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

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**Jonathan Gardner, Partner**  
[jgardner@labaton.com](mailto:jgardner@labaton.com)

Jonathan Gardner serves as Head of Litigation for the Firm. With more than 28 years of experience, Jonathan oversees all of the Firm's litigation matters, including prosecuting complex securities fraud cases on behalf of institutional investors. He has played an integral role in securing some of the largest class action recoveries against corporate offenders since the global financial crisis.

A *Benchmark Litigation* "Star" acknowledged by his peers as "engaged and strategic," Jonathan was also named an MVP by *Law360* for securing hard-earned successes in high-stakes litigation and complex global matters. Recently, he led the Firm's team in the investigation and prosecution of *In re Barrick Gold Securities Litigation*, which resulted in a \$140 million recovery. Jonathan has also served as the lead attorney in several cases resulting in significant recoveries for injured class members, including: *In re Hewlett-Packard Company Securities Litigation*, resulting in a \$57 million recovery; *Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi v. Endo International PLC*, resulting in \$50 million recovery; *Medoff v. CVS Caremark Corporation*, resulting in a \$48 million recovery; *In re Nu Skin Enterprises, Inc., Securities Litigation*, resulting in a \$47 million recovery; *In re Intuitive Surgical Securities Litigation*, resulting in a \$42.5 million recovery; *In re Carter's Inc. Securities Litigation*, resulting in a \$23.3 million recovery against Carter's and certain of its officers as well as PricewaterhouseCoopers, its auditing firm; *In re Aeropostale Inc. Securities Litigation*, resulting in a \$15 million

recovery; *In re Lender Processing Services Inc.*, involving claims of fraudulent mortgage processing which resulted in a \$13.1 million recovery; and *In re K-12, Inc. Securities Litigation*, resulting in a \$6.75 million recovery.

Recommended and described by *The Legal 500* as having the "ability to master the nuances of securities class actions," Jonathan has led the Firm's representation of investors in many recent high-profile cases including *Rubin v. MF Global Ltd.*, which involved allegations of material misstatements and omissions in a Registration Statement and Prospectus issued in connection with MF Global's IPO in 2007. In November 2011, the case resulted in a recovery of \$90 million for investors. Jonathan also represented lead plaintiff City of Edinburgh Council as Administering Authority of the Lothian Pension Fund in *In re Lehman Brothers Equity/Debt Securities Litigation*, which resulted in settlements exceeding \$600 million against Lehman Brothers' former officers and directors, Lehman's former public accounting firm as well the banks that underwrote Lehman Brothers' offerings. In representing lead plaintiff Massachusetts Bricklayers and Masons Trust Funds in an action against Deutsche Bank, Jonathan secured a \$32.5 million recovery for a class of investors injured by the bank's conduct in connection with certain residential mortgage-backed securities.

Jonathan has also been responsible for prosecuting several of the Firm's options backdating cases, including *In re Monster Worldwide, Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$47.5 million settlement); *In re SafeNet, Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$25 million settlement); *In re Semtech Securities Litigation* (\$20 million settlement); and *In re MRV Communications, Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$10 million settlement). He also was instrumental in *In re Mercury Interactive Corp. Securities Litigation*, which settled for \$117.5 million, one of the largest settlements or judgments in a securities fraud litigation based on options backdating. Jonathan also represented the Successor Liquidating Trustee of Lipper Convertibles, a convertible bond hedge fund, in actions against the fund's former independent auditor and a member of the fund's general partner as well as numerous former limited partners who received excess distributions. He successfully recovered over \$5.2 million for the Successor Liquidating Trustee from the limited partners and \$29.9 million from the former auditor.

He is a member of the Federal Bar Council, New York State Bar Association, and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

Jonathan is admitted to practice in the State of New York as well as before the United States Court of Appeals for the First, Sixth, Ninth, and Eleventh Circuits, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and the Eastern District of Wisconsin.

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**David J. Goldsmith, Partner**  
[dgoldsmith@labaton.com](mailto:dgoldsmith@labaton.com)

David J. Goldsmith has nearly 20 years of experience representing public and private institutional investors in a variety of securities and class action litigations. He has twice been recommended by *The Legal 500* as part of the Firm's recognition as a top-tier plaintiffs firm in securities class action litigation.

A principal litigator at the Firm, David is responsible for the Firm's appellate practice, and has briefed and argued multiple appeals in the federal Courts of Appeals. He is presently litigating appeals in the Second and Ninth Circuits in significant securities class actions brought against *Petróleo Brasileiro S.A. — Petrobras* and *Molina Healthcare, Inc.*. In the Supreme Court of the United States, David recently acted as co-counsel for AARP and AARP Foundation as *amici curiae* in *China Agritech, Inc. v. Resh*, 138 S. Ct. 1800 (2018), and as co-counsel for a group of federal jurisdiction and securities law scholars as *amici curiae* in *Cyan, Inc. v. Beaver County Employees Retirement Fund*, 138 S. Ct. 1061 (2018).

As a trial lawyer, David was an integral member of the team representing the Arkansas Teacher Retirement System in a significant action alleging unfair and deceptive practices by State Street Bank in connection with foreign currency exchange trades executed for its custodial clients. The resulting \$300 million settlement is the largest class action settlement ever reached under the Massachusetts consumer protection statute, and one of the largest class action settlements reached in the First Circuit. David also represented the New York State

Common Retirement Fund and New York City pension funds as lead plaintiffs in the landmark *In re Countrywide Financial Corp. Securities Litigation*, which settled for \$624 million. He has successfully represented state and county pension funds in class actions in California state court arising from the IPOs of technology companies, and recovered tens of millions of dollars for a large German bank and a major Irish special-purpose vehicle in individual actions alleging fraud in connection with the sale of residential mortgage-backed securities. David's representation of a hedge fund and individual investors as lead plaintiffs in an action concerning the well-publicized collapse of four Regions Morgan Keegan mutual funds led to a \$62 million settlement.

David regularly advises the Genesee County (Michigan) Employees' Retirement Commission with respect to potential securities, shareholder, and antitrust claims, and represents the System in a major action charging a conspiracy by some of the world's largest banks to manipulate the U.S. Dollar ISDAfix benchmark interest rate. This case was featured in Law360's selection of the Firm as a Class Action Group of the Year for 2017.

In 2016, David participated in a panel moderated by Prof. Arthur Miller at the 22nd Annual Symposium of the Institute for Law and Economic Policy, discussing changes in Rule 23 since the 1966 Amendments. David is an active member of several professional organizations, including The National Association of Shareholder & Consumer Attorneys (NASCAT), a membership organization of approximately 100 law firms that practice complex civil litigation including class actions, the American Association for Justice, New York State Bar Association, and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

During law school, David was Managing Editor of the *Cardozo Arts & Entertainment Law Journal* and served as a judicial intern to the Honorable Michael B. Mukasey, then a United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

For many years, David has been a member of AmorArtis, a renowned choral organization with a diverse repertoire.

He is admitted to practice in the States of New York and New Jersey as well as before the United States Courts of Appeals for the First, Second, Fourth, Fifth, Eighth, and Ninth Circuits, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, the District of New Jersey, the District of Colorado, and the Western District of Michigan.

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**Louis Gottlieb, Partner**  
[lgottlieb@labaton.com](mailto:lgottlieb@labaton.com)

Louis Gottlieb focuses on representing institutional and individual investors in complex securities and consumer class action cases. He has played a key role in some of the most high-profile securities class actions in recent history, securing significant recoveries for plaintiffs and ensuring essential corporate governance reforms to protect future investors, consumers, and the general public.

Lou was integral in prosecuting *In re American International Group, Inc. Securities Litigation* (settlements totaling more than \$1 billion) and *In re 2008 Fannie Mae Securities Litigation* (\$170 million settlement pending final approval). He also helped lead major class action cases against the company and related defendants in *In re Satyam Computer Services, Ltd. Securities Litigation* (\$150.5 million settlement). He has led successful litigation teams in securities fraud class action litigations against Metromedia Fiber Networks and Pricemart, as well as consumer class actions against various life insurance companies.

In the Firm's representation of the Connecticut Retirement Plans and Trust Funds in *In re Waste Management, Inc. Securities Litigation*, Lou's efforts were essential in securing a \$457 million settlement. The settlement also included important corporate governance enhancements, including an agreement by management to support a campaign to obtain shareholder approval of a resolution to declassify its board of directors, and a resolution to encourage and safeguard whistleblowers among the company's employees. Acting on behalf of New York City pension funds in *In re Orbital Sciences Corporation Securities Litigation*, Lou helped negotiate the

implementation of measures concerning the review of financial results, the composition, role and responsibilities of the Company's Audit and Finance committee, and the adoption of a Board resolution providing guidelines regarding senior executives' exercise and sale of vested stock options.

Lou was a leading member of the team in the *Napp Technologies Litigation* that won substantial recoveries for families and firefighters injured in a chemical plant explosion. Lou has had a major role in national product liability actions against the manufacturers of orthopedic bone screws and atrial pacemakers, and in consumer fraud actions in the national litigation against tobacco companies.

A well-respected litigator, Lou has made presentations on punitive damages at Federal Bar Association meetings and has spoken on securities class actions for institutional investors.

Lou brings a depth of experience to his practice from both within and outside of the legal sphere. He graduated first in his class from St. John's School of Law. Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, he clerked for the Honorable Leonard B. Wexler of the Eastern District of New York, and he worked as an associate at Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP.

Lou is admitted to practice in the States of New York and Connecticut as well as before the United States Courts of Appeals for the Fifth and Seventh Circuits, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

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**Serena P. Hollowell, Partner**  
[shallowell@labaton.com](mailto:shallowell@labaton.com)

Serena P. Hollowell leads the Direct Action Litigation Practice and focuses on complex litigation, prosecuting securities fraud cases on behalf of some of the world's largest institutional investors, including pension funds, hedge funds, mutual funds, asset managers, and other large institutional investors. Serena also regularly advises and/or represents institutional investors who are seeking counsel on evaluating recovery opportunities in connection with fraud-related conduct. In addition to her active caseload, Serena serves as Co-Chair of the Firm's Women's Networking and Mentoring Initiative and is actively involved in the Firm's summer associate and lateral hiring programs.

Recently, Serena was recognized as a "Trailblazer" by *The National Law Journal*, a Future Star by *Benchmark Litigation*, and as one of the leading lawyers in America by *Lawdragon*. She has also been recommended by *The Legal 500* in securities litigation, and named a Rising Star by *Law360*.

Currently she is prosecuting cases against Valeant Pharmaceuticals and Endo International, among others. Recently, in Endo, the parties have announced an agreement in principle to settle the matter. Also, in Valeant, Serena leads a team that won a significant motion in the District of New Jersey, when the court sustained claims arising under the NJ RICO Act in direct actions filed against Valeant.

Serena was part of a highly skilled team that reached a \$140 million settlement against one of the world's largest gold mining companies in *In re Barrick Gold Securities Litigation*. Playing a principal role in prosecuting *In re Computer Sciences Corporation Securities Litigation* in a "rocket docket" jurisdiction, she helped secure a settlement of \$97.5 million on behalf of lead plaintiff Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board, the third largest all cash settlement in the Fourth Circuit at the time. She was also instrumental in securing a \$48 million recovery in *Medoff v. CVS Caremark Corporation*, as well as a \$41.5 million settlement in *In re NII Holdings, Inc. Securities Litigation*. Serena also has broad appellate and trial experience.

Serena received a J.D. from Boston University School of Law, where she served as the Note Editor for the *Journal of Science & Technology Law*. She earned a B.A. in Political Science from Occidental College.

Serena is a member of the New York City Bar Association, where she serves on the Securities Litigation Committee, the Federal Bar Council, the South Asian Bar Association, the National Association of Public

Pension Attorneys (NAPPA), and the National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL). Her pro bono work includes representing immigrant detainees in removal proceedings for the American Immigrant Representation Project and devoting time to the Securities Arbitration Clinic at Brooklyn Law School.

She is conversational in Urdu/Hindi.

Serena is admitted to practice in the State of New York, as well as before the United States Courts of Appeals for the First, Ninth, and Eleventh Circuits, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

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**Thomas G. Hoffman, Jr., Partner**  
[thoffman@labaton.com](mailto:thoffman@labaton.com)

Thomas G. Hoffman, Jr. focuses on representing institutional investors in complex securities actions.

Thomas was instrumental in securing a \$1 billion recovery in the eight-year litigation against AIG and related defendants. He also was a key member of the Labaton Sucharow team that recovered \$170 million for investors in *In re 2008 Fannie Mae Securities Litigation*. Currently, Thomas is prosecuting cases against BP and Allstate.

Thomas received a J.D. from UCLA School of Law, where he was Editor-in-Chief of the *UCLA Entertainment Law Review*, and he served as a Moot Court Executive Board Member. In addition, he was a judicial extern to the Honorable William J. Rea, United States District Court for the Central District of California. Thomas earned a B.F.A., with honors, from New York University.

Thomas is admitted to practice in the State of New York as well as before the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

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**James W. Johnson, Partner**  
[jjohnson@labaton.com](mailto:jjohnson@labaton.com)

James W. Johnson focuses on complex securities fraud cases. In representing investors who have been victimized by securities fraud and breaches of fiduciary responsibility, Jim's advocacy has resulted in record recoveries for wronged investors. Currently, he is prosecuting high-profile cases against financial industry leader Goldman Sachs in *In re Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., Securities Litigation*, and SCANA, an energy-based holding company, in *In re SCANA Securities Litigation*. In addition to his active caseload, Jim holds a variety of leadership positions within the Firm, including serving on the Firm's Executive Committee. He also serves as the Firm's Executive Partner overseeing firmwide issues.

A recognized leader in his field, Jim has successfully litigated a number of complex securities and RICO class actions including: *In re Bear Stearns Companies, Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$275 million settlement with Bear Stearns Companies, plus a \$19.9 million settlement with Deloitte & Touche LLP, Bear Stearns' outside auditor); *In re HealthSouth Corp. Securities Litigation* (\$671 million settlement); *Eastwood Enterprises LLC v. Farha et al. (WellCare Securities Litigation)* (\$200 million settlement); *In re Bristol Myers Squibb Co. Securities Litigation* (\$185 million settlement), in which the court also approved significant corporate governance reforms and recognized plaintiff's counsel as "extremely skilled and efficient"; *In re Amgen Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$95 million settlement); *In re National Health Laboratories, Inc. Securities Litigation*, which resulted in a recovery of \$80 million in the federal action and a related state court derivative action; and *In re Vesta Insurance Group, Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$79 million settlement).

In *County of Suffolk v. Long Island Lighting Co.*, Jim represented the plaintiff in a RICO class action, securing a jury verdict after a two-month trial that resulted in a \$400 million settlement. The Second Circuit quoted the trial judge, Honorable Jack B. Weinstein, as stating "counsel [has] done a superb job [and] tried this case as

well as I have ever seen any case tried." On behalf of the Chugach Native Americans, he also assisted in prosecuting environmental damage claims resulting from the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

Jim is a member of the American Bar Association and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, where he served on the Federal Courts Committee, and he is a Fellow in the Litigation Council of America.

Jim has received a rating of AV Preeminent from the publishers of the Martindale-Hubbell directory.

He is admitted to practice in the States of New York and Illinois as well as before the Supreme Court of the United States, the United States Courts of Appeals for the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Seventh, and Eleventh Circuits, and the United States District Courts for the Southern, Eastern, and Northern Districts of New York, and the Northern District of Illinois.

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**Edward Labaton, Partner**  
[elabaton@labaton.com](mailto:elabaton@labaton.com)

An accomplished trial lawyer and partner with the Firm, Edward Labaton has devoted 50 years of practice to representing a full range of clients in class action and complex litigation matters in state and federal court. He is the recipient of the Alliance for Justice's 2015 Champion of Justice Award, given to outstanding individuals whose life and work exemplifies the principle of equal justice.

Ed has played a leading role as plaintiffs' class counsel in a number of successfully prosecuted, high-profile cases, involving companies such as PepsiCo, Dun & Bradstreet, Financial Corporation of America, ZZZZ Best, Revlon, GAF Co., American Brands, Petro Lewis and Jim Walter, as well as several Big Eight (now Four) accounting firms. He has also argued appeals in state and federal courts, achieving results with important precedential value.

Ed has been President of the Institute for Law and Economic Policy (ILEP) since its founding in 1996. Each year, ILEP co-sponsors at least one symposium with a major law school dealing with issues relating to the civil justice system. In 2010, he was appointed to the newly formed Advisory Board of George Washington University's Center for Law, Economics, & Finance (C-LEAF), a think tank within the Law School, for the study and debate of major issues in economic and financial law confronting the United States and the globe. Ed is an Honorary Lifetime Member of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights under Law, a member of the American Law Institute, and a life member of the ABA Foundation. In addition, he has served on the Executive Committee and has been an officer of the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund since its inception in 1996.

Ed is the past Chairman of the Federal Courts Committee of the New York County Lawyers Association, and was a member of the Board of Directors of that organization. He is an active member of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, where he was Chair of the Senior Lawyers' Committee and served on its Task Force on the Role of Lawyers in Corporate Governance. He has also served on its Federal Courts, Federal Legislation, Securities Regulation, International Human Rights, and Corporation Law Committees. He also served as Chair of the Legal Referral Service Committee, a joint committee of the New York County Lawyers' Association and the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. He has been an active member of the American Bar Association, the Federal Bar Council, and the New York State Bar Association, where he has served as a member of the House of Delegates.

For more than 30 years, he has lectured on many topics including federal civil litigation, securities litigation, and corporate governance.

He is admitted to practice in the State of New York as well as before the Supreme Court of the United States, the United States Courts of Appeals for the Second, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh Circuits, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and the Central District of Illinois.



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**Christopher J. McDonald, Partner**  
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Christopher J. McDonald works with both the Firm's Antitrust & Competition Litigation Practice and its Securities Litigation Practice.

In the antitrust field, Chris is currently litigating *In re Generic Pharmaceuticals Pricing Antitrust Litigation*, in which the Firm has been appointed to the End-Payor Plaintiffs Steering Committee, *In re Treasury Securities Auction Antitrust Litigation*, in which the Firm serves as interim co-lead counsel, and *In re Platinum and Palladium Antitrust Litigation*, in which the Firm serves as co-lead counsel. Chris was also co-lead counsel in *In re TriCor Indirect Purchaser Antitrust Litigation*, obtaining a \$65.7 million settlement on behalf of the plaintiff class. He has been recommended in Antitrust Litigation Class Action by *The Legal 500*.

Chris' securities practice has developed a focus on life sciences industries; his cases often involve claims against pharmaceutical, biotechnology, or medical device companies. Most recently, Chris served as lead counsel in *In re Amgen Inc. Securities Litigation*, a case against global biotechnology company Amgen and certain of its former executives, resulting in a \$95 million settlement. He also served as co-lead counsel in *In re Schering-Plough Corporation / ENHANCE Securities Litigation*, which resulted in a \$473 million settlement, one of the largest securities class action settlements ever against a pharmaceutical company and among the largest recoveries ever in a securities class action that did not involve a financial restatement. He was also an integral part of the team that successfully litigated *In re Bristol-Myers Squibb Securities Litigation*, where Labaton Sucharow secured a \$185 million settlement, as well as significant corporate governance reforms, on behalf of Bristol-Myers Squibb shareholders.

Chris began his legal career at Patterson, Belknap, Webb & Tyler LLP, where he gained extensive trial experience in areas ranging from employment contract disputes to false advertising claims. Later, as a senior attorney with a telecommunications company, Chris advocated before regulatory agencies on a variety of complex legal, economic, and public policy issues.

During his time at Fordham University School of Law, Chris was a member of the Law Review. He is currently a member of the New York State Bar Association, its Antitrust Law Section, and the Section's Cartel and Criminal Practice Committee. He is also a member of the New York City Bar Association.

Chris is admitted to practice in the State of New York and the United States Supreme Court. He is also admitted before the United States Courts of Appeals for the Second, Fourth, Third, Ninth, and Federal Circuit, as well as the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and the Western District of Michigan.

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**Michael H. Rogers, Partner**  
[mrogers@labaton.com](mailto:mrogers@labaton.com)

Michael H. Rogers focuses on prosecuting complex securities fraud cases on behalf of institutional investors. Currently, Mike is actively involved in prosecuting *In re Goldman Sachs, Inc. Securities Litigation*; *3226701 Canada, Inc. v. Qualcomm, Inc.*; *In re SCANA Securities Litigation*, *Murphy v. Precision Castparts Corp.*; and *Vancouver Asset Alumni Holdings, Inc. v. Daimler AG*.

Since joining Labaton Sucharow, Mike has been a member of the lead counsel teams in federal class actions against Countrywide Financial Corp. (\$624 million settlement), HealthSouth Corp. (\$671 million settlement), State Street (\$300 million settlement), Mercury Interactive Corp. (\$117.5 million settlement), and Computer Sciences Corp. (\$97.5 million settlement).

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, Mike was an attorney at Kasowitz, Benson, Torres & Friedman LLP, where he practiced securities and antitrust litigation, representing international banking institutions bringing federal securities and other claims against major banks, auditing firms, ratings agencies and individuals in complex

multidistrict litigation. He also represented an international chemical shipping firm in arbitration of antitrust and other claims against conspirator ship owners.

Mike began his career as an attorney at Sullivan & Cromwell, where he was part of Microsoft's defense team in the remedies phase of the Department of Justice antitrust action against the company.

Mike received a J.D., *magna cum laude*, from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, where he was a member of the *Cardozo Law Review*. He earned a B.A., *magna cum laude*, in Literature-Writing from Columbia University.

Mike is proficient in Spanish.

He is admitted to practice in the State of New York as well as before the United States Court of Appeals for the Second and Ninth Circuits, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

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**Ira A. Schochet, Partner**  
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A seasoned litigator with three decades of experience, Ira A. Schochet focuses on class actions involving securities fraud. Ira has played a lead role in securing multimillion dollar recoveries in high-profile cases such as those against Countrywide Financial Corporation (\$624 million), Weatherford International Ltd (\$120 million), Massey Energy Company (\$265 million), Caterpillar Inc. (\$23 million), Autoliv Inc. (\$22.5 million), and Fifth Street Financial Corp. (\$14 million).

A longtime leader in the securities class action bar, Ira represented one of the first institutional investors acting as a lead plaintiff in a post-Private Securities Litigation Reform Act case and ultimately obtained one of the first rulings interpreting the statute's intent provision in a manner favorable to investors in *STI Classic Funds, et al. v. Bollinger Industries, Inc.* His efforts are regularly recognized by the courts, including in *Kamarasy v. Coopers & Lybrand*, where the court remarked on "the superior quality of the representation provided to the class." In approving the settlement he achieved in *In re InterMune Securities Litigation*, the court complimented Ira's ability to secure a significant recovery for the class in a very efficient manner, shielding the class from prolonged litigation and substantial risk.

Ira has also played a key role in groundbreaking cases in the field of merger and derivative litigation. In *In re Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. Derivative Litigation*, he achieved the second largest derivative settlement in the Delaware Court of Chancery history, a \$153.75 million settlement with an unprecedented provision of direct payments to stockholders by means of a special dividend. In another first-of-its-kind case, Ira was featured in *The AmLaw Litigation Daily* as Litigator of the Week for his work in *In re El Paso Corporation Shareholder Litigation*. The action alleged breach of fiduciary duties in connection with a merger transaction, including specific reference to wrongdoing by a conflicted financial advisory consultant, and resulted in a \$110 million recovery for a class of shareholders and a waiver by the consultant of its fee.

From 2009-2011, Ira served as President of the National Association of Shareholder and Consumer Attorneys (NASCAT), a membership organization of approximately 100 law firms that practice class action and complex civil litigation. During this time, he represented the plaintiffs' securities bar in meetings with members of Congress, the Administration, and the SEC.

From 1996 through 2012, Ira served as Chairman of the Class Action Committee of the Commercial and Federal Litigation Section of the New York State Bar Association. During his tenure, he has served on the Executive Committee of the Section and authored important papers on issues relating to class action procedure including revisions proposed by both houses of Congress and the Advisory Committee on Civil Procedure of the United States Judicial Conference. Examples include: "Proposed Changes in Federal Class Action Procedure"; "Opting Out On Opting In," and "The Interstate Class Action Jurisdiction Act of 1999."

He also has lectured extensively on securities litigation at continuing legal education seminars. He has also been awarded an AV Preeminent rating, the highest distinction, from the publishers of the Martindale-Hubbell directory.

He is admitted to practice in the State of New York as well as before the United States Court of Appeals for the Second, Fifth, Ninth, and Tenth Circuits, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, the Central District of Illinois, the Northern District of Texas, and the Western District of Michigan.

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**David J. Schwartz, Partner**  
[dschwartz@labaton.com](mailto:dschwartz@labaton.com)

David J. Schwartz's practice focuses on event driven and special situation litigation using legal strategies to enhance clients' investment return.

His extensive experience includes prosecuting as well as defending against securities and corporate governance actions for an array of institutional clients including hedge funds, merger arbitrage investors, pension funds, mutual funds, and asset management companies. He played a pivotal role in several securities class action cases, including against real estate service provider Altisource Portfolio Solutions, where he helped achieve a \$32 million cash settlement, and investment management firm Virtus Investment Partners, which resulted in a \$22 million settlement. David has also done substantial work in mergers and acquisitions appraisal litigation, and direct action/opt-out litigation.

David was recently named a Future Star by *Benchmark Litigation* and to *Benchmark's "40 & Under Hot List,"* which recognizes him as one the nation's most accomplished partners age 40 years and under.

David obtained his J.D. from Fordham University School of Law, where he served on the *Urban Law Journal*. He received his B.A. in economics, with honors, from the University of Chicago.

David is admitted to practice in the State of New York as well as before the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

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**Irina Vasilchenko, Partner**  
[ivasilchenko@labaton.com](mailto:ivasilchenko@labaton.com)

Irina Vasilchenko focuses on prosecuting complex securities fraud cases on behalf of institutional investors.

Currently, Irina is actively involved in prosecuting *In re Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. Securities Litigation*, *In re SCANA Corporation Securities Litigation*, *In re Acuity Brands, Inc. Securities Litigation*, and *Vancouver Alumni Asset Holdings, Inc. v. Daimler AG*. Since joining Labaton Sucharow, she has been part of the Firm's teams in *In re Massey Energy Co. Securities Litigation*, where the Firm obtained a \$265 million all-cash settlement with Alpha Natural Resources, Massey's parent company; *In re Fannie Mae 2008 Securities Litigation* (\$170 million settlement); *In re Amgen Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$95 million settlement); and *In re Hewlett-Packard Company Securities Litigation* (\$57 million settlement).

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, Irina was an associate in the general litigation practice group at Ropes & Gray LLP, where she focused on securities litigation.

Irina maintains a commitment to pro bono legal service including, most recently, representing an indigent defendant in a criminal appeal case before the New York First Appellate Division, in association with the Office of the Appellate Defender. As part of this representation, she argued the appeal before the First Department panel. Irina is a member of the New York City Bar Association's Women in the Courts Task Force. She also leads Labaton Sucharow's Associate Training Program.

Irina received a J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Boston University School of Law, where she was an editor of the *Boston University Law Review* and was the G. Joseph Tauro Distinguished Scholar (2005), the Paul L. Liacos Distinguished Scholar (2006), and the Edward F. Hennessey Scholar (2007). Irina earned a B.A. in Comparative Literature with Distinction, *summa cum laude* and Phi Beta Kappa, from Yale University.

She is fluent in Russian and proficient in Spanish.

Irina is admitted to practice in the State of New York and the State of Massachusetts as well as before the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

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**Carol C. Villegas, Partner**  
[cvillegas@labaton.com](mailto:cvillegas@labaton.com)

Carol C. Villegas Carol C. Villegas focuses on prosecuting complex securities fraud cases on behalf of institutional investors. Leading one of the Firm's litigation teams, she currently oversees litigation against AT&T, Marriott, Nielsen Holdings, Skechers, U.S.A., Inc., Shanda Games, and Danske Bank. In addition to her litigation responsibilities, Carol holds a variety of leadership positions within the Firm, including serving on the Firm's Executive Committee and serving as Co-Chair of the Firm's Women's Networking and Mentoring Initiative and as the Firm's Chief Compliance Officer.

Carol's skillful handling of discovery work, her development of innovative case theories in complex cases, and her adept ability during oral argument earned her recent accolades from the New York Law Journal as a Top Woman in Law. She has also been recognized as a Future Star Star by *Benchmark Litigation* and a Next Generation Lawyer by *The Legal 500*, where clients praised her for helping them "better understand the process and how to value a case."

Carol played a pivotal role in securing favorable settlements for investors from AMD, a multi-national semiconductor company, Liquidity Services, an online auction marketplace, Aeropostale, a leader in the international retail apparel industry, ViroPharma Inc., a biopharmaceutical company, and Vocera, a healthcare communications provider. She also recently helped revive a securities class action against LifeLock after arguing an appeal before the Ninth Circuit. A true advocate for her clients, Carol's argument in the case against Vocera resulted in a ruling from the bench, denying defendants' motion to dismiss in that case.

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, Carol served as the Assistant District Attorney in the Supreme Court Bureau for the Richmond County District Attorney's office, where she took several cases to trial. She began her career as an associate at King & Spalding LLP, where she worked as a federal litigator.

Carol received a J.D. from New York University School of Law, and she was the recipient of The Irving H. Jurow Achievement Award for the Study of Law and selected to receive the Association of the Bar of the City of New York Minority Fellowship. Carol served as the Staff Editor, and later the Notes Editor, of the *Environmental Law Journal*. She earned a B.A., with honors, in English and Politics from New York University.

Carol is a member of the National Association of Public Pension Attorneys (NAPPA), the National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL), the Hispanic National Bar Association, the Association of the Bar of the City of New York, and a member of the Executive Council for the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Women in the Law.

She is fluent in Spanish.

She is admitted to practice in the State of New York, as well as before the United States Court of Appeals for the First, Second, Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh Circuits, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, the District of Colorado, and the Eastern District of Wisconsin.

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**Ned Weinberger, Partner**  
[nweinberger@labaton.com](mailto:nweinberger@labaton.com)

Ned Weinberger is Chair of the Firm's Corporate Governance and Shareholder Rights Litigation Practice. An experienced advocate of shareholder rights, Ned focuses on representing investors in corporate governance and transactional matters, including class action and derivative litigation. Ned was recognized by *Chambers & Partners USA* in the Delaware Court of Chancery and was named "Up and Coming," noting his impressive range of practice areas. He was also recently named a "Leading Lawyer" by *The Legal 500* and a Future Star by *Benchmark Litigation*.

Ned is currently prosecuting, among other matters, *In re Straight Path Communications Inc. Consolidated Stockholder Litigation*, which alleges breaches of fiduciary duty by the controlling stockholder of Straight Path Communications, Howard Jonas, in connection with the company's proposed sale to Verizon Communications Inc. He recently led a class and derivative action on behalf of stockholders of Providence Service Corporation—*Haverhill Retirement System v. Kerley*—that challenged an acquisition financing arrangement involving Providence's board chairman and his hedge fund. The case settled for \$10 million.

Ned was part of a team that achieved a \$12 million recovery on behalf of stockholders of ArthroCare Corporation in a case alleging breaches of fiduciary duty by the ArthroCare board of directors and other defendants in connection with Smith & Nephew, Inc.'s acquisition of ArthroCare. Other recent successes on behalf of stockholders include *In re Vaalco Energy Inc. Consolidated Stockholder Litigation*, which resulted in the invalidation of charter and bylaw provisions that interfered with stockholders' fundamental right to remove directors without cause.

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, Ned was a litigation associate at Grant & Eisenhofer P.A. where he gained substantial experience in all aspects of investor protection, including representing shareholders in matters relating to securities fraud, mergers and acquisitions, and alternative entities. Representative of Ned's experience in the Delaware Court of Chancery is *In re Barnes & Noble Stockholders Derivative Litigation*, in which Ned assisted in obtaining approximately \$29 million in settlements on behalf of Barnes & Noble investors. Ned was also part of the litigation team in *In re Clear Channel Outdoor Holdings, Inc. Shareholder Litigation*, the settlement of which provided numerous benefits for Clear Channel Outdoor Holdings and its shareholders, including, among other things, a \$200 million cash dividend to the company's shareholders.

Ned received his J.D. from the Louis D. Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville where he served on the *Journal of Law and Education*. He earned his B.A. in English Literature, *cum laude*, at Miami University.

Ned is admitted to practice in the States of Delaware, Pennsylvania, and New York as well as before the United States District Court for the District of Delaware.

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**Mark S. Willis, Partner**  
[mwillis@labaton.com](mailto:mwillis@labaton.com)

With nearly three decades of experience, Mark S. Willis' practice focuses on domestic and international securities litigation. Mark advises leading pension funds, investment managers, and other institutional investors from around the world on their legal remedies when impacted by securities fraud and corporate governance breaches. Mark represents clients in U.S. litigation and maintains a significant practice advising clients of their legal rights abroad to pursue securities-related claims. He has been recognized in securities litigation by *The Legal 500*.

Mark represents institutions from the United Kingdom, Spain, the Netherlands, Denmark, Germany, Belgium, Canada, Japan, and the United States in a novel lawsuit in Texas against BP plc to salvage claims that were dismissed from the U.S. class action because the claimants' BP shares were purchased abroad (thus running afoul of the Supreme Court's *Morrison* rule that precludes a U.S. legal remedy for such shares). These

previously dismissed claims have now been sustained and are being pursued under English law in a Texas federal court.

Mark also represents the Utah Retirement Systems in a shareholder action against the DeVry Education Group, and he represented the Arkansas Public Employees Retirement System in a shareholder action against The Bancorp (which settled for \$17.5 million), and Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, one of Canada's largest institutional investors, in a U.S. shareholder class action against Liquidity Services (which settled for \$17 million).

In the *Converium* class action, Mark represented a Greek institution in a nearly four-year battle that eventually became the first U.S. class action settled on two continents. This trans-Atlantic result saw part of the \$145 million recovery approved by a federal court in New York, and the rest by the Amsterdam Court of Appeal. The Dutch portion was resolved using the Netherlands then newly enacted Act on Collective Settlement of Mass Claims. In doing so, the Dutch Court issued a landmark decision that substantially broadened its jurisdictional reach, extending jurisdiction for the first time to a scenario in which the claims were not brought under Dutch law, the alleged wrongdoing took place outside the Netherlands, and none of the potentially liable parties were domiciled in the Netherlands.

In the corporate governance arena, Mark has represented both U.S. and overseas investors. In a shareholder derivative action against Abbott Laboratories' directors, he charged the defendants with mismanagement and fiduciary breaches for causing or allowing the company to engage in a 10-year off-label marketing scheme, which had resulted in a \$1.6 billion payment pursuant to a Justice Department investigation—at the time the second largest in history for a pharmaceutical company. In the derivative action, the company agreed to implement sweeping corporate governance reforms, including an extensive compensation clawback provision going beyond the requirements under the Dodd-Frank Act, as well as the restructuring of a board committee and enhancing the role of the Lead Director. In the *Parmalat* case, known as the "Enron of Europe" due to the size and scope of the fraud, Mark represented a group of European institutions and eventually recovered nearly \$100 million and negotiated governance reforms with two large European banks who, as part of the settlement, agreed to endorse their future adherence to key corporate governance principles designed to advance investor protection and to minimize the likelihood of future deceptive transactions. Securing governance reforms from a defendant that was not an issuer was a first at that time in a shareholder fraud class action.

Mark has also represented clients in opt-out actions. In one, brought on behalf of the Utah Retirement Systems, Mark negotiated a settlement that was nearly four times more than what its client would have received had it participated in the class action.

On non-U.S. actions Mark has advised clients, and represented their interests as liaison counsel, in more than 30 cases against companies such as Volkswagen, Olympus, the Royal Bank of Scotland, the Lloyds Banking Group, and Petrobras, and in jurisdictions ranging from the UK to Japan to Australia to Brazil to Germany.

Mark has written on corporate, securities, and investor protection issues—often with an international focus—in industry publications such as *International Law News*, *Professional Investor*, *European Lawyer*, and *Investment & Pensions Europe*. He has also authored several chapters in international law treatises on European corporate law and on the listing and subsequent disclosure obligations for issuers listing on European stock exchanges. He also speaks at conferences and at client forums on investor protection through the U.S. federal securities laws, corporate governance measures, and the impact on shareholders of non-U.S. investor remedies.

He is admitted to practice in the State of Massachusetts and the District of Columbia, as well as the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

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**Nicole M. Zeiss, Partner**  
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A litigator with nearly two decades of experience, Nicole M. Zeiss leads the Settlement Group at Labaton Sucharow, analyzing the fairness and adequacy of the procedures used in class action settlements. Her practice focuses on negotiating and documenting complex class action settlements and obtaining the required court approval of the settlements, notice procedures, and payments of attorneys' fees.

Over the past decade, Nicole was actively involved in finalizing settlements with Massey Energy Company (\$265 million), Fannie Mae (\$170 million), and Schering-Plough (\$473 million), among many others.

Nicole was part of the Labaton Sucharow team that successfully litigated the \$185 million settlement in *In re Bristol-Myers Squibb Securities Litigation*, and she played a significant role in *In re Monster Worldwide, Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$47.5 million settlement). Nicole also litigated on behalf of investors who have been damaged by fraud in the telecommunications, hedge fund, and banking industries.

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, Nicole practiced in the area of poverty law at MFY Legal Services. She also worked at Gaynor & Bass practicing general complex civil litigation, particularly representing the rights of freelance writers seeking copyright enforcement.

Nicole maintains a commitment to pro bono legal services by continuing to assist mentally ill clients in a variety of matters-from eviction proceedings to trust administration.

She received a J.D. from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University and earned a B.A. in Philosophy from Barnard College. Nicole is a member of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

She is admitted to practice in the State of New York as well as before the United States Court of Appeals for the Second and Ninth Circuits, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, and the District of Colorado.

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**Rachel A. Avan, Of Counsel**  
ravan@labaton.com

Rachel A. Avan prosecutes complex securities fraud cases on behalf of institutional investors. She focuses on advising institutional investor clients regarding fraud-related losses on securities, and on the investigation and development of U.S. and non-U.S. securities fraud class, group, and individual actions. Rachel manages the Firm's Non-U.S. Securities Litigation Practice, which is dedicated to analyzing the merits, risks, and benefits of potential claims outside the United States. She has played a key role in ensuring that the Firm's clients receive substantial recoveries through non-U.S. securities litigation. In addition to her litigation responsibilities, Rachel serves as the Firm's Compliance Officer.

In evaluating new and potential matters, Rachel draws on her extensive experience as a securities litigator. She was an active member of the team prosecuting the securities fraud class action against Satyam Computer Services, Inc., in *In re Satyam Computer Services Ltd. Securities Litigation*, dubbed "India's Enron." That case achieved a \$150.5 million settlement for investors from the company and its auditors. She also had an instrumental part in the pleadings in a number of class actions including, *In re Barrick Gold Securities Litigation* (\$140 million settlement); *Freedman v. Nu Skin Enterprises, Inc.* (\$47 million recovery); and *Iron Workers District Council of New England Pension Fund v. NII Holdings, Inc.* (\$41.5 million recovery).

Rachel has spearheaded the filing of more than 75 motions for lead plaintiff appointment in U.S. securities class actions including, *In re Facebook, Inc. IPO Securities & Derivative Litigation*; *In re Computer Sciences Corporation Securities Litigation*; *In re Petrobras Securities Litigation*; *In re Spectrum Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Securities Litigation*; *Weston v. RCS Capital Corporation*; and *Cummins v. Virtus Investment Partners Inc.*

In addition to her securities class action litigation experience, Rachel also played a role in prosecuting several of the Firm's derivative matters, including *In re Barnes & Noble Stockholder Derivative Litigation*; *In re Coca-Cola Enterprises Inc. Shareholders Litigation*; and *In re The Student Loan Corporation Litigation*.

Rachel brings to the Firm valuable insight into corporate matters, having served as an associate at a corporate law firm, where she counseled domestic and international public companies regarding compliance with federal and state securities laws. Her analysis of corporate securities filings is also informed by her previous work assisting with the preparation of responses to inquiries by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

Before attending Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Rachel enjoyed a career in editing for a Boston-based publishing company. She also earned a Master of Arts in English and American Literature from Boston University.

Since 2015, Rachel has been recognized as a New York Metro "Rising Star" in securities litigation by *Super Lawyers*, a Thomson Reuters publication.

She is proficient in Hebrew.

Rachel is admitted to practice in the States of New York and Connecticut as well as before the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

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**Mark Bogen, Of Counsel**  
[mbogen@labaton.com](mailto:mbogen@labaton.com)

Mark Bogen advises leading pension funds and other institutional investors on issues related to corporate fraud in domestic and international securities markets. His work focuses on securities, antitrust, and consumer class action litigation, representing Taft-Hartley and public pension funds across the country.

Among his many efforts to protect his clients' interests and maximize shareholder value, Mark recently helped bring claims against and secure a settlement with Abbott Laboratories' directors, whereby the company agreed to implement sweeping corporate governance reforms, including an extensive compensation clawback provision going beyond the requirements under the Dodd-Frank Act.

Mark has written weekly legal columns for the *Sun-Sentinel*, one of the largest daily newspapers circulated in Florida. He has been legal counsel to the American Association of Professional Athletes, an association of over 4,000 retired professional athletes. He has also served as an Assistant State Attorney and as a Special Assistant to the State Attorney's Office in the State of Florida.

Mark obtained his J.D. from Loyola University School of Law. He received his B.A. in Political Science from the University of Illinois.

He is admitted to practice in the States of Illinois and Florida.

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**Joseph H. Einstein, Of Counsel**  
[jeinstein@labaton.com](mailto:jeinstein@labaton.com)

A seasoned litigator, Joseph H. Einstein represents clients in complex corporate disputes, employment matters, and general commercial litigation. He has litigated major cases in the state and federal courts and has argued many appeals, including appearing before the United States Supreme Court.

His experience encompasses extensive work in the computer software field including licensing and consulting agreements. Joe also counsels and advises business entities in a broad variety of transactions.



Joe serves as an official mediator for the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. He is an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association and FINRA. Joe is a former member of the New York State Bar Association Committee on Civil Practice Law and Rules and the Council on Judicial Administration of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. He currently is a member of the Arbitration Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York.

During Joe's time at New York University School of Law, he was a Pomeroy and Hirschman Foundation Scholar, and served as an Associate Editor of the *Law Review*.

Joe has been awarded an AV Preeminent rating, the highest distinction, from the publishers of the Martindale-Hubbell directory.

He is admitted to practice in the State of New York as well as before the Supreme Court of the United States, the United States Courts of Appeals for the First and Second Circuits, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

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**John J. Esmay, Of Counsel**  
[jesmay@labaton.com](mailto:jesmay@labaton.com)

John J. Esmay focuses on prosecuting complex securities fraud cases on behalf of institutional investors.

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, John was an associate at a white collar defense firm where he assisted in all aspects of complex litigation including securities fraud, banking regulation violations, and other regulatory matters. John successfully defended a disciplinary hearing brought by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority's (FINRA) enforcement division for allegations of insider trading and securities fraud. John helped reach a successful conclusion of a criminal prosecution of a trader for one of the nation's largest financial institutions involved in a major bid-rigging scheme. He was also instrumental in clearing charges and settling a regulatory matter against a healthcare provider brought by the New York State Office of the Attorney General.

Prior to his white collar defense experience, John was an associate at Hogan Lovells US LLP and litigated many large complex civil matters including securities fraud cases, antitrust violations, and intellectual property disputes.

John also previously worked as a judicial clerk for the Honorable William H. Pauley III in the Southern District of New York. He received his J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Brooklyn Law School and his B.S. from Pomona College.

John is admitted to practice in the State of New York.

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**Derrick Farrell, Of Counsel**  
[dfarrell@labaton.com](mailto:dfarrell@labaton.com)

Derrick Farrell focuses on representing shareholders in appraisal, class, and derivative actions. He has substantial trial experience as both a petitioner and a respondent on a number of high profile matters, including: *In re Appraisal of Ancestry.com, Inc.*, C.A. No. 8173-VCG, *IQ Holdings, Inc. v. Am. Commercial Lines Inc.*, Case No. 6369-VCL, and *In re Cogent, Inc. S'holder Litig.*, C.A. No. 5780-VCP. He has also argued before the Delaware Supreme Court on multiple occasions.

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, Derrick started his career as an associate at Latham & Watkins LLP, where he gained substantial insight into the inner workings of corporate boards and the role of investment bankers in a sale process. He has guest lectured at Harvard University and co-authored numerous articles including articles published by the Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation and PLI.

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Derrick graduated from Texas A&M University (B.S., Biomedical Science) and the Georgetown University Law Center (J.D. cum laude). At Georgetown Mr. Farrell served as an advocate and coach to the Barrister's Council (Moot Court Team) and was Magister of Phi Delta Phi. Following his graduation Derrick clerked for the Honorable Donald F. Parsons, Jr., Vice Chancellor, Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware.

Derrick is licensed to practice law in the States of Delaware and Massachusetts and is admitted to practice before the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware.

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**Alfred L. Fatale III, Of Counsel**  
[afatale@labaton.com](mailto:afatale@labaton.com)

Alfred L. Fatale III focuses on prosecuting complex securities fraud cases on behalf of institutional and individual investors.

Alfred represents investors in cases related to the protection of the financial markets in trial and appellate courts throughout the country. In particular, he is leading the firm's efforts in litigating securities claims against several companies in state courts following the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Cyan, Inc. v. Beaver County Employees Retirement Fund*. This includes prosecuting *In re ADT Inc. Shareholder Litigation*, a case alleging that the offering documents for ADT's \$1.47 billion IPO misrepresented the competition the company was facing from do-it-yourself home security products.

He recently secured an \$11 million settlement for investors in *In re CPI Card Group Inc., Securities Litigation*, a class action brought by an individual retail investor against a debit and credit card manufacturer that allegedly misrepresented demand for its products prior to the company's IPO.

Alfred is also actively involved in *Murphy v. Precision Castparts Corp.*, a case against a major aerospace parts manufacturer that allegedly misled investors about its market share and demand for its products, and *Boston Retirement System v. Alexion Pharmaceuticals Inc.*, a class action arising from the company's conduct in connection with sales of Soliris – a drug that costs between \$500,000 and \$700,000 a year.

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, Alfred was an associate at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP, where he advised and represented financial institutions, investors, officers, and directors in a broad range of complex disputes and litigations including cases involving violations of federal securities law and business torts.

Alfred earned his J.D. from Cornell Law School, where he was a member of the *Cornell Law Review*, as well as the Moot Court Board. He also served as a judicial extern under the Honorable Robert C. Mulvey. He received his B.A., *summa cum laude*, from Montclair State University.

Alfred is an active member of the American Bar Association, Federal Bar Council, New York State Bar Association, New York County Bar Association, and New York City Bar Association.

Alfred is admitted to practice in the State of New York as well as before the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, and the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

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**Mark Goldman, Of Counsel**  
[mgoldman@labaton.com](mailto:mgoldman@labaton.com)

Mark S. Goldman has 30 years of experience in commercial litigation, primarily litigating class actions involving securities fraud, consumer fraud, and violations of federal and state antitrust laws.

Mr. Goldman has extensive experience in data protection and consumer litigation, including representing numerous victims of identity theft seeking to hold accountable companies that failed to protect the safety of private data maintained on their networks, including *In re Community Health Systems, Inc. Customer Data Security Breach Litigation*, No. 15-cv-222 (N.D. Ala.), *In re Anthem, Inc. Data Breach Litigation*, No. 15-md-02617 (N.D. Cal.), *In re Intuit Data Litigation*, No. 15-cv-1778 (N.D. Cal.), and *In re Medical Informatics Engineering, Inc. Customer Data Security Breach Litigation*, MDL No. 2667 (N.D. Ind.).

In the antitrust field, Mr. Goldman litigated several cases that led to recoveries exceeding \$1 billion each, for the benefit of the consumers and small businesses he represented, including *In re Air Cargo Antitrust Litigation*, No. 06-md-1775 (E.D.N.Y.), *In re Vitamins Antitrust Litigation*, MDL No. 1285 (D.D.C.), *In re NASDAQ Antitrust Litigation*, No. 94-cv-3996 (S.D.N.Y.), and *In re Brand Name Prescription Drugs Antitrust Litigation*, No. 94-c-897 (N.D. Ill.).

In the area of securities litigation, Mr. Goldman played a prominent role in class actions brought under the antifraud provisions of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, including *In re Nuskin Enterprises, Inc. Securities Litigation*, No. 14-cv-0033 (D. Utah), *In re Spectrum Pharmaceuticals, Inc. Securities Litigation*, No. 13-cv-0433 (D. Nev.), and *In re OmniVision Technologies, Inc. Securities Litigation*, No. 11-cv-05235 (N.D. Cal.).

Mr. Goldman also prosecuted a number of insider trading cases brought against company insiders who, in violation of Section 16(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, engaged in short swing trading. Mr. Goldman has also served as co-lead counsel in a number of class actions brought against life insurance companies, challenging the manner in which premiums are charged during the first year of coverage.

Mr. Goldman is a member of the Philadelphia Bar Association. Mr. Goldman has been awarded an AV Preeminent rating, the highest distinction, from the publishers of the Martindale-Hubbell directory.

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**Lara Goldstone, Of Counsel**  
[lgoldstone@labaton.com](mailto:lgoldstone@labaton.com)

Lara Goldstone advises pension funds and other institutional investors on issues related to corporate fraud in the U.S. securities markets. Before joining Labaton Sucharow, Lara worked as a legal intern in the Larimer County District Attorney's Office and the Jefferson County District Attorney's Office.

Prior to her legal career, Lara worked at Industrial Labs where she worked closely with Federal Drug Administration standards and regulations. In addition, she was a teacher in Irvine, California.

Lara received a J.D. from University of Denver Sturm College of Law, where she was a judge of The Providence Foundation of Law & Leadership Mock Trial and a competitor of the Daniel S. Hoffman Trial Advocacy Competition. She earned a B.A. from The George Washington University where she was a recipient of a Presidential Scholarship for academic excellence.

Lara is admitted to practice in the State of Colorado.

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**Francis P. McConville, Of Counsel**  
[fmccconville@labaton.com](mailto:fmccconville@labaton.com)

Francis P. McConville focuses on prosecuting complex securities fraud cases on behalf of institutional investor clients. As a lead member of the Firm's Case Development Group, he focuses on the identification, investigation, and development of potential actions to recover investment losses resulting from violations of the federal securities laws and various actions to vindicate shareholder rights in response to corporate and fiduciary misconduct.

Most recently, Francis has played a key role in filing several matters on behalf of the Firm including, *In re PG&E Corporation Securities Litigation*; *In re SCANA Corporation Securities Litigation*; *Steamfitters Local 449 Pension Plan v. Skechers U.S.A., Inc.*; and *In re Nielsen Holdings PLC Securities Litigation*.

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, Francis was a litigation associate at a national law firm primarily focused on securities and consumer class action litigation. Francis has represented institutional and individual clients in federal and state court across the country in class action securities litigation and shareholder disputes, along with a variety of commercial litigation matters. He assisted in the prosecution of several matters, including *Kiken v. Lumber Liquidators Holdings, Inc.* (\$42 million recovery); *Hayes v. MagnaChip Semiconductor Corp.* (\$23.5 million recovery); and *In re Galena Biopharma, Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$20 million recovery).

Francis received his J.D. from New York Law School, *magna cum laude*, where he served as Associate Managing Editor of the *New York Law School Law Review*, worked in the Urban Law Clinic, named a John Marshall Harlan Scholar, and received a Public Service Certificate. He earned his B.A. from the University of Notre Dame.

He is admitted to practice in the State of New York as well as in the United States District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York, the District of Colorado, and the Eastern District of Michigan.

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**James McGovern, Of Counsel**  
[jmcgovern@labaton.com](mailto:jmcgovern@labaton.com)

James McGovern advises leading pension funds and other institutional investors on issues related to corporate fraud in domestic and international securities markets. His work focuses primarily on securities litigation and corporate governance, representing Taft-Hartley, public pension funds, and other institutional investors across the country in domestic securities actions. He also advises clients as to their potential claims tied to securities-related actions in foreign jurisdictions.

James has worked on a number of large securities class action matters, including *In re Worldcom, Inc. Securities Litigation*, the second-largest securities class action settlement since the passage of the PSLRA (\$6.1 billion recovery); *In re Parmalat Securities Litigation* (\$90 million recovery); *In re American Home Mortgage Securities Litigation* (amount of the opt-out client's recovery is confidential); *In re The Bancorp Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$17.5 million recovery); *In re Pozen Securities Litigation* (\$11.2 million recovery); *In re Cabletron Systems, Inc. Securities Litigation* (\$10.5 million settlement); and *In re UICI Securities Litigation* (\$6.5 million recovery).

In the corporate governance arena, James helped bring claims against Abbott Laboratories' directors, on account of their mismanagement and breach of fiduciary duties for allowing the company to engage in a 10-year off-label marketing scheme. Upon settlement of this action, the company agreed to implement sweeping corporate governance reforms, including an extensive compensation clawback provision going beyond the requirements under the Dodd-Frank Act.

Following the unprecedented takeover of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac by the federal government in 2008, James was retained by a group of individual and institutional investors to seek recovery of the massive losses they had incurred when the value of their shares in these companies was essentially destroyed. He brought and continues to litigate a complex takings class action against the federal government for depriving Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac shareholders of their property interests in violation of the Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, and causing damages in the tens of billions of dollars.

James also has addressed members of several public pension associations, including the Texas Association of Public Employee Retirement Systems and the Michigan Association of Public Employee Retirement Systems, where he discussed how institutional investors could guard their assets against the risks of corporate fraud and poor corporate governance.

Prior to focusing his practice on plaintiffs' securities litigation, James was an attorney at Latham & Watkins where he worked on complex litigation and FIFRA arbitrations, as well as matters relating to corporate bankruptcy and project finance. At that time, he co-authored two articles on issues related to bankruptcy filings: *Special Issues In Partnership and Limited Liability Company Bankruptcies* and *When Things Go Bad: The Ramifications of a Bankruptcy Filing*.

James earned his J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Georgetown University Law Center. He received his B.A. and M.B.A. from American University, where he was awarded a Presidential Scholarship and graduated with high honors.

He is admitted to practice in the State of Vermont and the District of Columbia.

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**Domenico Minerva, Of Counsel**  
[dminerva@labaton.com](mailto:dminerva@labaton.com)

Domenico "Nico" Minerva advises leading pension funds and other institutional investors on issues related to corporate fraud in the U.S. securities markets. A former financial advisor, his work focuses on securities, antitrust, and consumer class action litigation and shareholder derivative litigation, representing Taft-Hartley and public pension funds across the country.

Nico's extensive experience litigating securities cases includes those against global securities systems company Tyco and co-defendant PricewaterhouseCoopers (*In re Tyco International Ltd., Securities Litigation*), which resulted in a \$3.2 billion settlement, achieving the largest single defendant settlement in post-PSLRA history. He also has counseled companies and institutional investors on corporate governance reform.

Nico has also done substantial work in antitrust class actions in pay-for-delay or "product hopping" cases in which pharmaceutical companies allegedly obstructed generic competitors in order to preserve monopoly profits on patented drugs, including *Mylan Pharmaceuticals Inc. v. Warner Chilcott Public Limited Co.*, *In re Lidoderm Antitrust Litigation*, *In re Solodyn (MinocyclineHydrochloride) Antitrust Litigation*, *In re Niaspan Antitrust Litigation*, *In re Aggrenox Antitrust Litigation*, and *Sergeants Benevolent Association Health & Welfare Fund et al. v. Actavis PLC et al.* In an anticompetitive antitrust matter, *The Infirmary LLC vs. National Football League Inc et al.*, Nico played a part in challenging an exclusivity agreement between the NFL and DirectTV over the service's "NFL Sunday Ticket" package, and he litigated on behalf of indirect purchasers of potatoes in a case alleging that growers conspired to control and suppress the nation's potato supply *In re Fresh and Process Potatoes Antitrust Litigation*.

On behalf of consumers, Nico represented a plaintiff in *In Re ConAgra Foods Inc.* over its claims that Wesson-brand vegetable oils are 100 percent natural.

An accomplished speaker, Nico has given numerous presentations to investors on a variety of topics of interest regarding corporate fraud, wrongdoing, and waste. He is also an active member of the National Association of Public Pension Plan Attorneys (NAPPA).

Nico obtained his J.D. from Tulane University Law School, where he also completed a two-year externship with the Honorable Kurt D. Engelhardt of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana. He earned his B.S. in Business Administration from the University of Florida.

Nico is admitted to practice in the States of New York and Delaware, as well as the United States District Courts for the Eastern and Southern Districts of New York.

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**Corban S. Rhodes, Of Counsel**  
[crhodes@labaton.com](mailto:crhodes@labaton.com)

Corban S. Rhodes focuses on prosecuting complex securities fraud cases on behalf of institutional investors, as well as consumer data privacy litigation.

Currently, Corban represents shareholders litigating fraud-based claims against TerraVia (formerly Solazyme) and Alexion Pharmaceuticals. He has successfully litigated dozens of cases against most of the largest Wall Street banks in connection with their underwriting and securitization of mortgage-backed securities leading up to the financial crisis.

Recognized as a "Rising Star" in Consumer Protection Law by *Law360*, Corban is also pursuing a number of matters involving consumer data privacy, including cases of intentional misuse or misappropriation of consumer data, and cases of negligence or other malfeasance leading to data breaches, including *In re Facebook Biometric Information Privacy Litigation* and *Schwartz v. Yahoo Inc.*

Before joining Labaton Sucharow, Corban was an associate at Sidley Austin LLP where he practiced complex commercial litigation and securities regulation and served as the lead associate on behalf of large financial institutions in several investigations by regulatory and enforcement agencies related to the financial crisis.

In 2008, Corban received a Thurgood Marshall Award for his pro bono representation on a habeas petition of a capital punishment sentence. He also later co-authored "Parmalat Judge: Fraud by Former Executives of Bankrupt Company Bars Trustee's Claims Against Auditors," published by the American Bar Association.

Corban received a J.D., *cum laude*, from Fordham University School of Law, where he received the 2007 Lawrence J. McKay Advocacy Award for excellence in oral advocacy and was a board member of the Fordham Moot Court team. He earned his B.A., *magna cum laude*, in History from Boston College.

Corban serves on the Securities Litigation Committee of the New York City Bar Association. Additionally, *Super Lawyers*, a Thomson Reuters publication, recognized Corban as a New York Metro "Rising Star," noting his experience and contribution to the securities litigation field.

Corban is admitted to practice in the State of New York, as well as before the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the United States District Courts for Southern District of New York and the Central District of California.

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**Elizabeth Rosenberg, Of Counsel**  
[erosenberg@labaton.com](mailto:erosenberg@labaton.com)

Elizabeth Rosenberg focuses on prosecuting complex securities fraud cases on behalf of institutional investors, with a focus on obtaining court approval of class action settlements, notice procedures, and payment of attorneys' fees.

Prior to joining Labaton Sucharow, Elizabeth was an associate at Whatley Drake & Kallas LLP, where she litigated securities and consumer fraud class actions. Elizabeth began her career as an associate at Milberg LLP where she practiced securities litigation and was also involved in the pro bono representation of individuals seeking to obtain relief from the World Trade Center Victims' Compensation Fund.

Elizabeth received her J.D. from Brooklyn Law School. She obtained her B.A. in Psychology from the University of Michigan.

Elizabeth is admitted to practice in the State of New York and the District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

# **EXHIBIT 6**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

LEONARD SOKOLOW, Individually and on )	No. 1:18-cv-01039
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, )	
	) <u>CLASS ACTION</u>
Plaintiff, )	
	) Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.
vs. )	
	)
LJM FUNDS MANAGEMENT, LTD., et al., )	
	)
Defendants. )	
_____ )	

DECLARATION OF JAMES E. BARZ FILED ON BEHALF OF ROBBINS GELLER  
RUDMAN & DOWD LLP IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR AWARD OF  
ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES



I, JAMES E. BARZ, declare as follows:

1. I am a member of the firm of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP (“Robbins Geller” or the “Firm”). I am submitting this declaration in support of my Firm’s application for an award of attorneys’ fees, expenses and charges (“expenses”) in connection with services rendered in the above-entitled action (the “Action”).

2. I am the partner who oversaw and/or conducted the day-to-day activities in the Action for Robbins Geller. This declaration and the supporting exhibits were prepared by, or with the assistance of, other lawyers and staff at the Firm and reviewed by me before signing. The information contained herein is believed to be accurate based on what I know and what I have learned from others at the Firm.

3. This Firm is Co-Lead Counsel for Lead Plaintiffs Justin and Jenny Kaufman, Joseph N. Wilson, Dr. Larry and Marilyn Cohen, Tradition Capital Management LLC, SRS Capital Advisors, Inc., and the Settlement Class.

4. The information in this declaration regarding the Firm’s time and expenses is taken from time and expense printouts and supporting documentation prepared and maintained by the Firm in the ordinary course of business. I reviewed these printouts in connection with the preparation of this declaration. The purpose of this review was to review both the accuracy of the entries on the printouts as well as the necessity for, and reasonableness of, the time and expenses committed to the Action. As a result of this review, reductions were made to both time and expenses in the exercise of billing judgment. Based on this review and the adjustments made, I believe that the time reflected in the Firm’s lodestar calculation and the expenses for which payment is sought herein are reasonable and were necessary for the effective and efficient prosecution and resolution of the Action. In addition, I believe that these expenses are all of a type

that have been previously approved by courts in class action cases and would normally be charged to a fee-paying client in the private legal marketplace.

5. After the reductions referred to above, the number of hours spent on the Action by the Firm is 1,330.80. A breakdown of the lodestar is provided in the attached Exhibit A. The lodestar amount for attorney and paraprofessional time based on the Firm's current rates is \$864,167.00. The hourly rates shown in Exhibit A are the usual and customary rates set by the Firm for each individual and submitted in support of other recent fee applications.

6. The Firm seeks an award of \$7,897.48 in expenses and charges in connection with the prosecution of the Action. Those expenses and charges are summarized by category in the attached Exhibit B.

7. The following is additional information regarding certain of these expenses:

(a) Filing and Other Fees: \$3,951.20. These expenses have been paid to the Court for filing fees and to attorney service firms or individuals who served process of the complaint or delivered courtesy copies of documents to the Court. The vendors who were paid for these services are set forth in the attached Exhibit C.

(b) Parking/Meals: \$128.73. In connection with the prosecution of this case, the Firm paid for parking and meal expenses for attendance at the mediation on December 21, 2018 and for parking expenses for attendance at the preliminary approval hearing on August 28, 2019.

(c) Online Research: \$3,391.13. This category includes vendors such as LexisNexis and Westlaw. These resources were used to obtain access to legal research and for cite-checking of briefs. This expense represents the expenses incurred by Robbins Geller for use of these services in connection with this Action. The charges for these vendors vary depending upon the type of services requested. For example, Robbins Geller has flat-rate contracts with some

of these providers for use of their services. When Robbins Geller utilizes online services provided by a vendor with a flat-rate contract, access to the service is by a billing code entered for the specific case being litigated. At the end of each billing period in which such service is used, Robbins Geller's costs for such services are allocated to specific cases based on the percentage of use in connection with that specific case in the billing period. As a result of the contracts negotiated by Robbins Geller with certain providers, it is able to obtain substantial savings in comparison with the "market-rate" for *a la carte* use of such services which some law firms pass on to their clients. For example, the "market rate" charged to others by LexisNexis for the types of services used by Robbins Geller is more expensive than the rates negotiated by Robbins Geller.

8. The expenses pertaining to this case are reflected in the books and records of this Firm. These books and records are prepared from receipts, expense vouchers, check records and other documents and are an accurate record of the expenses.

9. The identification and background of my Firm and its partners is attached hereto as Exhibit D.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 13th day of November, 2019, at Chicago, Illinois.

s/ James E. Barz  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES E. BARZ

**INDEX OF EXHIBITS TO DECLARATION OF JAMES E. BARZ FILED ON BEHALF  
OF ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN & DOWD LLP IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION  
FOR AWARD OF ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES**

<b>Document</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>
Time Report	A
Expenses/Charges Report	B
Summary Charges for Filing and Other Fees	C
Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP Firm Resume	D

# EXHIBIT A

**EXHIBIT A**

*Leonard Sokolow vs. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al.*; Case No. 1:18-cv-01039  
 Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP  
 Inception through October 1, 2019

<i>NAME</i>		<i>HOURS</i>	<i>RATE</i>	<i>LODESTAR</i>
Barz, James	(P)	242.90	975	\$ 236,827.50
Cochran, Brian	(P)	34.50	725	25,012.50
Gusikoff Stewart, Ellen	(P)	69.20	1,030	71,276.00
Rosenfeld, David	(P)	34.40	875	30,100.00
Buschatzke, Gina	(A)	5.50	175	962.50
LoVerde, Dominic	(A)	74.80	450	33,660.00
Richter, Frank	(A)	298.80	550	164,340.00
Serra, Vincent	(A)	77.60	600	46,560.00
Langley, Matthew	(OC)	211.60	730	154,468.00
Walton, David	(OC)	26.20	1,030	26,986.00
Cortes, Denise	(SA)	33.50	375	12,562.50
Barhoum, Anthony	(EA)	9.30	430	3,999.00
Topp, Jennifer	(EA)	26.40	335	8,844.00
Villalovas, Frank	(EA)	5.70	420	2,394.00
Brandon, Kelley	(I)	9.50	290	2,755.00
Paralegals		108.20	275-350	36,710.00
Shareholder Relations		62.70	100-150	6,710.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,330.80</b>		<b>\$ 864,167.00</b>

(P) Partner

(A) Associate

(OC) Of Counsel

(SA) Staff Attorney

(EA) Economic Analyst

(I) Investigator

# EXHIBIT B

**EXHIBIT B**

*Leonard Sokolow vs. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al.*; Case No. 1:18-cv-01039  
Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP  
Inception through September 9, 2019

<b><i>CATEGORY</i></b>	<b><i>AMOUNT</i></b>
Filing and Other Fees	\$ 3,951.20
Parking/Meals	128.73
Telephone	100.92
Messenger, Overnight Delivery	291.79
Online Research	3,391.13
Analyst Reports	33.71
<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>\$ 7,897.48</i></b>



# EXHIBIT C

**EXHIBIT C**

*Leonard Sokolow vs. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al.*; Case No. 1:18-cv-01039  
Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP

Filing and Other Fees: \$3,951.20

<b>DATE</b>	<b>VENDOR</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
03/03/18	Clerk of the Court	03/02/18 Filing fee: complaint
04/14/18	Clerk of the Court	04/13/18 Filing fee: <i>Pro hac vice</i> application for David Rosenfeld
08/31/18	Class Action Research & Litigation Support Services, Inc.	03/15/18 Personal Service: LJM Funds Management, Ltd. by serving J. Porter; Two Roads Shared Trust and Northern Lights Distributors, LLC by serving W. Strait, General Counsel; Anita K. Krug; Mark D. Gersten: summons in a civil case and class action complaint  03/15/18 Substituted Service: Neil Kaufman by leaving a copy of the documents with C. Kaufman; Mark Garbin by leaving a copy of the documents with J. Doe; Anish Parvataneni by leaving a copy of the documents with S. Konerv; Andrew B. Rogers by leaving a copy of the documents with H. Rogers: summons in a civil case and class action complaint
08/31/18	Class Action Research & Litigation Support Services, Inc.	03/23/18 Substituted Service: James Colantino by leaving a copy of the documents with M. Doe: summons in a civil case and class action complaint
08/31/18	Class Action Research & Litigation Support Services, Inc.	04/07/18 Personal Service: Anthony Caine: summons in a civil case and class action complaint
03/31/19	Class Action Research & Litigation Support Services, Inc.	08/24/18 Personal Service: Northstar Financial Services Group, LLC by serving C. Carrara: summons in a civil case and consolidated class action complaint
06/12/19	Class Action Research & Litigation Support Services, Inc.	03/05/19 Courtesy copy for Judge's chambers and delivery to Warm Body CCP 1011, c/o M. Holland, Goodwin Procter LLP by leaving a copy of the documents with A. Fernandez: plaintiffs' memorandum of law in opposition to defendants' joint motion to dismiss

<b><i>DATE</i></b>	<b><i>VENDOR</i></b>	<b><i>PURPOSE</i></b>
06/12/19	Class Action Research & Litigation Support Services, Inc.	03/21/19 Courtesy copy for chambers: plaintiffs' opposition to defendants' joint motion for leave to file over-length brief
06/12/19	Class Action Research & Litigation Support Services, Inc.	04/05/19 Courtesy copy for chambers: plaintiffs' surreply in opposition to defendants' joint motion to dismiss the consolidated complaint
06/12/19	Class Action Research & Litigation Support Services, Inc.	06/10/19 Courtesy copy for chambers: notice of presentment of the unopposed motion to withdraw as counsel
08/21/19	Clerk of the Court	08/21/19 Filing fee: <i>Pro hac vice</i> application for Ellen Gusikoff Stewart

# EXHIBIT D

# FIRM RESUME

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## INTRODUCTION

Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP (“Robbins Geller” or the “Firm”) is a 200-lawyer firm with offices in Boca Raton, Chicago, Manhattan, Melville, Nashville, San Diego, San Francisco, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C. ([www.rgrdlaw.com](http://www.rgrdlaw.com)). The Firm is actively engaged in complex litigation, emphasizing securities, consumer, antitrust, insurance, healthcare, human rights, and employment discrimination class actions. The Firm’s unparalleled experience and capabilities in these fields are based upon the talents of its attorneys, who have successfully prosecuted thousands of class action lawsuits and numerous individual cases, recovering billions of dollars.

This successful track record stems from our experienced attorneys, including many who came to the Firm from federal or state law enforcement agencies. The Firm also includes several dozen former federal and state judicial clerks.

The Firm is committed to practicing law with the highest level of integrity in an ethical and professional manner. We are a diverse firm with lawyers and staff from all walks of life. Our lawyers and other employees are hired and promoted based on the quality of their work and their ability to treat others with respect and dignity.

We strive to be good corporate citizens and work with a sense of global responsibility. Contributing to our communities and environment is important to us. We often take cases on a *pro bono* basis and are committed to the rights of workers, and to the extent possible, we contract with union vendors. We care about civil rights, workers’ rights and treatment, workplace safety, and environmental protection. Indeed, while we have built a reputation as the finest securities and consumer class action law firm in the nation, our lawyers have also worked tirelessly in less high-profile, but no less important, cases involving human rights and other social issues.

# PRACTICE AREAS AND SERVICES

## Securities Fraud

As recent corporate scandals demonstrate clearly, it has become all too common for companies and their executives – often with the help of their advisors, such as bankers, lawyers, and accountants – to manipulate the market price of their securities by misleading the public about the company’s financial condition or prospects for the future. This misleading information has the effect of artificially inflating the price of the company’s securities above their true value. When the underlying truth is eventually revealed, the prices of these securities plummet, harming those innocent investors who relied upon the company’s misrepresentations.

Robbins Geller is the leader in the fight to protect investors from corporate securities fraud. We utilize a wide range of federal and state laws to provide investors with remedies, either by bringing a class action on behalf of all affected investors or, where appropriate, by bringing individual cases.

The Firm’s reputation for excellence has been repeatedly noted by courts and has resulted in the appointment of Firm attorneys to lead roles in hundreds of complex class-action securities and other cases. In the securities area alone, the Firm’s attorneys have been responsible for a number of outstanding recoveries on behalf of investors. Currently, Robbins Geller attorneys are lead or named counsel in hundreds of securities class action or large institutional-investor cases. Some notable current and past cases include:

- *In re Enron Corp. Sec. Litig.*, No. H-01-3624 (S.D. Tex.). Robbins Geller attorneys and lead plaintiff The Regents of the University of California aggressively pursued numerous defendants, including many of Wall Street’s biggest banks, and successfully obtained settlements in excess of **\$7.2 billion** for the benefit of investors. ***This is the largest securities class action recovery in history.***
- *Jaffe v. Household Int’l, Inc.*, No. 02-C-05893 (N.D. Ill.). As sole lead counsel, Robbins Geller obtained a record-breaking settlement of **\$1.575 billion** after 14 years of litigation, including a six-week jury trial in 2009 that resulted in a securities fraud verdict in favor of the class. In 2015, the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the jury’s verdict that defendants made false or misleading statements of material fact about the company’s business practices and financial results, but remanded the case for a new trial on the issue of whether the individual defendants “made” certain false statements, whether those false statements caused plaintiffs’ losses, and the amount of damages. The parties reached an agreement to settle the case just hours before the retrial was scheduled to begin on June 6, 2016. ***The \$1.575 billion settlement, approved in October 2016, is the largest ever following a securities fraud class action trial, the largest securities fraud settlement in the Seventh Circuit and the seventh-largest settlement ever in a post-PSLRA securities fraud case.*** According to published reports, the case was just the seventh securities fraud case tried to a verdict since the passage of the PSLRA.
- *In re UnitedHealth Grp. Inc. PSLRA Litig.*, No. 06-CV-1691 (D. Minn.). Robbins Geller represented the California Public Employees’ Retirement System (“CalPERS”) and demonstrated its willingness to vigorously advocate for its institutional clients, even under the most difficult circumstances. The Firm obtained an \$895 million recovery on behalf of the UnitedHealth shareholders, and former CEO William A. McGuire paid \$30 million and returned stock options representing more than three million shares to the shareholders, bringing the total recovery for the class to over \$925 million, the largest stock option backdating recovery ever, and ***a recovery that is more than four times larger than the next largest options backdating recovery.*** Moreover, Robbins Geller obtained unprecedented corporate governance reforms, including election of a



shareholder-nominated member to the company's board of directors, a mandatory holding period for shares acquired by executives via option exercise, and executive compensation reforms that tie pay to performance.

- *Alaska Elec. Pension Fund v. CitiGroup, Inc. (In re WorldCom Sec. Litig.)*, No. 03 Civ. 8269 (S.D.N.Y.). Robbins Geller attorneys represented more than 50 private and public institutions that opted out of the class action case and sued WorldCom's bankers, officers and directors, and auditors in courts around the country for losses related to WorldCom bond offerings from 1998 to 2001. The Firm's attorneys recovered more than \$650 million for their clients, substantially more than they would have recovered as part of the class.
- *Luther v. Countrywide Fin. Corp.*, No. 12-cv-05125 (C.D. Cal.). Robbins Geller attorneys secured a \$500 million settlement for institutional and individual investors in what is the largest RMBS purchaser class action settlement in history, and one of the largest class action securities settlements of all time. The unprecedented settlement resolves claims against Countrywide and Wall Street banks that issued the securities. The action was the first securities class action case filed against originators and Wall Street banks as a result of the credit crisis. As co-lead counsel Robbins Geller forged through six years of hard-fought litigation, oftentimes litigating issues of first impression, in order to secure the landmark settlement for its clients and the class.
- *In re Wachovia Preferred Sec. & Bond/Notes Litig.*, No. 09-cv-06351 (S.D.N.Y.). On behalf of investors in bonds and preferred securities issued between 2006 and 2008, Robbins Geller and co-counsel obtained a significant settlement with Wachovia successor Wells Fargo & Company and Wachovia auditor KPMG LLP. ***The total settlement – \$627 million – is one of the largest credit-crisis settlements involving Securities Act claims and one of the 20 largest securities class action recoveries in history.*** The settlement is also one of the biggest securities class action recoveries arising from the credit crisis. The lawsuit focused on Wachovia's exposure to "pick-a-pay" loans, which the bank's offering materials said were of "pristine credit quality," but which were actually allegedly made to subprime borrowers, and which ultimately massively impaired the bank's mortgage portfolio. Robbins Geller served as co-lead counsel representing the City of Livonia Employees' Retirement System, Hawaii Sheet Metal Workers Pension Fund, and the investor class.
- *In re Cardinal Health, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, No. C2-04-575 (S.D. Ohio). As sole lead counsel representing Cardinal Health shareholders, Robbins Geller obtained a recovery of \$600 million for investors on behalf of the lead plaintiffs, Amalgamated Bank, the New Mexico State Investment Council, and the California Ironworkers Field Trust Fund. At the time, the \$600 million settlement was the tenth-largest settlement in the history of securities fraud litigation and is the largest-ever recovery in a securities fraud action in the Sixth Circuit.
- *AOL Time Warner Cases I & II*, JCCP Nos. 4322 & 4325 (Cal. Super. Ct., Los Angeles Cty.). Robbins Geller represented The Regents of the University of California, six Ohio state pension funds, Rabo Bank (NL), the Scottish Widows Investment Partnership, several Australian public and private funds, insurance companies, and numerous additional institutional investors, both domestic and international, in state and federal court opt-out litigation stemming from Time Warner's disastrous 2001 merger with Internet high flier America Online. After almost four years of litigation involving extensive discovery, the Firm secured combined settlements for its opt-out clients totaling over \$629 million just weeks before The Regents' case pending in California state court was scheduled to go to trial. The Regents' gross recovery of \$246 million is the largest individual opt-out securities recovery in history.

- ***In re HealthSouth Corp. Sec. Litig.***, No. CV-03-BE-1500-S (N.D. Ala.). As court-appointed co-lead counsel, Robbins Geller attorneys obtained a combined recovery of \$671 million from HealthSouth, its auditor Ernst & Young, and its investment banker, UBS, for the benefit of stockholder plaintiffs. The settlement against HealthSouth represents one of the larger settlements in securities class action history and is considered among the top 15 settlements achieved after passage of the PSLRA. Likewise, the settlement against Ernst & Young is one of the largest securities class action settlements entered into by an accounting firm since the passage of the PSLRA.
- ***Jones v. Pfizer Inc.***, No. 1:10-cv-03864 (S.D.N.Y.). Lead plaintiff Stichting Philips Pensioenfonds obtained a \$400 million settlement on behalf of class members who purchased Pfizer Inc. common stock during the January 19, 2006 to January 23, 2009 class period. The settlement against Pfizer resolves accusations that it misled investors about an alleged off-label drug marketing scheme. As sole lead counsel, Robbins Geller attorneys helped achieve this exceptional result after five years of hard-fought litigation against the toughest and the brightest members of the securities defense bar by litigating this case all the way to trial.
- ***In re Dynegy Inc. Sec. Litig.***, No. H-02-1571 (S.D. Tex.). As sole lead counsel representing The Regents of the University of California and the class of Dynegy investors, Robbins Geller attorneys obtained a combined settlement of \$474 million from Dynegy, Citigroup, Inc. and Arthur Andersen LLP for their involvement in a clandestine financing scheme known as Project Alpha. Most notably, the settlement agreement provides that Dynegy will appoint two board members to be nominated by The Regents, which Robbins Geller and The Regents believe will benefit all of Dynegy's stockholders.
- ***In re Qwest Commc'ns Int'l, Inc. Sec. Litig.***, No. 01-cv-1451 (D. Colo.). In July 2001, the Firm filed the initial complaint in this action on behalf of its clients, long before any investigation into Qwest's financial statements was initiated by the SEC or Department of Justice. After five years of litigation, lead plaintiffs entered into a settlement with Qwest and certain individual defendants that provided a \$400 million recovery for the class and created a mechanism that allowed the vast majority of class members to share in an additional \$250 million recovered by the SEC. In 2008, Robbins Geller attorneys recovered an additional \$45 million for the class in a settlement with defendants Joseph P. Nacchio and Robert S. Woodruff, the CEO and CFO, respectively, of Qwest during large portions of the class period.
- ***Fort Worth Emps.' Ret. Fund v. J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.***, No. 1:09-cv-03701 (S.D.N.Y.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as lead counsel for a class of investors and obtained court approval of a \$388 million recovery in nine 2007 residential mortgage-backed securities offerings issued by J.P. Morgan. The settlement represents, on a percentage basis, the largest recovery ever achieved in an MBS purchaser class action. The result was achieved after more than five years of hard-fought litigation and an extensive investigation.
- ***NECA-IBEW Health & Welfare Fund v. Goldman Sachs & Co.***, No. 1:08-cv-10783 (S.D.N.Y.). As sole lead counsel, Robbins Geller obtained a \$272 million settlement on behalf of Goldman Sachs' shareholders. The settlement concludes one of the last remaining mortgage-backed securities purchaser class actions arising out of the global financial crisis. The remarkable result was achieved following seven years of extensive litigation. After the claims were dismissed in 2010, Robbins Geller secured a landmark victory from the Second Circuit Court of Appeals that clarified the scope of permissible class actions asserting claims under the Securities Act of 1933 on behalf of MBS investors. Specifically, the Second Circuit's decision rejected the concept of "tranche" standing and concluded that a lead plaintiff in an MBS class action has class standing to pursue claims on behalf of purchasers of other securities that were issued from the same registration

statement and backed by pools of mortgages originated by the same lenders who had originated mortgages backing the lead plaintiff's securities.

- ***Schuh v. HCA Holdings, Inc.***, No. 3:11-cv-01033 (M.D. Tenn.). As sole lead counsel, Robbins Geller obtained a groundbreaking \$215 million settlement for former HCA Holdings, Inc. shareholders – the largest securities class action recovery ever in Tennessee. Reached shortly before trial was scheduled to commence, the settlement resolves claims that the Registration Statement and Prospectus HCA filed in connection with the company's massive \$4.3 billion 2011 IPO contained material misstatements and omissions. The recovery achieved approximately 70% of classwide damages, which as a percentage of damages significantly exceeds the median class action recovery of 2%-3% of damages.
- ***In re AT&T Corp. Sec. Litig.***, MDL No. 1399 (D.N.J.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as lead counsel for a class of investors that purchased AT&T common stock. The case charged defendants AT&T and its former Chairman and CEO, C. Michael Armstrong, with violations of the federal securities laws in connection with AT&T's April 2000 initial public offering of its wireless tracking stock, one of the largest IPOs in American history. After two weeks of trial, and on the eve of scheduled testimony by Armstrong and infamous telecom analyst Jack Grubman, defendants agreed to settle the case for \$100 million.
- ***Silverman v. Motorola, Inc.***, No. 1:07-cv-04507 (N.D. Ill.). The Firm served as lead counsel on behalf of a class of investors in Motorola, Inc., ultimately recovering \$200 million for investors just two months before the case was set for trial. This outstanding result was obtained despite the lack of an SEC investigation or any financial restatement.
- ***City of Pontiac Gen. Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.***, No. 5:12-cv-05162 (W.D. Ark.). Robbins Geller attorneys and lead plaintiff City of Pontiac General Employees' Retirement System achieved a \$160 million settlement in a securities class action case arising from allegations published by *The New York Times* in an article released on April 21, 2012 describing an alleged bribery scheme that occurred in Mexico. The case charged that Wal-Mart portrayed itself to investors as a model corporate citizen that had proactively uncovered potential corruption and promptly reported it to law enforcement, when in truth, a former in-house lawyer had blown the whistle on Wal-Mart's corruption years earlier, and Wal-Mart concealed the allegations from law enforcement by refusing its own in-house and outside counsel's calls for an independent investigation. Robbins Geller "achieved an exceptional [s]ettlement with skill, perseverance, and diligent advocacy," said Judge Hickey when granting final approval.
- ***Bennett v. Sprint Nextel Corp.***, No. 2:09-cv-02122 (D. Kan.). As co-lead counsel, Robbins Geller obtained a \$131 million recovery for a class of Sprint investors. The settlement, secured after five years of hard-fought litigation, resolved claims that former Sprint executives misled investors concerning the success of Sprint's ill-advised merger with Nextel and the deteriorating credit quality of Sprint's customer base, artificially inflating the value of Sprint's securities.
- ***In re LendingClub Sec. Litig.***, No. 3:16-cv-02627 (N.D. Cal.). Robbins Geller attorneys obtained a \$125 million settlement for the court-appointed lead plaintiff Water and Power Employees' Retirement, Disability and Death Plan of the City of Los Angeles and the class. The settlement resolved allegations that LendingClub promised investors an opportunity to get in on the ground floor of a revolutionary lending market fueled by the highest standards of honesty and integrity. The settlement ranks among the top ten largest securities recoveries ever in the Northern District of California.

- ***Knurr v. Orbital ATK, Inc.***, No. 1:16-cv-01031 (E.D. Va.). In the *Orbital* securities class action, Robbins Geller obtained court approval of a \$108 million recovery for the class. The Firm succeeded in overcoming two successive motions to dismiss the case, and during discovery were required to file ten motions to compel, all of which were either negotiated to a resolution or granted in large part, which resulted in the production of critical evidence in support of plaintiffs' claims. Believed to be the fourth-largest securities class action settlement in the history of the Eastern District of Virginia, the settlement provides a recovery for investors that is more than ten times larger than the reported median recovery of estimated damages for all securities class action settlements in 2018.
- ***Marcus v. J.C. Penney Co., Inc.***, No. 13-cv-00736 (E.D. Tex.). Robbins Geller attorneys obtained a \$97.5 million recovery on behalf of J.C. Penney shareholders. The result resolves claims that J.C. Penney and certain officers and directors made misstatements and/or omissions regarding the company's financial position that resulted in artificially inflated stock prices. Specifically, defendants failed to disclose and/or misrepresented adverse facts, including that J.C. Penney would have insufficient liquidity to get through year-end and would require additional funds to make it through the holiday season, and that the company was concealing its need for liquidity so as not to add to its vendors' concerns.
- ***Luna v. Marvell Tech. Grp., Ltd.***, No. 3:15-cv-05447 (N.D. Cal.). In the Marvell litigation, Robbins Geller attorneys represented the Plumbers and Pipefitters National Pension Fund and obtained a \$72.5 million settlement. The case involved claims that Marvell reported revenue and earnings during the class period that were misleading as a result of undisclosed pull-in and concession sales. The settlement represents approximately 24% to 50% of the best estimate of classwide damages suffered by investors who purchased shares during the February 19, 2015 through December 7, 2015 class period.
- ***Garden City Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Psychiatric Sols., Inc.***, No. 3:09-cv-00882 (M.D. Tenn.). In the *Psychiatric Solutions* case, Robbins Geller represented lead plaintiff and class representative Central States, Southeast and Southwest Areas Pension Fund in litigation spanning more than four years. Psychiatric Solutions and its top executives were accused of insufficiently staffing their in-patient hospitals, downplaying the significance of regulatory investigations and manipulating their malpractice reserves. Just days before trial was set to commence, attorneys from Robbins Geller achieved a \$65 million settlement that was the third-largest securities recovery ever in the district and the largest in a decade.
- ***Plumbers & Pipefitters Nat'l Pension Fund v. Burns***, No. 3:05-cv-07393 (N.D. Ohio). After 11 years of hard-fought litigation, Robbins Geller attorneys secured a \$64 million recovery for shareholders in a case that accused the former heads of Dana Corp. of securities fraud for trumpeting the auto parts maker's condition while it actually spiraled toward bankruptcy. The Firm's Appellate Practice Group successfully appealed to the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals twice, reversing the district court's dismissal of the action.
- ***In re BHP Billiton Ltd. Sec. Litig.***, No. 1:16-cv-01445 (S.D.N.Y.). As lead counsel, Robbins Geller obtained a \$50 million class action settlement against BHP, a Australian-based mining company that was accused of failing to disclose significant safety problems at the Fundão iron-ore dam, in Brazil. The Firm achieved this result for lead plaintiffs City of Birmingham Retirement and Relief System and City of Birmingham Firemen's and Policemen's Supplemental Pension System, on behalf of purchasers of the American Depositary Shares ("ADRs") of defendants BHP Billiton Limited and BHP Billiton Plc (together, "BHP") from September 25, 2014 to November 30, 2015.

- ***In re St. Jude Med., Inc. Sec. Litig.***, No. 0:10-cv-00851 (D. Minn.). After four and one half years of litigation and mere weeks before the jury selection, Robbins Geller obtained a \$50 million settlement on behalf of investors in medical device company St. Jude Medical. The settlement resolves accusations that St. Jude Medical misled investors by utilizing heavily discounted end-of-quarter bulk sales to meet quarterly expectations, which created a false picture of demand by increasing customer inventory due of St. Jude Medical devices. The complaint alleged that the risk of St. Jude Medical's reliance on such bulk sales manifested when it failed to meet its forecast guidance for the third quarter of 2009, which the company had reaffirmed only weeks earlier.

Robbins Geller's securities practice is also strengthened by the existence of a strong appellate department, whose collective work has established numerous legal precedents. The securities practice also utilizes an extensive group of in-house economic and damage analysts, investigators and forensic accountants to aid in the prosecution of complex securities issues.

## Shareholder Derivative and Corporate Governance Litigation

The Firm's shareholder derivative and corporate governance practice is focused on preserving corporate assets and enhancing long-term shareowner value. Shareowner derivative actions are often brought by institutional investors to vindicate the rights of the corporation injured by its executives' misconduct, which can effect violations of the nation's securities, anti-corruption, false claims, cyber-security, labor, environmental, and/or health & safety laws.

Robbins Geller attorneys have aided Firm clients in significantly enhancing shareowner value by obtaining hundreds of millions of dollars in financial clawbacks and successfully negotiating corporate governance enhancements. Robbins Geller has worked with its institutional clients to address corporate misconduct such as options backdating, bribery of foreign officials, pollution, off-label marketing, and insider trading and related self-dealing. Additionally, the Firm works closely with noted corporate governance consultants Robert Monks, Richard Bennett and their firm, ValueEdge Advisors LLC, to shape corporate governance practices that will benefit shareowners.

Robbins Geller's efforts have conferred substantial benefits upon shareowners, and the market effect of these benefits measures in the billions of dollars. The Firm's significant achievements include:

- ***City of Westland Police and Fire Retirement System v. Stumpf (Wells Fargo Derivative Litigation)***, No. 3:11-cv-02369 (N.D. Cal.). Prosecuted shareholder derivative action on behalf of Wells Fargo & Co. alleging that Wells Fargo's executives allowed participation in the mass-processing of home foreclosure documents by engaging in widespread robo-signing, *i.e.*, the execution and submission of false legal documents in courts across the country without verification of their truth or accuracy, and failed to disclose Wells Fargo's lack of cooperation in a federal investigation into the bank's mortgage and foreclosure practices. In settlement of the action, Wells Fargo agreed to provide \$67 million in homeowner down-payment assistance, credit counseling and improvements to its mortgage servicing system. The initiatives will be concentrated in cities severely impacted by the bank's foreclosure practices and the ensuing mortgage foreclosure crisis. Additionally, Wells Fargo agreed to change its procedures for reviewing shareholder proposals and a strict ban on stock pledges by Wells Fargo board members.
- ***In re Ormat Techs., Inc. Derivative Litig.***, No. CV10-00759 (Nev. Dist. Ct., Washoe Cty.). Robbins Geller brought derivative claims for breach of fiduciary duty and unjust enrichment against the directors and certain officers of Ormat Technologies, Inc., a leading geothermal and recovered energy power business. During the relevant time period, these Ormat insiders caused the company to engage in accounting manipulations that ultimately required restatement of the

company's financial statements. The settlement in this action includes numerous corporate governance reforms designed to, among other things: (i) increase director independence; (ii) provide continuing education to directors; (iii) enhance the company's internal controls; (iv) make the company's board more independent; and (v) strengthen the company's internal audit function.

- ***In re Alphatec Holdings, Inc. Derivative S'holder Litig.***, No. 37-2010-00058586 (Cal. Super. Ct., San Diego Cty.). Obtained sweeping changes to Alphatec's governance, including separation of the Chairman and CEO positions, enhanced conflict of interest procedures to address related-party transactions, rigorous director independence standards requiring that at least a majority of directors be outside independent directors, and ongoing director education and training.
- ***In re Finisar Corp. Derivative Litig.***, No. C-06-07660 (N.D. Cal.). Prosecuted shareholder derivative action on behalf of Finisar against certain of its current and former directors and officers for engaging in an alleged nearly decade-long stock option backdating scheme that was alleged to have inflicted substantial damage upon Finisar. After obtaining a reversal of the district court's order dismissing the complaint for failing to adequately allege that a pre-suit demand was futile, Robbins Geller lawyers successfully prosecuted the derivative claims to resolution obtaining over \$15 million in financial clawbacks for Finisar. Robbins Geller attorneys also obtained significant changes to Finisar's stock option granting procedures and corporate governance. As a part of the settlement, Finisar agreed to ban the repricing of stock options without first obtaining specific shareholder approval, prohibit the retrospective selection of grant dates for stock options and similar awards, limit the number of other boards on which Finisar directors may serve, require directors to own a minimum amount of Finisar shares, annually elect a Lead Independent Director whenever the position of Chairman and CEO are held by the same person, and require the board to appoint a Trading Compliance officer responsible for ensuring compliance with Finisar's insider trading policies.
- ***Loizides v. Schramm (Maxwell Technology Derivative Litigation)***, No. 37-2010-00097953 (Cal. Super. Ct., San Diego Cty.). Prosecuted shareholder derivative claims arising from the company's alleged violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 ("FCPA"). As a result of Robbins Geller's efforts, Maxwell insiders agreed to adopt significant changes in Maxwell's internal controls and systems designed to protect Maxwell against future potential violations of the FCPA. These corporate governance changes included, establishing the following, among other things: a compliance plan to improve board oversight of Maxwell's compliance processes and internal controls; a clear corporate policy prohibiting bribery and subcontracting kickbacks, whereby individuals are accountable; mandatory employee training requirements, including the comprehensive explanation of whistleblower provisions, to provide for confidential reporting of FCPA violations or other corruption; enhanced resources and internal control and compliance procedures for the audit committee to act quickly if an FCPA violation or other corruption is detected; an FCPA and Anti-Corruption Compliance department that has the authority and resources required to assess global operations and detect violations of the FCPA and other instances of corruption; a rigorous ethics and compliance program applicable to all directors, officers and employees, designed to prevent and detect violations of the FCPA and other applicable anti-corruption laws; an executive-level position of Chief Compliance Officer with direct board-level reporting responsibilities, who shall be responsible for overseeing and managing compliance issues within the company; a rigorous insider trading policy buttressed by enhanced review and supervision mechanisms and a requirement that all trades are timely disclosed; and enhanced provisions requiring that business entities are only acquired after thorough FCPA and anti-corruption due diligence by legal, accounting and compliance personnel at Maxwell.

- ***In re SciClone Pharm., Inc. S'holder Derivative Litig.***, No. CIV 499030 (Cal. Super. Ct., San Mateo Cty.). Robbins Geller attorneys successfully prosecuted the derivative claims on behalf of nominal party SciClone Pharmaceuticals, Inc., resulting in the adoption of state-of-the-art corporate governance reforms. The corporate governance reforms included the establishment of an FCPA compliance coordinator; the adoption of an FCPA compliance program and code; and the adoption of additional internal controls and compliance functions.
- ***Policemen & Firemen Ret. Sys. of the City of Detroit v. Cornelison (Halliburton Derivative Litigation)***, No. 2009-29987 (Tex. Dist. Ct., Harris Cty.). Prosecuted shareholder derivative claims on behalf of Halliburton Company against certain Halliburton insiders for breaches of fiduciary duty arising from Halliburton's alleged violations of the FCPA. In the settlement, Halliburton agreed, among other things, to adopt strict intensive controls and systems designed to detect and deter the payment of bribes and other improper payments to foreign officials, to enhanced executive compensation clawback, director stock ownership requirements, a limitation on the number of other boards that Halliburton directors may serve, a lead director charter, enhanced director independence standards, and the creation of a management compliance committee.
- ***In re UnitedHealth Grp. Inc. PSLRA Litig.***, No. 06-CV-1691 (D. Minn.). In the *UnitedHealth* case, our client, CalPERS, obtained sweeping corporate governance improvements, including the election of a shareholder-nominated member to the company's board of directors, a mandatory holding period for shares acquired by executives via option exercises, as well as executive compensation reforms that tie pay to performance. In addition, the class obtained \$925 million, the largest stock option backdating recovery ever and four times the next largest options backdating recovery.
- ***In re Fossil, Inc. Derivative Litig.***, No. 3:06-cv-01672 (N.D. Tex.). The settlement agreement included the following corporate governance changes: declassification of elected board members; retirement of three directors and addition of five new independent directors; two-thirds board independence requirements; corporate governance guidelines providing for "Majority Voting" election of directors; lead independent director requirements; revised accounting measurement dates of options; addition of standing finance committee; compensation clawbacks; director compensation standards; revised stock option plans and grant procedures; limited stock option granting authority, timing and pricing; enhanced education and training; and audit engagement partner rotation and outside audit firm review.
- ***Pirelli Armstrong Tire Corp. Retiree Med. Benefits Tr. v. Sinegal (Costco Derivative Litigation)***, No. 2:08-cv-01450 (W.D. Wash.). The parties agreed to settlement terms providing for the following corporate governance changes: the amendment of Costco's bylaws to provide "Majority Voting" election of directors; the elimination of overlapping compensation and audit committee membership on common subject matters; enhanced Dodd-Frank requirements; enhanced internal audit standards and controls, and revised information-sharing procedures; revised compensation policies and procedures; revised stock option plans and grant procedures; limited stock option granting authority, timing and pricing; and enhanced ethics compliance standards and training.
- ***In re F5 Networks, Inc. Derivative Litig.***, No. C-06-0794 (W.D. Wash.). The parties agreed to the following corporate governance changes as part of the settlement: revised stock option plans and grant procedures; limited stock option granting authority, timing and pricing; "Majority Voting" election of directors; lead independent director requirements; director independence standards; elimination of director perquisites; and revised compensation practices.

- ***In re Community Health Sys., Inc. S'holder Derivative Litig.***, No. 3:11-cv-00489 (M.D. Tenn.). Robbins Geller obtained unprecedented corporate governance reforms on behalf of Community Health Systems, Inc. in a case against the company's directors and officers for breaching their fiduciary duties by causing Community Health to develop and implement admissions criteria that systematically steered patients into unnecessary inpatient admissions, in contravention of Medicare and Medicaid regulations. The governance reforms obtained as part of the settlement include two shareholder-nominated directors, the creation of a Healthcare Law Compliance Coordinator with specified qualifications and duties, a requirement that the Board's Compensation Committee be comprised solely of independent directors, the implementation of a compensation clawback that will automatically recover compensation improperly paid to the company's CEO or CFO in the event of a restatement, the establishment of an insider trading controls committee, and the adoption of a political expenditure disclosure policy. In addition to these reforms, \$60 million in financial relief was obtained, which is the largest shareholder derivative recovery ever in Tennessee and the Sixth Circuit.

## Options Backdating Litigation

As has been widely reported in the media, the stock options backdating scandal suddenly engulfed hundreds of publicly traded companies throughout the country in 2006. Robbins Geller was at the forefront of investigating and prosecuting options backdating derivative and securities cases. The Firm has recovered over \$1 billion in damages on behalf of injured companies and shareholders.

- ***In re KLA-Tencor Corp. S'holder Derivative Litig.***, No. C-06-03445 (N.D. Cal.). After successfully opposing the special litigation committee of the board of directors' motion to terminate the derivative claims, Robbins Geller recovered \$43.6 million in direct financial benefits for KLA-Tencor, including \$33.2 million in cash payments by certain former executives and their directors' and officers' insurance carriers.
- ***In re Marvell Tech. Grp. Ltd. Derivative Litig.***, No. C-06-03894 (N.D. Cal.). Robbins Geller recovered \$54.9 million in financial benefits, including \$14.6 million in cash, for Marvell, in addition to extensive corporate governance reforms related to Marvell's stock option granting practices, board of directors' procedures and executive compensation.
- ***In re KB Home S'holder Derivative Litig.***, No. 06-CV-05148 (C.D. Cal.). Robbins Geller served as co-lead counsel for the plaintiffs and recovered more than \$31 million in financial benefits, including \$21.5 million in cash, for KB Home, plus substantial corporate governance enhancements relating to KB Home's stock option granting practices, director elections and executive compensation practices.

## Corporate Takeover Litigation

Robbins Geller has earned a reputation as the leading law firm in representing shareholders in corporate takeover litigation. Through its aggressive efforts in prosecuting corporate takeovers, the Firm has secured for shareholders billions of dollars of additional consideration as well as beneficial changes for shareholders in the context of mergers and acquisitions.

The Firm regularly prosecutes merger and acquisition cases post-merger, often through trial, to maximize the benefit for its shareholder class. Some of these cases include:



- ***In re Kinder Morgan, Inc. S'holders Litig.***, No. 06-C-801 (Kan. Dist. Ct., Shawnee Cty.). In the largest recovery ever for corporate takeover class action litigation, the Firm negotiated a settlement fund of \$200 million in 2010.
- ***In re Dole Food Co., Inc. Stockholder Litig.***, No. 8703-VCL (Del. Ch.). Robbins Geller and co-counsel went to trial in the Delaware Court of Chancery on claims of breach of fiduciary duty on behalf of Dole Food Co., Inc. shareholders. The litigation challenged the 2013 buyout of Dole by its billionaire Chief Executive Officer and Chairman, David H. Murdock. On August 27, 2015, the court issued a post-trial ruling that Murdock and fellow director C. Michael Carter – who also served as Dole's General Counsel, Chief Operating Officer and Murdock's top lieutenant – had engaged in fraud and other misconduct in connection with the buyout and are liable to Dole's former stockholders for over \$148 million, the largest trial verdict ever in a class action challenging a merger transaction.
- ***Nieman v. Duke Energy Corp.***, No. 3:12-cv-00456 (W.D.N.C.). Robbins Geller, along with co-counsel, obtained a \$146.25 million settlement on behalf of Duke Energy Corporation investors. The settlement resolves accusations that defendants misled investors regarding Duke's future leadership following its merger with Progress Energy, Inc., and specifically, their premeditated coup to oust William D. Johnson (CEO of Progress) and replace him with Duke's then-CEO, John Rogers. This historic settlement represents the largest recovery ever in a North Carolina securities fraud action, and one of the five largest recoveries in the Fourth Circuit.
- ***In re Rural Metro Corp. Stockholders Litig.***, No. 6350-VCL (Del. Ch.). Robbins Geller and co-counsel were appointed lead counsel in this case after successfully objecting to an inadequate settlement that did not take into account evidence of defendants' conflicts of interest. In a post-trial opinion, Delaware Vice Chancellor J. Travis Laster found defendant RBC Capital Markets, LLC liable for aiding and abetting Rural/Metro's board of directors' fiduciary duty breaches in the \$438 million buyout of Rural/Metro, citing "the magnitude of the conflict between RBC's claims and the evidence." RBC was ordered to pay nearly \$110 million as a result of its wrongdoing, the largest damage award ever obtained against a bank over its role as a merger adviser. The Delaware Supreme Court issued a landmark opinion affirming the judgment on November 30, 2015, *RBC Capital Mkts., LLC v. Jervis*, 129 A.3d 816 (Del. 2015).
- ***In re Del Monte Foods Co. S'holders Litig.***, No. 6027-VCL (Del. Ch.). Robbins Geller exposed the unseemly practice by investment bankers of participating on both sides of large merger and acquisition transactions and ultimately secured an \$89 million settlement for shareholders of Del Monte. For efforts in achieving these results, the Robbins Geller lawyers prosecuting the case were named Attorneys of the Year by *California Lawyer* magazine in 2012.
- ***In re TD Banknorth S'holders Litig.***, No. 2557-VCL (Del. Ch.). After objecting to a modest recovery of just a few cents per share, the Firm took over the litigation and obtained a common fund settlement of \$50 million.
- ***In re Chaparral Res., Inc. S'holders Litig.***, No. 2633-VCL (Del. Ch.). After a full trial and a subsequent mediation before the Delaware Chancellor, the Firm obtained a common fund settlement of \$41 million (or 45% increase above merger price) for both class and appraisal claims.
- ***Laborers' Local #231 Pension Fund v. Websense, Inc.***, No. 37-2013-00050879-CU-BT-CTL (Cal. Super. Ct., San Diego Cty.). Robbins Geller successfully obtained a record-breaking \$40 million in *Websense, Inc.*, which is believed to be the largest post-merger common fund settlement in California state court history. The class action challenged the May 2013 buyout of Websense by Vista Equity Partners (and affiliates) for \$24.75 per share and alleged breach of fiduciary duty

against the former Websense Board of Directors, and aiding and abetting against Websense's financial advisor, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc. Claims were pursued by the plaintiff in both California state court and the Delaware Court of Chancery.

- ***In re Onyx Pharm., Inc. S'holder Litig.***, No. CIV523789 (Cal. Super. Ct., San Mateo Cty.). Robbins Geller obtained \$30 million in a case against the former Onyx Board of Directors for breaching its fiduciary duties in connection with the acquisition of Onyx by Amgen Inc. for \$125 per share at the expense of shareholders. At the time of the settlement, it was believed to set the record for the largest post-merger common fund settlement in California state court history. Over the case's three years, Robbins Geller defeated defendants' motions to dismiss, obtained class certification, took over 20 depositions and reviewed over one million pages of documents. Further, the settlement was reached just days before a hearing on the defendants' motion for summary judgment was set to take place, and the result is now believed to be the second largest post-merger common fund settlement in California state court history.
- ***Harrah's Entertainment***, No. A529183 (Nev. Dist. Ct., Clark Cty.). The Firm's active prosecution of the case on several fronts, both in federal and state court, assisted Harrah's shareholders in securing an additional \$1.65 billion in merger consideration.
- ***In re Chiron S'holder Deal Litig.***, No. RG 05-230567 (Cal. Super. Ct., Alameda Cty.). The Firm's efforts helped to obtain an additional \$800 million in increased merger consideration for Chiron shareholders.
- ***In re Dollar Gen. Corp. S'holder Litig.***, No. 07MD-1 (Tenn. Cir. Ct., Davidson Cty.). As lead counsel, the Firm secured a recovery of up to \$57 million in cash for former Dollar General shareholders on the eve of trial.
- ***In re Prime Hospitality, Inc. S'holders Litig.***, No. 652-N (Del. Ch.). The Firm objected to a settlement that was unfair to the class and proceeded to litigate breach of fiduciary duty issues involving a sale of hotels to a private equity firm. The litigation yielded a common fund of \$25 million for shareholders.
- ***In re UnitedGlobalCom, Inc. S'holder Litig.***, No. 1012-VCS (Del. Ch.). The Firm secured a common fund settlement of \$25 million just weeks before trial.
- ***In re eMachines, Inc. Merger Litig.***, No. 01-CC-00156 (Cal. Super. Ct., Orange Cty.). After four years of litigation, the Firm secured a common fund settlement of \$24 million on the brink of trial.
- ***In re PeopleSoft, Inc. S'holder Litig.***, No. RG-03100291 (Cal. Super. Ct., Alameda Cty.). The Firm successfully objected to a proposed compromise of class claims arising from takeover defenses by PeopleSoft, Inc. to thwart an acquisition by Oracle Corp., resulting in shareholders receiving an increase of over \$900 million in merger consideration.
- ***ACS S'holder Litig.***, No. CC-09-07377-C (Tex. Cty. Ct., Dallas Cty.). The Firm forced ACS's acquirer, Xerox, to make significant concessions by which shareholders would not be locked out of receiving more money from another buyer.

## Insurance

Fraud and collusion in the insurance industry by executives, agents, brokers, lenders, and others is one of the most costly crimes in the United States. Some experts have estimated the annual cost of white collar crime in the insurance industry to be over \$120 billion nationally. Recent legislative proposals seek to curtail anti-competitive behavior within the industry. However, in the absence of comprehensive regulation, Robbins Geller has played a critical role as private attorney general in protecting the rights of consumers against insurance fraud and other unfair business practices within the insurance industry.

Robbins Geller attorneys have long been at the forefront of litigating race discrimination issues within the life insurance industry. For example, the Firm has fought the practice by certain insurers of charging African-Americans and other people of color more for life insurance than similarly situated Caucasians. The Firm recovered over \$400 million for African-Americans and other minorities as redress for civil rights abuses, including landmark recoveries in *McNeil v. American General Life & Accident Insurance Company*; *Thompson v. Metropolitan Life Insurance Company*; and *Williams v. United Insurance Company of America*.

The Firm's attorneys fight on behalf of elderly victims targeted for the sale of deferred annuity products with hidden sales loads and illusory bonus features. Sales agents for life insurance companies such as Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America, Midland National Life Insurance Company, and National Western Life Insurance Company targeted senior citizens for these annuities with lengthy investment horizons and high sales commissions. The Firm recovered millions of dollars for elderly victims and seeks to ensure that senior citizens are afforded full and accurate information regarding deferred annuities.

Robbins Geller attorneys also stopped the fraudulent sale of life insurance policies based on misrepresentations about how the life insurance policy would perform, the costs of the policy, and whether premiums would "vanish." Purchasers were also misled about the financing of a new life insurance policy, falling victim to a "replacement" or "churning" sales scheme where they were convinced to use loans, partial surrenders or withdrawals of cash values from an existing permanent life insurance policy to purchase a new policy.

- **Brokerage “Pay to Play” Cases.** On behalf of individuals, governmental entities, businesses, and non-profits, Robbins Geller has sued the largest commercial and employee benefit insurance brokers and insurers for unfair and deceptive business practices. While purporting to provide independent, unbiased advice as to the best policy, the brokers failed to adequately disclose that they had entered into separate “pay to play” agreements with certain third-party insurance companies. These agreements provide additional compensation to the brokers based on such factors as profitability, growth and the volume of insurance that they place with a particular insurer, and are akin to a profit-sharing arrangement between the brokers and the insurance companies. These agreements create a conflict of interest since the brokers have a direct financial interest in selling their customers only the insurance products offered by those insurance companies with which the brokers have such agreements.

Robbins Geller attorneys were among the first to uncover and pursue the allegations of these practices in the insurance industry in both state and federal courts. On behalf of the California Insurance Commissioner, the Firm brought an injunctive case against the biggest employee benefit insurers and local San Diego brokerage, ULR, which resulted in major changes to the way they did business. The Firm also sued on behalf of the City and County of San Francisco to recover losses due to these practices. Finally, Robbins Geller represents a putative nationwide class of individuals, businesses, employers, and governmental entities against the largest brokerage houses and insurers in the nation. To date, the Firm has obtained over \$200 million on behalf of policyholders and enacted landmark business reforms.

- **Discriminatory Credit Scoring and Redlining Cases.** Robbins Geller attorneys have prosecuted cases concerning countrywide schemes of alleged discrimination carried out by Nationwide, Allstate, and other insurance companies against African-American and other persons of color who are purchasers of homeowner and automobile insurance policies. Such discrimination includes alleged redlining and the improper use of “credit scores,” which disparately impact minority communities. Plaintiffs in these actions have alleged that the insurance companies’ corporate-driven scheme of intentional racial discrimination includes refusing coverage and/or charging them higher premiums for homeowners and automobile insurance. On behalf of the class of aggrieved policyholders, the Firm has recovered over \$400 million for these predatory and racist policies.
- **Senior Annuities.** Robbins Geller has prosecuted numerous cases against insurance companies and their agents who targeted senior citizens for the sale of deferred annuities. Plaintiffs alleged that the insurers misrepresented or failed to disclose to senior consumers material facts concerning the costs associated with their fixed and equity indexed deferred annuities and enticed seniors to buy the annuities by promising them illusory up-front bonuses. As a result of the Firm’s efforts, hundreds of millions of dollars in economic relief has been made available to seniors who have been harmed by these practices. Notable recoveries include:
  - *Negrete v. Allianz Life Ins. Co. of N. Am.*, No. CV-05-6838 (C.D. Cal.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as co-lead counsel on behalf of a nationwide RICO class consisting of over 200,000 senior citizens who had purchased deferred annuities issued by Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America. In March 2015, after nine years of litigation, District Judge Christina A. Snyder granted final approval of a class action settlement that made available in excess of \$250 million in cash payments and other benefits to class members. In approving the settlement, the Court praised the effort of the Firm and noted that “counsel has represented their clients with great skill and they are to be complimented.”

- *In re Am. Equity Annuity Practices & Sales Litig.*, No. CV-05-6735 (C.D. Cal.). As co-lead counsel, Robbins Geller attorneys secured a settlement that made available \$129 million in economic benefits to a nationwide class of 114,000 senior citizens.
- *In re Midland Nat'l Life Ins. Co. Annuity Sales Practices Litig.*, MDL No. 07-1825 (C.D. Cal.). After four years of litigation, the Firm secured a settlement that made available \$79.5 million in economic benefits to a nationwide class of 70,000 senior citizens.
- *Negrete v. Fidelity & Guar. Life Ins. Co.*, No. CV-05-6837 (C.D. Cal.). The Firm's efforts resulted in a settlement under which Fidelity made available \$52.7 in benefits to 56,000 class members across the country.
- *In re Nat'l Western Life Ins. Deferred Annuities Litig.*, No. 05-CV-1018 (S.D. Cal.). The Firm litigated this action for more than eight years. On the eve of trial, the Firm negotiated a settlement providing over \$21 million in value to a nationwide class of 12,000 senior citizens.

## Antitrust

Robbins Geller's antitrust practice focuses on representing businesses and individuals who have been the victims of price-fixing, unlawful monopolization, market allocation, tying, and other anti-competitive conduct. The Firm has taken a leading role in many of the largest federal and state price-fixing, monopolization, market allocation, and tying cases throughout the United States.

- *In re Payment Card Interchange Fee and Merchant Discount Antitrust Litigation*, MDL No. 1720 (E.D.N.Y.). Robbins Geller attorneys, serving as co-lead counsel on behalf of merchants, have reached a \$6.26 billion cash settlement with defendants in this antitrust litigation. Defendants have contributed additional funds to the class settlement fund that remains from the earlier settlement in 2012, which was approved by the district court in 2013 but was then reversed on appeal in 2016. The case is pending final approval before the Honorable Margo K. Brodie in the Eastern District of New York.
- *Dahl v. Bain Capital Partners, LLC*, No. 07-cv-12388-EFH (D. Mass). Robbins Geller attorneys served as co-lead counsel on behalf of shareholders in this antitrust action against the nation's largest private equity firms that colluded to restrain competition and suppress prices paid to shareholders of public companies in connection with leveraged buyouts. Robbins Geller attorneys recovered more than \$590 million for the class from the private equity firm defendants, including Goldman Sachs Group Inc. and Carlyle Group LP.
- *Alaska Elec. Pension Fund v. Bank of America Corp.*, No. 14-cv-07126-JMF (S.D.N.Y.). Robbins Geller attorneys prosecuted antitrust claims against 14 major banks and broker ICAP plc who were alleged to have conspired to manipulate the ISDAfix rate, the key interest rate for a broad range of interest rate derivatives and other financial instruments in contravention of the competition laws. The class action was brought on behalf of investors and market participants who entered into interest rate derivative transactions between 2006 and 2013. Final approval has been granted to settlements collectively yielding \$504.5 million from all defendants.
- *In re Currency Conversion Fee Antitrust Litig.*, 01 MDL No. 1409 (S.D.N.Y.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as lead counsel and recovered \$336 million for a class of credit and debit cardholders. The court praised the Firm as "indefatigable," noting that the Firm's lawyers "vigorously litigated every issue against some of the ablest lawyers in the antitrust defense bar."

- ***In re SSA Bonds Antitrust Litig.***, No. 1:16-cv-03711-ER (S.D.N.Y.). Robbins Geller attorneys are serving as co-lead counsel in a case against several of the world's largest banks and the traders of certain specialized government bonds. They are alleged to have entered into a wide-ranging price-fixing and bid-rigging scheme costing pension funds and other investors hundreds of millions. To date, three of the more than a dozen corporate defendants have settled for \$95 million.
- ***In re Aftermarket Automotive Lighting Products Antitrust Litig.***, 09 MDL No. 2007 (C.D. Cal.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as co-lead counsel in this multi-district litigation in which plaintiffs allege that defendants conspired to fix prices and allocate markets for automotive lighting products. The last defendants settled just before the scheduled trial, resulting in total settlements of more than \$50 million. Commenting on the quality of representation, the court commended the Firm for "expend[ing] substantial and skilled time and efforts in an efficient manner to bring this action to conclusion."
- ***In re Dig. Music Antitrust Litig.***, 06 MDL No. 1780 (S.D.N.Y.). Robbins Geller attorneys are co-lead counsel in an action against the major music labels (Sony-BMG, EMI, Universal and Warner Music Group) in a case involving music that can be downloaded digitally from the Internet. Plaintiffs allege that defendants restrained the development of digital downloads and agreed to fix the distribution price of digital downloads at supracompetitive prices. Plaintiffs also allege that as a result of defendants' restraint of the development of digital downloads, and the market and price for downloads, defendants were able to maintain the prices of their CDs at supracompetitive levels. The Second Circuit Court of Appeals upheld plaintiffs' complaint, reversing the trial court's dismissal. Discovery is ongoing.
- ***In re Dynamic Random Access Memory (DRAM) Antitrust Litig.***, 02 MDL No. 1486 (N.D. Cal.). Robbins Geller attorneys served on the executive committee in this multi-district class action in which a class of purchasers of dynamic random access memory (or DRAM) chips alleged that the leading manufacturers of semiconductor products fixed the price of DRAM chips from the fall of 2001 through at least the end of June 2002. The case settled for more than \$300 million.
- ***Microsoft I-V Cases***, JCCP No. 4106 (Cal. Super. Ct., San Francisco Cty.). Robbins Geller attorneys served on the executive committee in these consolidated cases in which California indirect purchasers challenged Microsoft's illegal exercise of monopoly power in the operating system, word processing and spreadsheet markets. In a settlement approved by the court, class counsel obtained an unprecedented \$1.1 billion worth of relief for the business and consumer class members who purchased the Microsoft products.

## Consumer Fraud

In our consumer-based economy, working families who purchase products and services must receive truthful information so they can make meaningful choices about how to spend their hard-earned money. When financial institutions and other corporations deceive consumers or take advantage of unequal bargaining power, class action suits provide, in many instances, the only realistic means for an individual to right a corporate wrong.

Robbins Geller attorneys represent consumers around the country in a variety of important, complex class actions. Our attorneys have taken a leading role in many of the largest federal and state consumer fraud, environmental, human rights, and public health cases throughout the United States. The Firm is also actively involved in many cases relating to banks and the financial services industry, pursuing claims on behalf of individuals victimized by abusive telemarketing practices, abusive mortgage lending practices, market timing violations in the sale of variable annuities, and deceptive consumer credit lending practices

in violation of the Truth-In-Lending Act. Below are a few representative samples of our robust, nationwide consumer practice.

- ***In re Nat'l Prescription Opiate Litig.*** Robbins Geller serves on the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee to spearhead more than 1,500 federal lawsuits brought on behalf of governmental entities and other plaintiffs in the sprawling litigation concerning the nationwide prescription opioid epidemic. In reporting on the selection of the lawyers to lead the case, *The National Law Journal* reported that "[t]he team reads like a 'Who's Who' in mass torts."
- ***Apple Inc. Device Performance Litigation.*** Robbins Geller serves on the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee to advance judicial interests of efficiency and protect the interests of the proposed class in the *Apple Inc.* litigation. The case alleges Apple Inc. misrepresented its iPhone devices and the nature of updates to its mobile operating system (iOS), which allegedly included code that significantly reduced the performance of older-model iPhones and forced users to incur expenses replacing these devices or their batteries.
- ***In re EpiPen (Epinephrine Injection, USP) Mktg., Sales Practices & Antitrust Litig.*** Robbins Geller serves as co-lead counsel in a case against Mylan Pharmaceuticals and Pfizer for engaging in crippling anti-competitive behavior that allowed the price of their ubiquitous and life-saving EpiPen auto-injector devices to rise over 600%, bilking American children and adults for hundreds of millions of dollars.
- ***Cordova v. Greyhound Lines, Inc.*** Robbins Geller represented California bus passengers *pro bono* in a landmark consumer and civil rights case against Greyhound for subjecting them to discriminatory immigration raids. Robbins Geller achieved a watershed court ruling that a private company may be held liable under California law for allowing border patrol to harass and racially profile its customers. The case heralds that Greyhound passengers do not check their rights and dignity at the bus door and has had an immediate impact, not only in California but nationwide. Within weeks of Robbins Geller filing the case, Greyhound added "know your rights" information to passengers to its website and on posters in bus stations around the country, along with adopting other business reforms.
- ***In re Volkswagen "Clean Diesel" Mktg., Sales Practices, & Prods. Liab. Litig.*** As part of the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee, Robbins Geller reached a series of settlements on behalf of purchasers, lessees and dealers that total well over \$17 billion, the largest settlement in history, concerning illegal "defeat devices" that Volkswagen installed on many of its diesel-engine vehicles. The device tricked regulators into believing the cars were complying with emissions standards, while the cars were actually emitting between 10 and 40 times the allowable limit for harmful pollutants.
- ***Trump University.*** After six and half years of tireless litigation and on the eve of trial, Robbins Geller, serving as co-lead counsel, secured a historic recovery on behalf of Trump University students around the country. The settlement provides \$25 million to approximately 7,000 consumers, including senior citizens who accessed retirement accounts and maxed out credit cards to enroll in Trump University. The extraordinary result means individual class members are eligible for upwards of \$35,000 in restitution. The settlement resolves claims that President Donald J. Trump and Trump University violated federal and state laws by misleadingly marketing "Live Events" seminars and mentorships as teaching Trump's "real-estate techniques" through his "hand-picked" "professors" at his so-called "university." Robbins Geller represented the class on a *pro bono* basis.

- ***In re Morning Song Bird Food Litigation.*** Robbins Geller obtained final approval of a settlement in a civil Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act consumer class action against Scotts Miracle-Gro Co and its CEO James Hagedorn. The settlement of up to \$85 million provides full refunds to consumers around the country and resolves claims that Scotts Miracle-Gro knowingly sold wild bird food treated with pesticides that are hazardous to birds. In approving the settlement, Judge Houston commended Robbins Geller's "skill and quality of work [as] extraordinary" and the case as "aggressively litigated." The Robbins Geller team battled a series of dismissal motions before achieving class certification for the plaintiffs in March 2017, with the court finding that "Plaintiffs would not have purchased the bird food if they knew it was poison." Defendants then appealed the class certification to the Ninth Circuit, which was denied, and then tried to have the claims from non-California class members thrown out, which was also denied.
- ***Bank Overdraft Fees Litigation.*** The banking industry charges consumers exorbitant amounts for "overdraft" of their checking accounts, even if the customer did not authorize a charge beyond the available balance and even if the account would not have been overdrawn had the transactions been ordered chronologically as they occurred – that is, banks reorder transactions to maximize such fees. The Firm brought lawsuits against major banks to stop this practice and recover these false fees. These cases have recovered over \$500 million thus far from a dozen banks and we continue to investigate other banks engaging in this practice.
- ***Visa and MasterCard Fees.*** After years of litigation and a six-month trial, Robbins Geller attorneys won one of the largest consumer-protection verdicts ever awarded in the United States. The Firm's attorneys represented California consumers in an action against Visa and MasterCard for intentionally imposing and concealing a fee from cardholders. The court ordered Visa and MasterCard to return \$800 million in cardholder losses, which represented 100% of the amount illegally taken, plus 2% interest. In addition, the court ordered full disclosure of the hidden fee.
- ***Sony Gaming Networks & Customer Data Security Breach Litigation.*** The Firm served as a member of the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee, helping to obtain a precedential opinion denying in part Sony's motion to dismiss plaintiffs' claims involving the breach of Sony's gaming network, leading to a \$15 million settlement.
- ***Tobacco Litigation.*** Robbins Geller attorneys have led the fight against Big Tobacco since 1991. As an example, Robbins Geller attorneys filed the case that helped get rid of Joe Camel, representing various public and private plaintiffs, including the State of Arkansas, the general public in California, the cities of San Francisco, Los Angeles and Birmingham, 14 counties in California, and the working men and women of this country in the Union Pension and Welfare Fund cases that have been filed in 40 states. In 1992, Robbins Geller attorneys filed the first case in the country that alleged a conspiracy by the Big Tobacco companies.



- ***Garment Workers Sweatshop Litigation.*** Robbins Geller attorneys represented a class of 30,000 garment workers who alleged that they had worked under sweatshop conditions in garment factories in Saipan that produced clothing for top U.S. retailers such as The Gap, Target and J.C. Penney. In the first action of its kind, Robbins Geller attorneys pursued claims against the factories and the retailers alleging violations of RICO, the Alien Tort Claims Act and the Law of Nations based on the alleged systemic labor and human rights abuses occurring in Saipan. This case was a companion to two other actions, one which alleged overtime violations by the garment factories under the Fair Labor Standards Act and local labor law, and another which alleged violations of California's Unfair Practices Law by the U.S. retailers. These actions resulted in a settlement of approximately \$20 million that included a comprehensive monitoring program to address past violations by the factories and prevent future ones. The members of the litigation team were honored as Trial Lawyers of the Year by the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice in recognition of the team's efforts at bringing about the precedent-setting settlement of the actions.
- ***In re Intel Corp. CPU Mktg., Sales Practices & Prods. Liab. Litig.*** Robbins Geller serves on the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee in *Intel*, a massive multidistrict litigation pending in the United States District Court for the District of Oregon. *Intel* concerns serious security vulnerabilities – known as “Spectre” and “Meltdown” – that infect nearly all of Intel's x86 processors manufactured and sold since 1995, the patching of which results in processing speed degradation of the impacted computer, server or mobile device.
- ***Hauck v. Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.*** An attorney from Robbins Geller serves as co-lead counsel in a case against Advanced Micro Devices, Inc. (“AMD”), which alleges that AMD's processors are incapable of operating as intended and at processing speeds represented by AMD without exposing users to the Spectre vulnerability, which allows hackers to covertly access sensitive information stored within the CPU's kernel.
- ***West Telemarketing Case.*** Robbins Geller attorneys secured a \$39 million settlement for class members caught up in a telemarketing scheme where consumers were charged for an unwanted membership program after purchasing Tae-Bo exercise videos. Under the settlement, consumers were entitled to claim between one and one-half to three times the amount of all fees they unknowingly paid.
- ***Dannon Activia®.*** Robbins Geller attorneys secured the largest ever settlement for a false advertising case involving a food product. The case alleged that Dannon's advertising for its Activia® and DanActive® branded products and their benefits from “probiotic” bacteria were overstated. As part of the nationwide settlement, Dannon agreed to modify its advertising and establish a fund of up to \$45 million to compensate consumers for their purchases of Activia® and DanActive®.
- ***Mattel Lead Paint Toys.*** In 2006-2007, toy manufacturing giant Mattel and its subsidiary Fisher-Price announced the recall of over 14 million toys made in China due to hazardous lead and dangerous magnets. Robbins Geller attorneys filed lawsuits on behalf of millions of parents and other consumers who purchased or received toys for children that were marketed as safe but were later recalled because they were dangerous. The Firm's attorneys reached a landmark settlement for millions of dollars in refunds and lead testing reimbursements, as well as important testing requirements to ensure that Mattel's toys are safe for consumers in the future.
- ***Tenet Healthcare Cases.*** Robbins Geller attorneys were co-lead counsel in a class action alleging a fraudulent scheme of corporate misconduct, resulting in the overcharging of uninsured patients

by the Tenet chain of hospitals. The Firm's attorneys represented uninsured patients of Tenet hospitals nationwide who were overcharged by Tenet's admittedly "aggressive pricing strategy," which resulted in price gouging of the uninsured. The case was settled with Tenet changing its practices and making refunds to patients.

- ***Pet Food Products Liability Litigation.*** Robbins Geller served as co-lead counsel in this massive, 100+ case products liability MDL in the District of New Jersey concerning the death of and injury to thousands of the nation's cats and dogs due to tainted pet food. The case settled for \$24 million.

## Human Rights, Labor Practices and Public Policy

Robbins Geller attorneys have a long tradition of representing the victims of unfair labor practices and violations of human rights. These include:

- ***Does I v. The Gap, Inc.***, No. 01 0031 (D. N. Mar. I.). In this groundbreaking case, Robbins Geller attorneys represented a class of 30,000 garment workers who alleged that they had worked under sweatshop conditions in garment factories in Saipan that produced clothing for top U.S. retailers such as The Gap, Target and J.C. Penney. In the first action of its kind, Robbins Geller attorneys pursued claims against the factories and the retailers alleging violations of RICO, the Alien Tort Claims Act, and the Law of Nations based on the alleged systemic labor and human rights abuses occurring in Saipan. This case was a companion to two other actions: ***Does I v. Advance Textile Corp.***, No. 99 0002 (D. N. Mar. I.), which alleged overtime violations by the garment factories under the Fair Labor Standards Act and local labor law, and ***UNITE v. The Gap, Inc.***, No. 300474 (Cal. Super. Ct., San Francisco Cty.), which alleged violations of California's Unfair Practices Law by the U.S. retailers. These actions resulted in a settlement of approximately \$20 million that included a comprehensive monitoring program to address past violations by the factories and prevent future ones. The members of the litigation team were honored as Trial Lawyers of the Year by the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice in recognition of the team's efforts at bringing about the precedent-setting settlement of the actions.
- ***Liberty Mutual Overtime Cases***, No. JCCP 4234 (Cal. Super. Ct., Los Angeles Cty.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as co-lead counsel on behalf of 1,600 current and former insurance claims adjusters at Liberty Mutual Insurance Company and several of its subsidiaries. Plaintiffs brought the case to recover unpaid overtime compensation and associated penalties, alleging that Liberty Mutual had misclassified its claims adjusters as exempt from overtime under California law. After 13 years of complex and exhaustive litigation, Robbins Geller secured a settlement in which Liberty Mutual agreed to pay \$65 million into a fund to compensate the class of claims adjusters for unpaid overtime. The Liberty Mutual action is one of a few claims adjuster overtime actions brought in California or elsewhere to result in a successful outcome for plaintiffs since 2004.
- ***Veliz v. Cintas Corp.***, No. 5:03-cv-01180 (N.D. Cal.). Brought against one of the nation's largest commercial laundries for violations of the Fair Labor Standards Act for misclassifying truck drivers as salesmen to avoid payment of overtime.
- ***Kasky v. Nike, Inc.***, 27 Cal. 4th 939 (2002). The California Supreme Court upheld claims that an apparel manufacturer misled the public regarding its exploitative labor practices, thereby violating California statutes prohibiting unfair competition and false advertising. The Court rejected defense contentions that any misconduct was protected by the First Amendment, finding the heightened constitutional protection afforded to noncommercial speech inappropriate in such a circumstance.

Shareholder derivative litigation brought by Robbins Geller attorneys at times also involves stopping anti-union activities, including:

- ***Southern Pacific/Overnite***. A shareholder action stemming from several hundred million dollars in loss of value in the company due to systematic violations by Overnite of U.S. labor laws.
- ***Massey Energy***. A shareholder action against an anti-union employer for flagrant violations of environmental laws resulting in multi-million-dollar penalties.
- ***Crown Petroleum***. A shareholder action against a Texas-based oil company for self-dealing and breach of fiduciary duty while also involved in a union lockout.

## Environment and Public Health

Robbins Geller attorneys have also represented plaintiffs in class actions related to environmental law. The Firm's attorneys represented, on a *pro bono* basis, the Sierra Club and the National Economic Development and Law Center as *amici curiae* in a federal suit designed to uphold the federal and state use of project labor agreements ("PLAs"). The suit represented a legal challenge to President Bush's Executive Order 13202, which prohibits the use of project labor agreements on construction projects receiving federal funds. Our *amici* brief in the matter outlined and stressed the significant environmental and socio-economic benefits associated with the use of PLAs on large-scale construction projects.

Attorneys with Robbins Geller have been involved in several other significant environmental cases, including:

- ***Public Citizen v. U.S. D.O.T.*** Robbins Geller attorneys represented a coalition of labor, environmental, industry and public health organizations including Public Citizen, The International Brotherhood of Teamsters, California AFL-CIO and California Trucking Industry in a challenge to a decision by the Bush administration to lift a Congressionally-imposed "moratorium" on cross-border trucking from Mexico on the basis that such trucks do not conform to emission controls under the Clean Air Act, and further, that the administration did not first complete a comprehensive environmental impact analysis as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. The suit was dismissed by the United States Supreme Court, the Court holding that because the D.O.T. lacked discretion to prevent crossborder trucking, an environmental assessment was not required.
- ***Sierra Club v. AK Steel***. Brought on behalf of the Sierra Club for massive emissions of air and water pollution by a steel mill, including homes of workers living in the adjacent communities, in violation of the Federal Clean Air Act, Resource Conservation Recovery Act and the Clean Water Act.
- ***MTBE Litigation***. Brought on behalf of various water districts for befouling public drinking water with MTBE, a gasoline additive linked to cancer.
- ***Exxon Valdez***. Brought on behalf of fisherman and Alaska residents for billions of dollars in damages resulting from the greatest oil spill in U.S. history.
- ***Avila Beach***. A citizens' suit against UNOCAL for leakage from the oil company pipeline so severe it literally destroyed the town of Avila Beach, California.

Federal laws such as the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and state laws such as California's Proposition 65 exist to protect the environment and the public from abuses by corporate and government organizations. Companies can be found liable for negligence, trespass or intentional environmental damage, be forced to pay for reparations and to come into compliance with existing laws. Prominent cases litigated by Robbins Geller attorneys include representing more than 4,000 individuals suing for personal injury and property damage related to the Stringfellow Dump Site in Southern California, participation in the Exxon Valdez oil spill litigation, and litigation involving the toxic spill arising from a Southern Pacific train derailment near Dunsmuir, California.

Robbins Geller attorneys have led the fight against Big Tobacco since 1991. As an example, Robbins Geller attorneys filed the case that helped get rid of Joe Camel, representing various public and private plaintiffs, including the State of Arkansas, the general public in California, the cities of San Francisco, Los Angeles and Birmingham, 14 counties in California, and the working men and women of this country in the Union Pension and Welfare Fund cases that have been filed in 40 states. In 1992, Robbins Geller attorneys filed the first case in the country that alleged a conspiracy by the Big Tobacco companies.

## Pro Bono

Robbins Geller provides counsel to those unable to afford legal representation as part of a continuous and longstanding commitment to the communities in which it serves. Over the years the Firm has dedicated a considerable amount of time, energy, and a full range of its resources for many *pro bono* and charitable actions.

Robbins Geller has been honored for its *pro bono* efforts by the California State Bar (including a nomination for the President's Pro Bono Law Firm of the Year award) and the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer's Program, among others.

Some of the Firm's and its attorneys' *pro bono* and charitable actions include:

- Representing California bus passengers *pro bono* in a landmark consumer and civil rights case against Greyhound for subjecting them to discriminatory immigration raids. Robbins Geller achieved a watershed court ruling that a private company may be held liable under California law for allowing border patrol to harass and racially profile its customers. The case heralds that Greyhound passengers do not check their rights and dignity at the bus door and has had an immediate impact, not only in California but nationwide. Within weeks of Robbins Geller filing the case, Greyhound added "know your rights" information to passengers to its website and on posters in bus stations around the country, along with adopting other business reforms.
- Working with the Homeless Action Center (HAC) to provide no-cost, barrier-free, culturally competent legal representation that makes it possible for people who are homeless (or at risk of becoming homeless) to access social safety net programs that help restore dignity and provide sustainable income, healthcare, mental health treatment and housing. Based in Oakland and Berkeley, the non-profit is the only program in the Bay Area that specializes in legal services to those who are chronically homeless. In 2016, HAC provided assistance to 1,403 men and 936 women, and 1,691 cases were completed. An additional 1,357 cases were still pending when the year ended. The results include 512 completed SSI cases with a success rate of 87%.
- Representing Trump University students in two class actions against President Donald J. Trump. The historic settlement provides \$25 million to approximately 7,000 consumers. This means individual class members are eligible for upwards of \$35,000 in restitution – an extraordinary result.

- Representing children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder, as well as children with significant disabilities, in New York to remedy flawed educational policies and practices that cause substantial harm to these and other similar children year after year.
- Representing 19 San Diego County children diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder in their appeal of the San Diego Regional Center's termination of funding for a crucial therapy. The victory resulted in a complete reinstatement of funding and set a precedent that allows other children to obtain the treatments they need.
- Serving as Northern California and Hawaii District Coordinator for the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit's Pro Bono program since 1993.
- Representing the Sierra Club and the National Economic Development and Law Center as *amici curiae* before the U.S. Supreme Court.
- Obtaining political asylum, after an initial application had been denied, for an impoverished Somali family whose ethnic minority faced systematic persecution and genocidal violence in Somalia, as well as forced female mutilation.
- Working with the ACLU in a class action filed on behalf of welfare applicants subject to San Diego County's "Project 100%" program. Relief was had when the County admitted that food-stamp eligibility could not hinge upon the Project 100% "home visits," and again when the district court ruled that unconsented "collateral contacts" violated state regulations. The decision was noted by the *Harvard Law Review*, *The New York Times* and *The Colbert Report*.
- Filing numerous *amicus curiae* briefs on behalf of religious organizations and clergy that support civil rights, oppose government-backed religious-viewpoint discrimination, and uphold the American traditions of religious freedom and church-state separation.
- Serving as *amicus* counsel in a Ninth Circuit appeal from a Board of Immigration Appeals deportation decision. In addition to obtaining a reversal of the BIA's deportation order, the Firm consulted with the Federal Defenders' Office on cases presenting similar fact patterns, which resulted in a precedent-setting *en banc* decision from the Ninth Circuit resolving a question of state and federal law that had been contested and conflicted for decades.

## E-Discovery

Robbins Geller has successfully litigated some of the largest and most complex shareholder and antitrust actions in history and has become the vanguard of a rapidly evolving world of e-discovery in complex litigation. The Firm has 200 attorneys supported by a large staff of forensic and e-discovery specialists and has a level of technological sophistication that is unmatched by any other firm. As the size and stakes of complex litigation continue to increase, it is more important than ever to retain counsel with a successful track record of results. Robbins Geller has consistently proven to be the right choice for anyone seeking representation in actions against the largest corporations in the world.

Led by 20-year litigation veteran Tor Gronborg, and advised by Lea Bays, e-discovery counsel, and Christine Milliron, Director of E-Discovery and Litigation Support, the Robbins Geller e-discovery practice group is a multi-disciplinary team of attorneys, forensic analysts, and database professionals. No plaintiffs' firm is better equipped to develop the type of comprehensive and case specific e-discovery strategy that is necessary for today's complex litigation. The attorneys have extensive knowledge and experience in drafting and negotiating sophisticated e-discovery protocols, including those involving the

use of predictive coding. High quality document review services are performed by a consistent group of staff attorneys who are experienced in the Firm's litigation practice areas and specialize in document review and analysis. A team of forensic and technology professionals work closely with the attorneys to ensure an effective and efficient e-discovery strategy. The litigation support team includes six Relativity Certified Administrators. Collectively, the Robbins Geller forensic and technology professionals have more than 75 years of e-discovery experience.

Members of the practice group are also leaders in shaping the broader dialogue on e-discovery issues. They regularly contribute to industry publications, speak at conferences organized by leading e-discovery think tanks such as The Sedona Conference and Georgetown University Law Center's Advanced eDiscovery Institute, and play prominent roles in the local chapters of Women in eDiscovery and the Relativity Users Steering Committee. The e-discovery practice group also offers regular in-house training and education, ensuring that members of the Firm are always up-to-date on the evolving world of e-discovery law and technology.

Robbins Geller has always been a leader in document-intensive litigation. Boasting high-performing infrastructure resources, state-of-the-art technology, and a deep bench of some of the most highly trained Relativity Certified Administrators and network engineers, the Firm's capabilities rival, if not outshine, those of the top e-discovery vendors in the industry. Additionally, the Firm's implementation of advanced analytic technologies and custom workflows makes its work fast, smart, and efficient. Combined with Robbins Geller's decision to manage and host its litigation support in-house, these technologies reduce the Firm's reliance on third-party vendors, enabling it to offer top-notch e-discovery services to clients at a fair and reasonable cost.

Security is a top priority at Robbins Geller. The Firm's hosted e-discovery is secured using bank-level 128 encryption and is protected behind state-of-the-art Cisco firewalls. All e-discovery data is hosted on Firm-owned equipment at an SSAE 16-compliant, SOC 1, 2, and 3 audited facility that features 9.1 megawatts of power, N+1 or better redundancy on all data center systems, and security protocols required by leading businesses in the most stringent verticals. Originally designed to support a large defense contractor, it is built to rigorous standards, complete with redundant power and cooling systems, plus multiple generators.

# PROMINENT CASES, PRECEDENT-SETTING DECISIONS AND JUDICIAL COMMENDATIONS

## Prominent Cases

Over the years, Robbins Geller attorneys have obtained outstanding results in some of the most notorious and well-known cases, frequently earning judicial commendations for the quality of their representation.

- *In re Enron Corp. Sec. Litig.*, No. H-01-3624 (S.D. Tex.). Investors lost billions of dollars as a result of the massive fraud at Enron. In appointing Robbins Geller lawyers as sole lead counsel to represent the interests of Enron investors, the court found that the Firm’s zealous prosecution and level of “insight” set it apart from its peers. Robbins Geller attorneys and lead plaintiff The Regents of the University of California aggressively pursued numerous defendants, including many of Wall Street’s biggest banks, and successfully obtained settlements in excess of **\$7.2 billion** for the benefit of investors. *This is the largest securities class action recovery in history.*

The court overseeing this action had utmost praise for Robbins Geller’s efforts and stated that “[t]he experience, ability, and reputation of the attorneys of [Robbins Geller] is not disputed; it is one of the most successful law firms in securities class actions, if not the preeminent one, in the country.” *In re Enron Corp. Sec., Derivative & “ERISA” Litig.*, 586 F. Supp. 2d 732, 797 (S.D. Tex. 2008).

The court further commented: “[I]n the face of extraordinary obstacles, the skills, expertise, commitment, and tenacity of [Robbins Geller] in this litigation cannot be overstated. Not to be overlooked are the unparalleled results, . . . which demonstrate counsel’s clearly superlative litigating and negotiating skills.” *Id.* at 789.

The court stated that the Firm’s attorneys “are to be commended for their zealousness, their diligence, their perseverance, their creativity, the enormous breadth and depth of their investigations and analysis, and their expertise in all areas of securities law on behalf of the proposed class.” *Id.*

In addition, the court noted, “This Court considers [Robbins Geller] ‘a lion’ at the securities bar on the national level,” noting that the Lead Plaintiff selected Robbins Geller because of the Firm’s “outstanding reputation, experience, and success in securities litigation nationwide.” *Id.* at 790.

The court further stated that “Lead Counsel’s fearsome reputation and successful track record undoubtedly were substantial factors in . . . obtaining these recoveries.” *Id.*

Finally, Judge Harmon stated: “As this Court has explained [this is] an extraordinary group of attorneys who achieved the largest settlement fund ever despite the great odds against them.” *Id.* at 828.

- *Jaffe v. Household Int’l, Inc.*, No. 02-C-05893 (N.D. Ill). As sole lead counsel, Robbins Geller obtained a record-breaking settlement of **\$1.575 billion** after 14 years of litigation, including a six-week jury trial in 2009 that resulted in a securities fraud verdict in favor of the class. In 2015, the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the jury’s verdict that defendants made false or misleading statements of material fact about the company’s business practices and financial results, but remanded the case for a new trial on the issue of whether the individual defendants “made” certain false statements, whether those false statements caused plaintiffs’ losses, and the amount of

damages. The parties reached an agreement to settle the case just hours before the retrial was scheduled to begin on June 6, 2016. ***The \$1.575 billion settlement, approved in October 2016, is the largest ever following a securities fraud class action trial, the largest securities fraud settlement in the Seventh Circuit and the seventh-largest settlement ever in a post-PSLRA securities fraud case.*** According to published reports, the case was just the seventh securities fraud case tried to a verdict since the passage of the PSLRA.

In approving the settlement, the Honorable Jorge L. Alonso noted the team's "skill and determination" while recognizing that "Lead Counsel prosecuted the case vigorously and skillfully over 14 years against nine of the country's most prominent law firms" and "achieved an exceptionally significant recovery for the class." The court added that the team faced "significant hurdles" and "uphill battles" throughout the case and recognized that "[c]lass counsel performed a very high-quality legal work in the context of a thorny case in which the state of the law has been and is in flux." The court succinctly concluded that the settlement was "a spectacular result for the class." *Jaffe v. Household Int'l, Inc.*, No. 02-C-5892, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 156921, at \*8 (N.D. Ill. Nov. 10, 2016); *Jaffe v. Household Int'l, Inc.*, No. 02-C-05893, Transcript at 56, 65 (N.D. Ill. Oct. 20, 2016).

- ***In re UnitedHealth Grp. Inc. PSLRA Litig.***, No. 06-CV-1691 (D. Minn.). In the *UnitedHealth* case, Robbins Geller represented the California Public Employees' Retirement System ("CalPERS") and demonstrated its willingness to vigorously advocate for its institutional clients, even under the most difficult circumstances. For example, in 2006, the issue of high-level executives backdating stock options made national headlines. During that time, many law firms, including Robbins Geller, brought shareholder derivative lawsuits against the companies' boards of directors for breaches of their fiduciary duties or for improperly granting backdated options. Rather than pursuing a shareholder derivative case, the Firm filed a securities fraud class action against the company on behalf of CalPERS. In doing so, Robbins Geller faced significant and unprecedented legal obstacles with respect to loss causation, *i.e.*, that defendants' actions were responsible for causing the stock losses. Despite these legal hurdles, Robbins Geller obtained an \$895 million recovery on behalf of the UnitedHealth shareholders. Shortly after reaching the \$895 million settlement with UnitedHealth, the remaining corporate defendants, including former CEO William A. McGuire, also settled. McGuire paid \$30 million and returned stock options representing more than three million shares to the shareholders. The total recovery for the class was over \$925 million, the largest stock option backdating recovery ever, and ***a recovery that is more than four times larger than the next largest options backdating recovery.*** Moreover, Robbins Geller obtained unprecedented corporate governance reforms, including election of a shareholder-nominated member to the company's board of directors, a mandatory holding period for shares acquired by executives via option exercise, and executive compensation reforms that tie pay to performance.
- ***Alaska Elec. Pension Fund v. CitiGroup, Inc. (In re WorldCom Sec. Litig.)***, No. 03 Civ. 8269 (S.D.N.Y.). Robbins Geller attorneys represented more than 50 private and public institutions that opted out of the class action case and sued WorldCom's bankers, officers and directors, and auditors in courts around the country for losses related to WorldCom bond offerings from 1998 to 2001. The Firm's clients included major public institutions from across the country such as CalPERS, CalSTRS, the state pension funds of Maine, Illinois, New Mexico and West Virginia, union pension funds, and private entities such as AIG and Northwestern Mutual. Robbins Geller attorneys recovered more than \$650 million for their clients, substantially more than they would have recovered as part of the class.
- ***Luther v. Countrywide Fin. Corp.***, No. 12-cv-05125 (C.D. Cal.). Robbins Geller attorneys secured a



\$500 million settlement for institutional and individual investors in what is the largest RMBS purchaser class action settlement in history, and one of the largest class action securities settlements of all time. The unprecedented settlement resolves claims against Countrywide and Wall Street banks that issued the securities. The action was the first securities class action case filed against originators and Wall Street banks as a result of the credit crisis. As co-lead counsel Robbins Geller forged through six years of hard-fought litigation, oftentimes litigating issues of first impression, in order to secure the landmark settlement for its clients and the class.

In approving the settlement, Judge Mariana R. Pfaelzer repeatedly complimented plaintiffs' attorneys, noting that it was "beyond serious dispute that Class Counsel has vigorously prosecuted the Settlement Actions on both the state and federal level over the last six years." Judge Pfaelzer also commented that "[w]ithout a settlement, these cases would continue indefinitely, resulting in significant risks to recovery and continued litigation costs. It is difficult to understate the risks to recovery if litigation had continued." *Me. State Ret. Sys. v. Countrywide Fin. Corp.*, No. 2:10-CV-00302, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 179190, at \*44, \*56 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 5, 2013).

Judge Pfaelzer further noted that the proposed \$500 million settlement represents one of the "largest MBS class action settlements to date. Indeed, this settlement easily surpasses the next largest . . . MBS settlement." *Id.* at \*59.

- ***In re Wachovia Preferred Sec. & Bond/Notes Litig.***, No. 09-cv-06351 (S.D.N.Y.). In litigation over bonds and preferred securities, issued by Wachovia between 2006 and 2008, Robbins Geller and co-counsel obtained a significant settlement with Wachovia successor Wells Fargo & Company (\$590 million) and Wachovia auditor KPMG LLP (\$37 million). ***The total settlement – \$627 million – is one of the largest credit-crisis settlements involving Securities Act claims and one of the 20 largest securities class action recoveries in history.*** The settlement is also one of the biggest securities class action recoveries arising from the credit crisis.

As alleged in the complaint, the offering materials for the bonds and preferred securities misstated and failed to disclose the true nature and quality of Wachovia's mortgage loan portfolio, which exposed the bank and misled investors to tens of billions of dollars in losses on mortgage-related assets. In reality, Wachovia employed high-risk underwriting standards and made loans to subprime borrowers, contrary to the offering materials and their statements of "pristine credit quality." Robbins Geller served as co-lead counsel representing the City of Livonia Employees' Retirement System, Hawaii Sheet Metal Workers Pension Fund, and the investor class.

- ***In re Cardinal Health, Inc. Sec. Litig.***, No. C2-04-575 (S.D. Ohio). As sole lead counsel representing Cardinal Health shareholders, Robbins Geller obtained a recovery of \$600 million for investors. On behalf of the lead plaintiffs, Amalgamated Bank, the New Mexico State Investment Council, and the California Ironworkers Field Trust Fund, the Firm aggressively pursued class claims and won notable courtroom victories, including a favorable decision on defendants' motion to dismiss. *In re Cardinal Health, Inc. Sec. Litigs.*, 426 F. Supp. 2d 688 (S.D. Ohio 2006). At the time, the \$600 million settlement was the tenth-largest settlement in the history of securities fraud litigation and is the largest-ever recovery in a securities fraud action in the Sixth Circuit. Judge Marbley commented:

The quality of representation in this case was superb. Lead Counsel, [Robbins Geller], are nationally recognized leaders in complex securities litigation class actions. The quality of the representation is demonstrated by the substantial benefit achieved for the Class and the efficient, effective prosecution and resolution of this action. Lead Counsel defeated a volley of motions to dismiss, thwarting well-formed challenges from prominent and capable attorneys from six different law

firms.

*In re Cardinal Health Inc. Sec. Litigs.*, 528 F. Supp. 2d 752, 768 (S.D. Ohio 2007).

- ***AOL Time Warner Cases I & II***, JCCP Nos. 4322 & 4325 (Cal. Super. Ct., Los Angeles Cty.). Robbins Geller represented The Regents of the University of California, six Ohio state pension funds, Rabo Bank (NL), the Scottish Widows Investment Partnership, several Australian public and private funds, insurance companies, and numerous additional institutional investors, both domestic and international, in state and federal court opt-out litigation stemming from Time Warner's disastrous 2001 merger with Internet high flier America Online. Robbins Geller attorneys exposed a massive and sophisticated accounting fraud involving America Online's e-commerce and advertising revenue. After almost four years of litigation involving extensive discovery, the Firm secured combined settlements for its opt-out clients totaling over \$629 million just weeks before The Regents' case pending in California state court was scheduled to go to trial. The Regents' gross recovery of \$246 million is the largest individual opt-out securities recovery in history.
- ***Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank v. Morgan Stanley & Co.***, No. 1:08-cv-07508-SAS-DCF (S.D.N.Y.), and ***King County, Washington v. IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG***, No. 1:09-cv-08387-SAS (S.D.N.Y.). The Firm represented multiple institutional investors in successfully pursuing recoveries from two failed structured investment vehicles, each of which had been rated "AAA" by Standard & Poors and Moody's, but which failed fantastically in 2007. The matter settled just prior to trial in 2013. This result was only made possible after Robbins Geller lawyers beat back the rating agencies' longtime argument that ratings were opinions protected by the First Amendment.
- ***In re HealthSouth Corp. Sec. Litig.***, No. CV-03-BE-1500-S (N.D. Ala.). As court-appointed co-lead counsel, Robbins Geller attorneys obtained a combined recovery of \$671 million from HealthSouth, its auditor Ernst & Young, and its investment banker, UBS, for the benefit of stockholder plaintiffs. The settlement against HealthSouth represents one of the larger settlements in securities class action history and is considered among the top 15 settlements achieved after passage of the PSLRA. Likewise, the settlement against Ernst & Young is one of the largest securities class action settlements entered into by an accounting firm since the passage of the PSLRA. HealthSouth and its financial advisors perpetrated one of the largest and most pervasive frauds in the history of U.S. healthcare, prompting Congressional and law enforcement inquiry and resulting in guilty pleas of 16 former HealthSouth executives in related federal criminal prosecutions. In March 2009, Judge Karon Bowdre commented in the *HealthSouth* class certification opinion: "The court has had many opportunities since November 2001 to examine the work of class counsel and the supervision by the Class Representatives. The court finds both to be far more than adequate." *In re HealthSouth Corp. Sec. Litig.*, 257 F.R.D. 260, 275 (N.D. Ala. 2009).
- ***In re Dynegy Inc. Sec. Litig.***, No. H-02-1571 (S.D. Tex.). As sole lead counsel representing The Regents of the University of California and the class of Dynegy investors, Robbins Geller attorneys obtained a combined settlement of \$474 million from Dynegy, Citigroup, Inc. and Arthur Andersen LLP for their involvement in a clandestine financing scheme known as Project Alpha. Given Dynegy's limited ability to pay, Robbins Geller attorneys structured a settlement (reached shortly before the commencement of trial) that maximized plaintiffs' recovery without bankrupting the company. Most notably, the settlement agreement provides that Dynegy will appoint two board members to be nominated by The Regents, which Robbins Geller and The Regents believe will benefit all of Dynegy's stockholders.

- ***Jones v. Pfizer Inc.***, No. 1:10-cv-03864 (S.D.N.Y.). Lead plaintiff Stichting Philips Pensioenfond obtained a \$400 million settlement on behalf of class members who purchased Pfizer Inc. common stock during the January 19, 2006 to January 23, 2009 class period. The settlement against Pfizer resolves accusations that it misled investors about an alleged off-label drug marketing scheme. As sole lead counsel, Robbins Geller attorneys helped achieve this exceptional result after five years of hard-fought litigation against the toughest and the brightest members of the securities defense bar by litigating this case all the way to trial.

In approving the settlement, United States District Judge Alvin K. Hellerstein commended the Firm, noting that “[w]ithout the quality and the toughness that you have exhibited, our society would not be as good as it is with all its problems. So from me to you is a vote of thanks for devoting yourself to this work and doing it well. . . . You did a really good job. Congratulations.”

- ***In re Qwest Commc’ns Int’l, Inc. Sec. Litig.***, No. 01-cv-1451 (D. Colo.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as lead counsel for a class of investors that purchased Qwest securities. In July 2001, the Firm filed the initial complaint in this action on behalf of its clients, long before any investigation into Qwest’s financial statements was initiated by the SEC or Department of Justice. After five years of litigation, lead plaintiffs entered into a settlement with Qwest and certain individual defendants that provided a \$400 million recovery for the class and created a mechanism that allowed the vast majority of class members to share in an additional \$250 million recovered by the SEC. In 2008, Robbins Geller attorneys recovered an additional \$45 million for the class in a settlement with defendants Joseph P. Nacchio and Robert S. Woodruff, the CEO and CFO, respectively, of Qwest during large portions of the class period.
- ***Fort Worth Emps.’ Ret. Fund v. J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.***, No. 1:09-cv-03701 (S.D.N.Y.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as lead counsel for a class of investors and obtained court approval of a \$388 million recovery in nine 2007 residential mortgage-backed securities offerings issued by J.P. Morgan. The settlement represents, on a percentage basis, the largest recovery ever achieved in an MBS purchaser class action. The result was achieved after more than five years of hard-fought litigation and an extensive investigation. In granting approval of the settlement, the court stated the following about Robbins Geller attorneys litigating the case: “[T]here is no question in my mind that this is a very good result for the class and that the plaintiffs’ counsel fought the case very hard with extensive discovery, a lot of depositions, several rounds of briefing of various legal issues going all the way through class certification.”
- ***NECA-IBEW Health & Welfare Fund v. Goldman Sachs & Co.***, No. 1:08-cv-10783 (S.D.N.Y.). As sole lead counsel, Robbins Geller obtained a \$272 million settlement on behalf of Goldman Sachs’ shareholders. The settlement concludes one of the last remaining mortgage-backed securities purchaser class actions arising out of the global financial crisis. The remarkable result was achieved following seven years of extensive litigation. After the claims were dismissed in 2010, Robbins Geller secured a landmark victory from the Second Circuit Court of Appeals that clarified the scope of permissible class actions asserting claims under the Securities Act of 1933 on behalf of MBS investors. Specifically, the Second Circuit’s decision rejected the concept of “tranche” standing and concluded that a lead plaintiff in an MBS class action has class standing to pursue claims on behalf of purchasers of other securities that were issued from the same registration statement and backed by pools of mortgages originated by the same lenders who had originated mortgages backing the lead plaintiff’s securities.

In approving the settlement, the Honorable Loretta A. Preska of the Southern District of New York complimented Robbins Geller attorneys, noting:

Counsel, thank you for your papers. They were, by the way, extraordinary papers in support of the settlement, and I will particularly note Professor Miller's declaration in which he details the procedural aspects of the case and then speaks of plaintiffs' counsel's success in the Second Circuit essentially changing the law.

I will also note what counsel have said, and that is that this case illustrates the proper functioning of the statute.

\* \* \*

Counsel, you can all be proud of what you've done for your clients. You've done an extraordinarily good job.

*NECA-IBEW Health & Welfare Fund v. Goldman Sachs & Co.*, No. 1:08-cv-10783, Transcript at 10-11 (S.D.N.Y. May 2, 2016).

- ***Schuh v. HCA Holdings, Inc.***, No. 3:11-cv-01033 (M.D. Tenn.). As sole lead counsel, Robbins Geller obtained a groundbreaking \$215 million settlement for former HCA Holdings, Inc. shareholders – the largest securities class action recovery ever in Tennessee. Reached shortly before trial was scheduled to commence, the settlement resolves claims that the Registration Statement and Prospectus HCA filed in connection with the company's massive \$4.3 billion 2011 IPO contained material misstatements and omissions. The recovery achieved approximately 70% of classwide damages, which as a percentage of damages significantly exceeds the median class action recovery of 2%-3% of damages. At the hearing on final approval of the settlement, the Honorable Kevin H. Sharp described Robbins Geller attorneys as "gladiators" and commented: "Looking at the benefit obtained, the effort that you had to put into it, [and] the complexity in this case . . . I appreciate the work that you all have done on this." *Schuh v. HCA Holdings, Inc.*, No. 3:11-CV-01033, Transcript at 12-13 (M.D. Tenn. Apr. 11, 2016).
- ***Silverman v. Motorola, Inc.***, No. 1:07-cv-04507 (N.D. Ill.). The Firm served as lead counsel on behalf of a class of investors in Motorola, Inc., ultimately recovering \$200 million for investors just two months before the case was set for trial. This outstanding result was obtained despite the lack of an SEC investigation or any financial restatement. In May 2012, the Honorable Amy J. St. Eve of the Northern District of Illinois commented: "The representation that [Robbins Geller] provided to the class was significant, both in terms of quality and quantity." *Silverman v. Motorola, Inc.*, No. 07 C 4507, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 63477, at \*11 (N.D. Ill. May 7, 2012), *aff'd*, 739 F.3d 956 (7th Cir. 2013).

In affirming the district court's award of attorneys' fees, the Seventh Circuit noted that "no other law firm was willing to serve as lead counsel. Lack of competition not only implies a higher fee but also suggests that most members of the securities bar saw this litigation as too risky for their practices." *Silverman v. Motorola Sols., Inc.*, 739 F.3d 956, 958 (7th Cir. 2013).

- ***In re AT&T Corp. Sec. Litig.***, MDL No. 1399 (D.N.J.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as lead counsel for a class of investors that purchased AT&T common stock. The case charged defendants AT&T and its former Chairman and CEO, C. Michael Armstrong, with violations of the federal securities laws in connection with AT&T's April 2000 initial public offering of its wireless tracking stock, one of the largest IPOs in American history. After two weeks of trial, and on the eve of scheduled testimony by Armstrong and infamous telecom analyst Jack Grubman, defendants agreed to settle the case for \$100 million. In granting approval of the settlement, the court stated the following about the Robbins Geller attorneys handling the case:

Lead Counsel are highly skilled attorneys with great experience in prosecuting complex securities action[s], and their professionalism and diligence displayed during [this] litigation substantiates this characterization. The Court notes that Lead Counsel displayed excellent lawyering skills through their consistent preparedness during court proceedings, arguments and the trial, and their well-written and thoroughly researched submissions to the Court. Undoubtedly, the attentive and persistent effort of Lead Counsel was integral in achieving the excellent result for the Class.

*In re AT&T Corp. Sec. Litig.*, MDL No. 1399, 2005 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 46144, at \*28-\*29 (D.N.J. Apr. 25, 2005), *aff'd*, 455 F.3d 160 (3d Cir. 2006).

- *In re Dollar Gen. Corp. Sec. Litig.*, No. 01-CV-00388 (M.D. Tenn.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as lead counsel in this case in which the Firm recovered \$172.5 million for investors. The *Dollar General* settlement was the largest shareholder class action recovery ever in Tennessee.
- *Carpenters Health & Welfare Fund v. Coca-Cola Co.*, No. 00-CV-2838 (N.D. Ga.). As co-lead counsel representing Coca-Cola shareholders, Robbins Geller attorneys obtained a recovery of \$137.5 million after nearly eight years of litigation. Robbins Geller attorneys traveled to three continents to uncover the evidence that ultimately resulted in the settlement of this hard-fought litigation. The case concerned Coca-Cola's shipping of excess concentrate at the end of financial reporting periods for the sole purpose of meeting analyst earnings expectations, as well as the company's failure to properly account for certain impaired foreign bottling assets.
- *Schwartz v. TXU Corp.*, No. 02-CV-2243 (N.D. Tex.). As co-lead counsel, Robbins Geller attorneys obtained a recovery of over \$149 million for a class of purchasers of TXU securities. The recovery compensated class members for damages they incurred as a result of their purchases of TXU securities at inflated prices. Defendants had inflated the price of these securities by concealing the fact that TXU's operating earnings were declining due to a deteriorating gas pipeline and the failure of the company's European operations.

- *In re Doral Fin. Corp. Sec. Litig.*, 05 MDL No. 1706 (S.D.N.Y.). In July 2007, the Honorable Richard Owen of the Southern District of New York approved the \$129 million settlement, finding in his order:

The services provided by Lead Counsel [Robbins Geller] were efficient and highly successful, resulting in an outstanding recovery for the Class without the substantial expense, risk and delay of continued litigation. Such efficiency and effectiveness supports the requested fee percentage.

Cases brought under the federal securities laws are notably difficult and notoriously uncertain. . . . Despite the novelty and difficulty of the issues raised, Lead Plaintiffs' counsel secured an excellent result for the Class.

. . . Based upon Lead Plaintiff's counsel's diligent efforts on behalf of the Class, as well as their skill and reputations, Lead Plaintiff's counsel were able to negotiate a very favorable result for the Class. . . . The ability of [Robbins Geller] to obtain such a favorable partial settlement for the Class in the face of such formidable opposition confirms the superior quality of their representation . . . .

*In re Doral Fin. Corp. Sec. Litig.*, No. 1:05-md-01706, Order at 4-5 (S.D.N.Y. July 17, 2007).

- *In re Exxon Valdez*, No. A89 095 Civ. (D. Alaska), and *In re Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Litig.*, No. 3 AN 89 2533 (Alaska Super. Ct., 3d Jud. Dist.). Robbins Geller attorneys served on the Plaintiffs' Coordinating Committee and Plaintiffs' Law Committee in this massive litigation resulting from the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska in March 1989. The jury awarded hundreds of millions in compensatory damages, as well as \$5 billion in punitive damages (the latter were later reduced by the U.S. Supreme Court to \$507 million).
- *Mangini v. R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.*, No. 939359 (Cal. Super. Ct., San Francisco Cty.). In this case, R.J. Reynolds admitted that "the *Mangini* action, and the way that it was vigorously litigated, was an early, significant and unique driver of the overall legal and social controversy regarding underage smoking that led to the decision to phase out the Joe Camel Campaign."
- *Does I v. The Gap, Inc.*, No. 01 0031 (D. N. Mar. I.). In this groundbreaking case, Robbins Geller attorneys represented a class of 30,000 garment workers who alleged that they had worked under sweatshop conditions in garment factories in Saipan that produced clothing for top U.S. retailers such as The Gap, Target and J.C. Penney. In the first action of its kind, Robbins Geller attorneys pursued claims against the factories and the retailers alleging violations of RICO, the Alien Tort Claims Act, and the Law of Nations based on the alleged systemic labor and human rights abuses occurring in Saipan. This case was a companion to two other actions: *Does I v. Advance Textile Corp.*, No. 99 0002 (D. N. Mar. I.), which alleged overtime violations by the garment factories under the Fair Labor Standards Act and local labor law, and *UNITE v. The Gap, Inc.*, No. 300474 (Cal. Super. Ct., San Francisco Cty.), which alleged violations of California's Unfair Practices Law by the U.S. retailers. These actions resulted in a settlement of approximately \$20 million that included a comprehensive monitoring program to address past violations by the factories and prevent future ones. The members of the litigation team were honored as Trial Lawyers of the Year by the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice in recognition of the team's efforts in bringing about the precedent-setting settlement of the actions.
- *Hall v. NCAA (Restricted Earnings Coach Antitrust Litigation)*, No. 94-2392 (D. Kan.). Robbins

Geller attorneys were lead counsel and lead trial counsel for one of three classes of coaches in these consolidated price-fixing actions against the National Collegiate Athletic Association. On May 4, 1998, the jury returned verdicts in favor of the three classes for more than \$70 million.

- ***In re Prison Realty Sec. Litig.***, No. 3:99-0452 (M.D. Tenn.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as lead counsel for the class, obtaining a \$105 million recovery.
- ***In re Honeywell Int'l, Inc. Sec. Litig.***, No. 00-cv-03605 (D.N.J.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as lead counsel for a class of investors that purchased Honeywell common stock. The case charged Honeywell and its top officers with violations of the federal securities laws, alleging the defendants made false public statements concerning Honeywell's merger with Allied Signal, Inc. and that defendants falsified Honeywell's financial statements. After extensive discovery, Robbins Geller attorneys obtained a \$100 million settlement for the class.
- ***Schwartz v. Visa Int'l***, No. 822404-4 (Cal. Super. Ct., Alameda Cty.). After years of litigation and a six-month trial, Robbins Geller attorneys won one of the largest consumer protection verdicts ever awarded in the United States. Robbins Geller attorneys represented California consumers in an action against Visa and MasterCard for intentionally imposing and concealing a fee from their cardholders. The court ordered Visa and MasterCard to return \$800 million in cardholder losses, which represented 100% of the amount illegally taken, plus 2% interest. In addition, the court ordered full disclosure of the hidden fee.
- ***Thompson v. Metro. Life Ins. Co.***, No. 00-cv-5071 (S.D.N.Y.). Robbins Geller attorneys served as lead counsel and obtained \$145 million for the class in a settlement involving racial discrimination claims in the sale of life insurance.
- ***In re Prudential Ins. Co. of Am. Sales Practices Litig.***, MDL No. 1061 (D.N.J.). In one of the first cases of its kind, Robbins Geller attorneys obtained a settlement of \$4 billion for deceptive sales practices in connection with the sale of life insurance involving the "vanishing premium" sales scheme.

## Precedent-Setting Decisions

Robbins Geller attorneys operate at the vanguard of complex class action of litigation. Our work often changes the legal landscape, resulting in an environment that is more-favorable for obtaining recoveries for our clients.

- ***Stoyas v. Toshiba Corp.***, 896 F.3d 933 (9th Cir. 2018), *cert. denied*, 588 U.S. \_\_ (2019). In July 2018, the Ninth Circuit ruled in plaintiffs' favor in the Toshiba Corporation securities class action. Following appellate briefing and oral argument by Robbins Geller attorneys, a three-judge Ninth Circuit panel reversed the district court's prior dismissal in a unanimous, 36-page opinion, holding that Toshiba ADRs are a "security" and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 could apply to those ADRs that were purchased in a domestic transaction. *Id.* at 939, 949. The court adopted the Second and Third Circuits' "irrevocable liability" test for determining whether the transactions were domestic and held that plaintiffs must be allowed to amend their complaint to allege that the purchase of Toshiba ADRs on the over-the-counter market was a domestic purchase and that the alleged fraud was in connection with the purchase.
- ***Cyan, Inc. v. Beaver County Employees Retirement Fund***, No. 15-1439 (U.S.). In March 2018, the

Supreme Court ruled in favor of investors represented by Robbins Geller, holding that state courts continue to have jurisdiction over class actions asserting violations of the Securities Act of 1933. The Court's ruling secures investors' ability to bring 1933 Act actions when companies fail to make full and fair disclosure of relevant information in offering documents. The Court confirmed that the Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act of 1998 was designed to preclude securities class actions asserting violations of state law – not to preclude securities actions asserting federal law violations brought in state courts.

- ***Mineworkers' Pension Scheme v. First Solar Inc.***, 881 F.3d 750 (9th Cir. 2018), *cert. denied*, 588 U.S. \_\_\_ (2019). In January 2018, the Ninth Circuit upheld the district court's denial of defendants' motion for summary judgment, agreeing with plaintiffs that the test for loss causation in the Ninth Circuit is a general "proximate cause test," and rejecting the more stringent revelation of the fraudulent practices standard advocated by the defendants. The opinion is a significant victory for investors, as it forecloses defendants' ability to immunize themselves from liability simply by refusing to publicly acknowledge their fraudulent conduct.
- ***In re Quality Systems, Inc. Sec. Litig.***, No. 15-55173 (9th Cir.). In July 2017, Robbins Geller's Appellate Practice Group scored a significant win in the Ninth Circuit in the *Quality Systems* securities class action. On appeal, a three-judge Ninth Circuit panel unanimously reversed the district court's prior dismissal of the action against Quality Systems and remanded the case to the district court for further proceedings. The decision addressed an issue of first impression concerning "mixed" future and present-tense misstatements. The appellate panel explained that "non-forward-looking portions of mixed statements are not eligible for the safe harbor provisions of the PSLRA . . . . Defendants made a number of mixed statements that included projections of growth in revenue and earnings based on the state of QSI's sales pipeline." The panel then held *both* the non-forward-looking and forward-looking statements false and misleading and made with scienter, deeming them actionable. Later, although defendants sought rehearing by the Ninth Circuit sitting *en banc*, the circuit court denied their petition.
- ***Local 703, I.B. of T. Grocery and Food Employees Welfare Fund v. Regions Financial Corp.***, No. CV-10-J-2847-S (N.D. Ala.). In the *Regions Financial Corp.* securities class action, Robbins Geller represented Local 703, I.B. of T. Grocery and Food Employees Welfare Fund and obtained a \$90 million settlement in September 2015 on behalf of purchasers of Regions Financial Corporation common stock during the class period. In August 2014, the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed the district court's decision to certify a class action based upon alleged misrepresentations about Regions Financial Corp.'s financial health before and during the recent economic recession, and in November 2014, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama denied defendants' third attempt to avoid plaintiffs' motion for class certification.
- ***Omnicare, Inc. v. Laborers District Council Construction Industry Pension Fund***, No. 13-435 (U.S.). In March 2015, the Supreme Court ruled in favor of investors represented by Robbins Geller that investors asserting a claim under §11 of the Securities Act of 1933 with respect to a misleading statement of opinion do not, as defendant Omnicare had contended, have to prove that the statement was subjectively disbelieved when made. Rather, the Court held that a statement of opinion may be actionable either because it was not believed, or because it lacked a reasonable basis in fact. This decision is significant in that it resolved a conflict among the federal circuit courts and expressly overruled the Second Circuit's widely followed, more stringent pleading standard for §11 claims involving statements of opinion. The Supreme Court remanded the case back to the district court for determination under the newly articulated standard. In August of 2016, upon remand, the district court applied the Supreme Court's new test and denied defendants' motion to dismiss in full.



- ***NECA-IBEW Health & Welfare Fund v. Goldman Sachs & Co.***, 693 F.3d 145 (2d Cir. 2012). In a securities fraud action involving mortgage-backed securities, the Second Circuit rejected the concept of “tranche” standing and found that a lead plaintiff has class standing to pursue claims on behalf of purchasers of securities that were backed by pools of mortgages originated by the same lenders who had originated mortgages backing the lead plaintiff’s securities. The court noted that, given those common lenders, the lead plaintiff’s claims as to its purchases implicated “the same set of concerns” that purchasers in several of the other offerings possessed. The court also rejected the notion that the lead plaintiff lacked standing to represent investors in different tranches.
- ***In re VeriFone Holdings, Inc. Sec. Litig.***, 704 F.3d 694 (9th Cir. 2012). The panel reversed in part and affirmed in part the dismissal of investors’ securities fraud class action alleging violations of §§10(b), 20(a), and 20A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and SEC Rule 10b-5 in connection with a restatement of financial results of the company in which the investors had purchased stock.

The panel held that the third amended complaint adequately pleaded the §10(b), §20A and Rule 10b-5 claims. Considering the allegations of scienter holistically, as the U.S. Supreme Court directed in *Matrixx Initiatives, Inc. v. Siracusano*, 563 U.S 27, 48-49 (2011), the panel concluded that the inference that the defendant company and its chief executive officer and former chief financial officer were deliberately reckless as to the truth of their financial reports and related public statements following a merger was at least as compelling as any opposing inference.

- ***Fox v. JAMDAT Mobile, Inc.***, 185 Cal. App. 4th 1068 (2010). Concluding that Delaware’s shareholder ratification doctrine did not bar the claims, the California Court of Appeal reversed dismissal of a shareholder class action alleging breach of fiduciary duty in a corporate merger.
- ***In re Constar Int’l Inc. Sec. Litig.***, 585 F.3d 774 (3d Cir. 2009). The Third Circuit flatly rejected defense contentions that where relief is sought under §11 of the Securities Act of 1933, which imposes liability when securities are issued pursuant to an incomplete or misleading registration statement, class certification should depend upon findings concerning market efficiency and loss causation.
- ***Matrixx Initiatives, Inc. v. Siracusano***, 563 U.S 27 (2011), *aff’g* 585 F.3d 1167 (9th Cir. 2009). In a securities fraud action involving the defendants’ failure to disclose a possible link between the company’s popular cold remedy and a life-altering side effect observed in some users, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously affirmed the Ninth Circuit’s (a) rejection of a bright-line “statistical significance” materiality standard, and (b) holding that plaintiffs had successfully pleaded a strong inference of the defendants’ scienter.
- ***Alaska Elec. Pension Fund v. Flowserve Corp.***, 572 F.3d 221 (5th Cir. 2009). Aided by former U.S. Supreme Court Justice O’Connor’s presence on the panel, the Fifth Circuit reversed a district court order denying class certification and also reversed an order granting summary judgment to defendants. The court held that the district court applied an incorrect fact-for-fact standard of loss causation, and that genuine issues of fact on loss causation precluded summary judgment.
- ***In re F5 Networks, Inc., Derivative Litig.***, 207 P.3d 433 (Wash. 2009). In a derivative action alleging unlawful stock option backdating, the Supreme Court of Washington ruled that shareholders need not make a pre-suit demand on the board of directors where this step would be futile, agreeing with plaintiffs that favorable Delaware case law should be followed as persuasive authority.

- **Lormand v. US Unwired, Inc.**, 565 F.3d 228 (5th Cir. 2009). In a rare win for investors in the Fifth Circuit, the court reversed an order of dismissal, holding that safe harbor warnings were not meaningful when the facts alleged established a strong inference that defendants knew their forecasts were false. The court also held that plaintiffs sufficiently alleged loss causation.
- **Institutional Inv'rs Grp. v. Avaya, Inc.**, 564 F.3d 242 (3d Cir. 2009). In a victory for investors in the Third Circuit, the court reversed an order of dismissal, holding that shareholders pled with particularity why the company's repeated denials of price discounts on products were false and misleading when the totality of facts alleged established a strong inference that defendants knew their denials were false.
- **Alaska Elec. Pension Fund v. Pharmacia Corp.**, 554 F.3d 342 (3d Cir. 2009). The Third Circuit held that claims filed for violation of §10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 were timely, adopting investors' argument that because scienter is a critical element of the claims, the time for filing them cannot begin to run until the defendants' fraudulent state of mind should be apparent.
- **Rael v. Page**, 222 P.3d 678 (N.M. Ct. App. 2009). In this shareholder class and derivative action, Robbins Geller attorneys obtained an appellate decision reversing the trial court's dismissal of the complaint alleging serious director misconduct in connection with the merger of SunCal Companies and Westland Development Co., Inc., a New Mexico company with large and historic landholdings and other assets in the Albuquerque area. The appellate court held that plaintiff's claims for breach of fiduciary duty were direct, not derivative, because they constituted an attack on the validity or fairness of the merger and the conduct of the directors. Although New Mexico law had not addressed this question directly, at the urging of the Firm's attorneys, the court relied on Delaware law for guidance, rejecting the "special injury" test for determining the direct versus derivative inquiry and instead applying more recent Delaware case law.
- **Lane v. Page**, No. 06-cv-1071 (D.N.M. 2012). In May 2012, while granting final approval of the settlement in the federal component of the Westland cases, Judge Browning in the District of New Mexico commented:

Class Counsel are highly skilled and specialized attorneys who use their substantial experience and expertise to prosecute complex securities class actions. In possibly one of the best known and most prominent recent securities cases, Robbins Geller served as sole lead counsel – *In re Enron Corp. Sec. Litig.*, No. H-01-3624 (S.D. Tex.). See Report at 3. The Court has previously noted that the class would "receive high caliber legal representation" from class counsel, and throughout the course of the litigation the Court has been impressed with the quality of representation on each side. *Lane v. Page*, 250 F.R.D. at 647.

*Lane v. Page*, 862 F. Supp. 2d 1182, 1253-54 (D.N.M. 2012).

In addition, Judge Browning stated, "Few plaintiffs' law firms could have devoted the kind of time, skill, and financial resources over a five-year period necessary to achieve the pre- and post-Merger benefits obtained for the class here.' . . . [Robbins Geller is] both skilled and experienced, and used those skills and experience for the benefit of the class [Robbins Geller is] both skilled and experienced, and used those skills and experience for the benefit of the class." *Id.* at 1254.

- ***Luther v. Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP***, 533 F.3d 1031 (9th Cir. 2008). In a case of first impression, the Ninth Circuit held that the Securities Act of 1933's specific non-removal features had not been trumped by the general removal provisions of the Class Action Fairness Act of 2005.
- ***In re Gilead Scis. Sec. Litig.***, 536 F.3d 1049 (9th Cir. 2008). The Ninth Circuit upheld defrauded investors' loss causation theory as plausible, ruling that a limited temporal gap between the time defendants' misrepresentation was publicly revealed and the subsequent decline in stock value was reasonable where the public had not immediately understood the impact of defendants' fraud.
- ***In re WorldCom Sec. Litig.***, 496 F.3d 245 (2d Cir. 2007). The Second Circuit held that the filing of a class action complaint tolls the limitations period for all members of the class, including those who choose to opt out of the class action and file their own individual actions without waiting to see whether the district court certifies a class – reversing the decision below and effectively overruling multiple district court rulings that *American Pipe* tolling did not apply under these circumstances.
- ***In re Merck & Co. Sec., Derivative & ERISA Litig.***, 493 F.3d 393 (3d Cir. 2007). In a shareholder derivative suit appeal, the Third Circuit held that the general rule that discovery may not be used to supplement demand-futility allegations does not apply where the defendants enter a voluntary stipulation to produce materials relevant to demand futility without providing for any limitation as to their use. In April 2007, the Honorable D. Brooks Smith praised Robbins Geller partner Joe Daley's efforts in this litigation:

Thank you very much Mr. Daley and a thank you to all counsel. As Judge Cowen mentioned, this was an exquisitely well-briefed case; it was also an extremely well-argued case, and we thank counsel for their respective jobs here in the matter, which we will take under advisement. Thank you.

*In re Merck & Co., Inc. Sec., Derivative & ERISA Litig.*, No. 06-2911, Transcript at 35:37-36:00 (3d Cir. Apr. 12, 2007).

- ***Alaska Elec. Pension Fund v. Brown***, 941 A.2d 1011 (Del. 2007). The Supreme Court of Delaware held that the Alaska Electrical Pension Fund, for purposes of the “corporate benefit” attorney-fee doctrine, was presumed to have caused a substantial increase in the tender offer price paid in a “going private” buyout transaction. The Court of Chancery originally ruled that Alaska's counsel, Robbins Geller, was not entitled to an award of attorney fees, but Delaware's high court, in its published opinion, reversed and remanded for further proceedings.
- ***Crandon Capital Partners v. Shelk***, 157 P.3d 176 (Or. 2007). Oregon's Supreme Court ruled that a shareholder plaintiff in a derivative action may still seek attorney fees even if the defendants took actions to moot the underlying claims. The Firm's attorneys convinced Oregon's highest court to take the case, and reverse, despite the contrary position articulated by both the trial court and the Oregon Court of Appeals.
- ***In re Qwest Commc'ns Int'l***, 450 F.3d 1179 (10th Cir. 2006). In a case of first impression, the Tenth Circuit held that a corporation's deliberate release of purportedly privileged materials to governmental agencies was not a “selective waiver” of the privileges such that the corporation could refuse to produce the same materials to non-governmental plaintiffs in private securities fraud litigation.

- *In re Guidant S'holders Derivative Litig.*, 841 N.E.2d 571 (Ind. 2006). Answering a certified question from a federal court, the Supreme Court of Indiana unanimously held that a pre-suit demand in a derivative action is excused if the demand would be a futile gesture. The court adopted a “demand futility” standard and rejected defendants’ call for a “universal demand” standard that might have immediately ended the case.
- *Denver Area Meat Cutters v. Clayton*, 209 S.W.3d 584 (Tenn. Ct. App. 2006). The Tennessee Court of Appeals rejected an objector’s challenge to a class action settlement arising out of Warren Buffet’s 2003 acquisition of Tennessee-based Clayton Homes. In their effort to secure relief for Clayton Homes stockholders, the Firm’s attorneys obtained a temporary injunction of the Buffet acquisition for six weeks in 2003 while the matter was litigated in the courts. The temporary halt to Buffet’s acquisition received national press attention.
- *DeJulius v. New Eng. Health Care Emps. Pension Fund*, 429 F.3d 935 (10th Cir. 2005). The Tenth Circuit held that the multi-faceted notice of a \$50 million settlement in a securities fraud class action had been the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and thus satisfied both constitutional due process and Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.
- *In re Daou Sys.*, 411 F.3d 1006 (9th Cir. 2005). The Ninth Circuit sustained investors’ allegations of accounting fraud and ruled that loss causation was adequately alleged by pleading that the value of the stock they purchased declined when the issuer’s true financial condition was revealed.
- *Barrie v. Intervoice-Brite, Inc.*, 397 F.3d 249 (5th Cir.), *reh’g denied and opinion modified*, 409 F.3d 653 (5th Cir. 2005). The Fifth Circuit upheld investors’ accounting-fraud claims, holding that fraud is pled as to both defendants when one knowingly utters a false statement and the other knowingly fails to correct it, even if the complaint does not specify who spoke and who listened.
- *City of Monroe Emps. Ret. Sys. v. Bridgestone Corp.*, 399 F.3d 651 (6th Cir. 2005). The Sixth Circuit held that a statement regarding objective data supposedly supporting a corporation’s belief that its tires were safe was actionable where jurors could have found a reasonable basis to believe the corporation was aware of undisclosed facts seriously undermining the statement’s accuracy.
- *Ill. Mun. Ret. Fund v. Citigroup, Inc.*, 391 F.3d 844 (7th Cir. 2004). The Seventh Circuit upheld a district court’s decision that the Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund was entitled to litigate its claims under the Securities Act of 1933 against WorldCom’s underwriters before a state court rather than before the federal forum sought by the defendants.
- *Nursing Home Pension Fund, Local 144 v. Oracle Corp.*, 380 F.3d 1226 (9th Cir. 2004). The Ninth Circuit ruled that defendants’ fraudulent intent could be inferred from allegations concerning their false representations, insider stock sales and improper accounting methods.
- *Southland Sec. Corp. v. INSpire Ins. Sols. Inc.*, 365 F.3d 353 (5th Cir. 2004). The Fifth Circuit sustained allegations that an issuer’s CEO made fraudulent statements in connection with a contract announcement.
- *Smith v. Am. Family Mut. Ins. Co.*, 289 S.W.3d 675 (Mo. Ct. App. 2009). Capping nearly a decade of hotly contested litigation, the Missouri Court of Appeals reversed the trial court’s judgment notwithstanding the verdict for auto insurer American Family and reinstated a unanimous jury verdict for the plaintiff class.

- ***Troyk v. Farmers Grp., Inc.***, 171 Cal. App. 4th 1305 (2009). The California Court of Appeal held that Farmers Insurance’s practice of levying a “service charge” on one-month auto insurance policies, without specifying the charge in the policy, violated California’s Insurance Code.
- ***Lebrilla v. Farmers Grp., Inc.***, 119 Cal. App. 4th 1070 (2004). Reversing the trial court, the California Court of Appeal ordered class certification of a suit against Farmers, one of the largest automobile insurers in California, and ruled that Farmers’ standard automobile policy requires it to provide parts that are as good as those made by vehicle’s manufacturer. The case involved Farmers’ practice of using inferior imitation parts when repairing insureds’ vehicles.
- ***In re Monumental Life Ins. Co.***, 365 F.3d 408, 416 (5th Cir. 2004). The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a district court’s denial of class certification in a case filed by African-Americans seeking to remedy racially discriminatory insurance practices. The Fifth Circuit held that a monetary relief claim is viable in a Rule 23(b)(2) class if it flows directly from liability to the class as a whole and is capable of classwide “computation by means of objective standards and not dependent in any significant way on the intangible, subjective differences of each class member’s circumstances.”
- ***Dent, et al. v. National Football League***, No. 15-15143 (9th Cir.). In September 2018, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued an important decision reversing the district court’s previous dismissal of the *Dent v. National Football League* litigation, concluding that the complaint brought by NFL Hall of Famer Richard Dent and others should not be dismissed on labor-law preemption grounds. The case was remanded to the district court for further proceedings.
- ***Kwikset Corp. v. Superior Court***, 51 Cal. 4th 310 (2011). In a leading decision interpreting the scope of Proposition 64’s new standing requirements under California’s Unfair Competition Law (UCL), the California Supreme Court held that consumers alleging that a manufacturer has misrepresented its product have “lost money or property” within the meaning of the initiative, and thus have standing to sue under the UCL, if they “can truthfully allege that they were deceived by a product’s label into spending money to purchase the product, and would not have purchased it otherwise.” *Id.* at 317. *Kwikset* involved allegations, proven at trial, that defendants violated California’s “Made in the U.S.A.” statute by representing on their labels that their products were “Made in U.S.A.” or “All-American Made” when, in fact, the products were substantially made with foreign parts and labor.
- ***Safeco Ins. Co. of Am. v. Superior Court***, 173 Cal. App. 4th 814 (2009). In a class action against auto insurer Safeco, the California Court of Appeal agreed that the plaintiff should have access to discovery to identify a new class representative after her standing to sue was challenged.
- ***Consumer Privacy Cases***, 175 Cal. App. 4th 545 (2009). The California Court of Appeal rejected objections to a nationwide class action settlement benefiting Bank of America customers.
- ***Koponen v. Pac. Gas & Elec. Co.***, 165 Cal. App. 4th 345 (2008). The Firm’s attorneys obtained a published decision reversing the trial court’s dismissal of the action, and holding that the plaintiff’s claims for damages arising from the utility’s unauthorized use of rights-of-way or easements obtained from the plaintiff and other landowners were not barred by a statute limiting the authority of California courts to review or correct decisions of the California Public Utilities Commission.

- ***Sanford v. MemberWorks, Inc.***, 483 F.3d 956 (9th Cir. 2007). In a telemarketing-fraud case, where the plaintiff consumer insisted she had never entered the contractual arrangement that defendants said bound her to arbitrate individual claims to the exclusion of pursuing class claims, the Ninth Circuit reversed an order compelling arbitration – allowing the plaintiff to litigate on behalf of a class.
- ***Ritt v. Billy Blanks Enters.***, 870 N.E.2d 212 (Ohio Ct. App. 2007). In the Ohio analog to the *West* case, the Ohio Court of Appeals approved certification of a class of Ohio residents seeking relief under Ohio’s consumer protection laws for the same telemarketing fraud.
- ***Haw. Med. Ass’n v. Haw. Med. Serv. Ass’n***, 148 P.3d 1179 (Haw. 2006). The Supreme Court of Hawaii ruled that claims of unfair competition were not subject to arbitration and that claims of tortious interference with prospective economic advantage were adequately alleged.
- ***Branick v. Downey Sav. & Loan Ass’n***, 39 Cal. 4th 235 (2006). Robbins Geller attorneys were part of a team of lawyers that briefed this case before the Supreme Court of California. The court issued a unanimous decision holding that new plaintiffs may be substituted, if necessary, to preserve actions pending when Proposition 64 was passed by California voters in 2004. Proposition 64 amended California’s Unfair Competition Law and was aggressively cited by defense lawyers in an effort to dismiss cases after the initiative was adopted.
- ***McKell v. Wash. Mut., Inc.***, 142 Cal. App. 4th 1457 (2006). The California Court of Appeal reversed the trial court, holding that plaintiff’s theories attacking a variety of allegedly inflated mortgage-related fees were actionable.
- ***West Corp. v. Superior Court***, 116 Cal. App. 4th 1167 (2004). The California Court of Appeal upheld the trial court’s finding that jurisdiction in California was appropriate over the out-of-state corporate defendant whose telemarketing was aimed at California residents. Exercise of jurisdiction was found to be in keeping with considerations of fair play and substantial justice.
- ***Kruse v. Wells Fargo Home Mortg., Inc.***, 383 F.3d 49 (2d Cir. 2004), and ***Santiago v. GMAC Mortg. Grp., Inc.***, 417 F.3d 384 (3d Cir. 2005). In two groundbreaking federal appellate decisions, the Second and Third Circuits each ruled that the Real Estate Settlement Practices Act prohibits marking up home loan-related fees and charges.

## Additional Judicial Commendations

Robbins Geller attorneys have been praised by countless judges all over the country for the quality of their representation in class-action lawsuits. In addition to the judicial commendations set forth in the Prominent Cases and Precedent-Setting Decisions sections, judges have acknowledged the successful results of the Firm and its attorneys with the following plaudits:

- In October 2019, the Honorable Claire C. Cecchi noted that Robbins Geller is “capable of adequately representing the class, both based on their prior experience in class action lawsuits and based on their capable advocacy on behalf of the class in this action.” The court further commended the Firm and co-counsel for “conduct[ing] the [l]itigation . . . with skill, perseverance, and diligent advocacy.” *Lincoln Adventures, LLC v. Those Certain Underwriters at Lloyd’s, London Members*, No. 2:08-cv-00235-CCC-JAD, Order at 4 (D.N.J. Oct. 3, 2019); *Lincoln Adventures, LLC v. Those Certain Underwriters at Lloyd’s, London Members of Syndicates*, No. 2:08-cv-00235-CCC-JAD, Order Awarding Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses/Charges and Service Awards at 3 (D.N.J. Oct. 3, 2019).

- In June 2019, the Honorable T.S. Ellis, III noted that Robbins Geller “achieved the [\$108 million] [s]ettlement with skill, perseverance, and diligent advocacy.” At the final approval hearing, the court further commended Robbins Geller by stating, “I think the case was fully and appropriately litigated [and] you all did a very good job. . . . [T]hank you for your service in the court. . . . [You’re] first-class lawyers . . . .” *Knurr v. Orbital ATK, Inc.*, No. 1:16-cv-01031, Order Awarding Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses at 3 (E.D. Va. June 7, 2019); *Knurr v. Orbital ATK, Inc.*, No. 1:16-cv-01031, Transcript at 28, 29 (E.D. Va. June 7, 2019).
- In June 2019, in granting final approval of the settlement, the Honorable John A. Houston stated: Robbins Geller’s “skill and quality of work was extraordinary . . . . I’ll note from the top that this has been an aggressively litigated action.” *In re Morning Song Bird Food Litig.*, No. 3:12-cv-01592-JAH-AGS, Transcript at 4, 9 (S.D. Cal. June 3, 2019).
- In May 2019, in granting final approval of the settlement, the Honorable Richard H. DuBois stated: Robbins Geller is “highly experienced and skilled” for obtaining a “fair, reasonable, and adequate” settlement in the “interest of the [c]lass [m]embers” after “extensive investigation.” *Chicago Laborers Pension Fund v. Alibaba Grp. Holding Limited*, No. CIV535692, Judgment and Order Granting Final Approval of Class Action Settlement at 3 (Cal. Super. Ct., San Mateo Cty. May 17, 2019).
- In April 2019, the Honorable Kathaleen St. J. McCormick noted: “[S]ince the inception of this litigation, plaintiffs and their counsel have vigorously prosecuted the claims brought on behalf of the class. . . . When Vice Chancellor Laster appointed lead counsel, he effectively said: Go get a good result. And counsel took that to heart and did it. . . . The proposed settlement was the product of intense litigation and complex mediation. . . . [Robbins Geller has] only built a considerable track record, never burned it, which gave them the credibility necessary to extract the benefits achieved.” *In re Calamos Asset Mgmt., Inc. Stockholder Litig.*, No. 2017-0058-JTL, Transcript at 87, 93, 95, 98 (Del. Ch. Apr. 25, 2019).
- In April 2019, the Honorable Susan O. Hickey noted that Robbins Geller “achieved an exceptional [s]ettlement with skill, perseverance, and diligent advocacy.” *City of Pontiac Gen. Emps.’ Ret. Sys. v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.*, No. 5:12-cv-5162, Order Awarding Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses at 3 (W.D. Ark. Apr. 8, 2019).
- In January 2019, the Honorable Margo K. Brodie noted that Robbins Geller “has arduously represented a variety of plaintiffs’ groups in this action[,] . . . [has] extensive antitrust class action litigation experience . . . [and] negotiated what [may be] the largest antitrust settlement in history.” *In re Payment Card Interchange Fee & Merch. Dis. Antitrust Litig.*, 330 F.R.D. 11, 34 (E.D.N.Y. 2019).
- On December 20, 2018, at the final approval hearing for the settlement, the court lauded Robbins Geller’s attorneys and their work: “I’ve been very impressed with the level of lawyering in the case . . . and with the level of briefing . . . and I wanted to express my appreciation for that and for the work that everyone has done here.” The court concluded, “your clients were all blessed to have you, [and] not just because of the outcome.” *Duncan v. Joy Global, Inc.*, No. 16-CV-1229, Transcript at 20-21 (E.D. Wis. Dec. 20, 2018).
- In October 2017, the Honorable William Alsup noted that Robbins Geller and lead plaintiff “vigorously prosecuted this action.” *In re LendingClub Sec. Litig.*, No. 3:16-cv-02627-WHA, Order at 13 (N.D. Cal. Oct. 20, 2017).

- On November 9, 2018, in granting final approval of the settlement, the Honorable Jesse M. Furman commented: “[Robbins Geller] did an extraordinary job here. . . . [I]t is fair to say [this was] probably the most complicated case I have had since I have been on the bench. . . . I cannot really imagine how complicated it would have been if I didn't have counsel who had done as admirable [a] job in briefing it and arguing as you have done. You have in my view done an extraordinary service to the class. . . . I think you have done an extraordinary job and deserve thanks and commendation for that.” *Alaska Electrical Pension Fund v. Bank of America Corp.*, No. 1:14-cv-07126-JMF-OTW, Transcript at 27-28 (S.D.N.Y. Nov. 9, 2018).
- On September 12, 2018, at the final approval hearing of the settlement, the Honorable William H. Orrick of the Northern District of California praised Robbins Geller’s “high-quality lawyering” in a case that “involved complicated discovery and complicated and novel legal issues,” resulting in an “excellent” settlement for the class. The “lawyering . . . was excellent” and the case was “very well litigated.” *In re Lidoderm Antitrust Litig.*, No. 14-MDL-02521-WHO, Transcript at 11, 14, 22 (N.D. Cal. Sept. 12, 2018).
- On March 31, 2017, in granting final approval of the settlement, the Honorable Gonzalo P. Curiel hailed the settlement as “extraordinary” and “all the more exceptional when viewed in light of the risk” of continued litigation. The court further commended Robbins Geller for prosecuting the case on a *pro bono* basis: “Class Counsel’s exceptional decision to provide nearly seven years of legal services to Class Members on a *pro bono* basis evidences not only a lack of collusion, but also that Class Counsel are in fact representing the best interests of Plaintiffs and the Class Members in this Settlement. Instead of seeking compensation for fees and costs that they would otherwise be entitled to, Class Counsel have acted to allow maximum recovery to Plaintiffs and Class Members. Indeed, that Eligible Class Members may receive recovery of 90% or greater is a testament to Class Counsel’s representation and dedication to act in their clients’ best interest.” In addition, at the final approval hearing, the court commented that “this is a case that has been litigated – if not fiercely, zealously throughout.” *Low v. Trump Univ., LLC*, 246 F. Supp. 3d 1295, 1302, 1312 (S.D. Cal. 2017), *aff’d*, 881 F.3d 1111 (9th Cir. 2018); *Low v. Trump University LLC and Donald J. Trump*, No. 10-cv-0940 GPC-WVG, and *Cohen v. Donald J. Trump*, No. 13-cv-2519-GPC-WVG, Transcript at 7 (S.D. Cal. Mar. 30, 2017).
- In January 2017, at the final approval hearing, the Honorable Kevin H. Sharp of the Middle District of Tennessee commended Robbins Geller attorneys, stating: “It was complicated, it was drawn out, and a lot of work clearly went into this [case] . . . . I think there is some benefit to the shareholders that are above and beyond money, a benefit to the company above and beyond money that changed hands.” *In re Community Health Sys., Inc. S’holder Derivative Litig.*, No. 3:11-cv-00489, Transcript at 10 (M.D. Tenn. Jan. 17, 2017).
- In November 2016, at the final approval hearing, the Honorable James G. Carr stated: “I kept throwing the case out, and you kept coming back. . . . And it’s both remarkable and noteworthy and a credit to you and your firm that you did so. . . . [Y]ou persuaded the Sixth Circuit. As we know, that’s no mean feat at all.” Judge Carr further complimented the Firm, noting that it “goes without question or even saying” that Robbins Geller is very well-known nationally and that the settlement is an excellent result for the class. He succinctly concluded that “given the tenacity and the time and the effort that [Robbins Geller] lawyers put into [the case]” makes the class “a lot better off.” *Plumbers & Pipefitters Nat’l Pension Fund v. Burns*, No. 3:05-cv-07393-JGC, Transcript at 4, 10, 14, 17 (N.D. Ohio Nov. 18, 2016).
- In September 2016, in granting final approval of the settlement, Judge Arleo commended the



“vigorous and skilled efforts” of Robbins Geller attorneys for obtaining “an excellent recovery.” Judge Arleo added that the settlement was reached after “contentious, hard-fought litigation” that ended with “a very, very good result for the class” in a “risky case.” *City of Sterling Heights Gen. Emps.’ Ret. Sys. v. Prudential Fin., Inc.*, No. 2:12-cv-05275-MCA-LDW, Transcript of Hearing at 18-20 (D.N.J. Sept. 28, 2016).

- In August 2015, at the final approval hearing for the settlement, the Honorable Karen M. Humphreys praised Robbins Geller’s “extraordinary efforts” and “excellent lawyering,” noting that the settlement “really does signal that the best is yet to come for your clients and for your prodigious labor as professionals. . . . I wish more citizens in our country could have an appreciation of what this [settlement] truly represents.” *Bennett v. Sprint Nextel Corp.*, No. 2:09-cv-02122-EFM-KMH, Transcript at 8, 25 (D. Kan. Aug. 12, 2015).
- In August 2015, the Honorable Judge Max O. Cogburn, Jr. noted that “plaintiffs’ attorneys were able [to] achieve the big success early” in the case and obtained an “excellent result.” The “extraordinary” settlement was because of “good lawyers . . . doing their good work.” *Nieman v. Duke Energy Corp.*, No. 3:12-cv-456, Transcript at 21, 23, 30 (W.D.N.C. Aug. 12, 2015).
- In July 2015, in approving the settlement, the Honorable Douglas L. Rayes of the District of Arizona stated: “Settlement of the case during pendency of appeal for more than an insignificant amount is rare. The settlement here is substantial and provides favorable recovery for the settlement class under these circumstances.” He continued, noting, “[a]s against the objective measures of . . . settlements [in] other similar cases, [the recovery] is on the high end.” *Teamsters Local 617 Pension & Welfare Funds v. Apollo Grp., Inc.*, No. 2:06-cv-02674-DLR, Transcript at 8, 11 (D. Ariz. July 28, 2015).
- In June 2015, at the conclusion of the hearing for final approval of the settlement, the Honorable Susan Richard Nelson of the District of Minnesota noted that it was “a pleasure to be able to preside over a case like this,” praising Robbins Geller in achieving “an outstanding [result] for [its] clients,” as she was “very impressed with the work done on th[e] case.” *In re St. Jude Med., Inc. Sec. Litig.*, No. 0:10-cv-00851-SRN-TNL, Transcript at 7 (D. Minn. June 12, 2015).
- In May 2015, at the fairness hearing on the settlement, the Honorable William G. Young noted that the case was “very well litigated” by Robbins Geller attorneys, adding that “I don’t just say that as a matter of form. . . . I thank you for the vigorous litigation that I’ve been permitted to be a part of.” *Courtney v. Avid Tech., Inc.*, No. 1:13-cv-10686-WGY, Transcript at 8-9 (D. Mass. May 12, 2015).
- In January 2015, the Honorable William J. Haynes, Jr. of the Middle District of Tennessee described the settlement as a “highly favorable result achieved for the Class” through Robbins Geller’s “diligent prosecution . . . [and] quality of legal services.” The settlement represents the third largest securities recovery ever in the Middle District of Tennessee and the largest in more than a decade. *Garden City Emps.’ Ret. Sys. v. Psychiatric Sols., Inc.*, No. 3:09-cv-00882, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 181943, at \*6-\*7 (M.D. Tenn. Jan. 16, 2015).
- In September 2014, in approving the settlement for shareholders, Vice Chancellor John W. Noble noted “[t]he litigation caused a substantial benefit for the class. It is unusual to see a \$29 million recovery.” Vice Chancellor Noble characterized the litigation as “novel” and “not easy,” but “[t]he lawyers took a case and made something of it.” The Court commended Robbins Geller’s efforts in obtaining this result: “The standing and ability of counsel cannot be questioned” and “the benefits achieved by plaintiffs’ counsel in this case cannot be ignored.” *In re Gardner Denver, Inc. S’holder Litig.*, No. 8505-VCN, Transcript at 26-28 (Del. Ch. Sept. 3, 2014).

- In May 2014, at the conclusion of the hearing for final approval of the settlement, the Honorable Elihu M. Berle stated: “I would finally like to congratulate counsel on their efforts to resolve this case, on excellent work – it was the best interest of the class – and to the exhibition of professionalism. So I do thank you for all your efforts.” *Liberty Mutual Overtime Cases*, No. JCCP 4234, Transcript at 20:1-5 (Cal. Super. Ct., Los Angeles Cty. May 29, 2014).
- In March 2014, Ninth Circuit Judge J. Clifford Wallace (presiding) expressed the gratitude of the court: “Thank you. I want to especially thank counsel for this argument. This is a very complicated case and I think we were assisted no matter how we come out by competent counsel coming well prepared. . . . It was a model of the type of an exercise that we appreciate. Thank you very much for your work . . . you were of service to the court.” *Eclectic Properties East, LLC v. The Marcus & Millichap Co.*, No. 12-16526, Transcript (9th Cir. Mar. 14, 2014).
- In February 2014, in approving a settlement, Judge Edward M. Chen noted the “very substantial risks” in the case and recognized Robbins Geller had performed “extensive work on the case.” *In re VeriFone Holdings, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, No. C-07-6140, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 20044, at \*5, \*11-\*12 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 18, 2014).
- In August 2013, in granting final approval of the settlement, the Honorable Richard J. Sullivan stated: “Lead Counsel is to be commended for this result: it expended considerable effort and resources over the course of the action researching, investigating, and prosecuting the claims, at significant risk to itself, and in a skillful and efficient manner, to achieve an outstanding recovery for class members. Indeed, the result – and the class’s embrace of it – is a testament to the experience and tenacity Lead Counsel brought to bear.” *City of Livonia Emps. Ret. Sys. v. Wyeth*, No. 07 Civ. 10329, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 113658, at \*13 (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 7, 2013).
- In July 2013, in granting final approval of the settlement, the Honorable William H. Alsup stated that Robbins Geller did “excellent work in this case,” and continued, “I look forward to seeing you on the next case.” *Fraser v. Asus Comput. Int’l*, No. C 12-0652, Transcript at 12:2-3 (N.D. Cal. July 11, 2013).
- In June 2013, in certifying the class, U.S. District Judge James G. Carr recognized Robbins Geller’s steadfast commitment to the class, noting that “plaintiffs, with the help of Robbins Geller, have twice successfully appealed this court’s orders granting defendants’ motion to dismiss.” *Plumbers & Pipefitters Nat’l Pension Fund v. Burns*, 292 F.R.D. 515, 524 (N.D. Ohio 2013).
- In November 2012, in granting appointment of lead plaintiff, Chief Judge James F. Holderman commended Robbins Geller for its “substantial experience in securities class action litigation” and commented that the Firm “is recognized as ‘one of the most successful law firms in securities class actions, if not the preeminent one, in the country.’” *In re Enron Corp. Sec.*, 586 F. Supp. 2d 732, 797 (S.D. Tex. 2008) (Harmon, J.).” He continued further that, “‘Robbins Geller attorneys are responsible for obtaining the largest securities fraud class action recovery ever [\$7.2 billion in *Enron*], as well as the largest recoveries in the Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, Tenth and Eleventh Circuits.’” *Bristol Cty. Ret. Sys. v. Allscripts Healthcare Sols., Inc.*, No. 12 C 3297, 2012 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 161441 at \*21 (N.D. Ill. Nov. 9, 2012).
- In June 2012, in granting plaintiffs’ motion for class certification, the Honorable Inge Prytz Johnson noted that other courts have referred to Robbins Geller as “‘one of the most successful law firms in securities class actions . . . in the country.’” *Local 703, I.B. v. Regions Fin. Corp.*, 282 F.R.D. 607, 616 (N.D. Ala. 2012) (quoting *In re Enron Corp. Sec. Litig.*, 586 F. Supp. 2d 732, 797 (S.D. Tex. 2008)), *aff’d in part and vacated in part on other grounds*, 762 F.3d 1248 (11th Cir. 2014).

- In June 2012, in granting final approval of the settlement, the Honorable Barbara S. Jones commented that “class counsel’s representation, from the work that I saw, appeared to me to be of the highest quality.” *In re CIT Grp. Inc. Sec. Litig.*, No. 08 Civ. 6613, Transcript at 9:16-18 (S.D.N.Y. June 13, 2012).
- In March 2012, in granting certification for the class, Judge Robert W. Sweet referenced the *Enron* case, agreeing that Robbins Geller’s “clearly superlative litigating and negotiating skills” give the Firm an “outstanding reputation, experience, and success in securities litigation nationwide,” thus, “[t]he experience, ability, and reputation of the attorneys of [Robbins Geller] is not disputed; it is one of the most successful law firms in securities class actions, if not the preeminent one, in the country.” *Billhofer v. Flamel Techs., S.A.*, 281 F.R.D. 150, 158 (S.D.N.Y. 2012).
- In March 2011, in denying defendants’ motion to dismiss, Judge Richard Sullivan commented: “Let me thank you all. . . . [The motion] was well argued . . . and . . . well briefed . . . . I certainly appreciate having good lawyers who put the time in to be prepared . . . .” *Anegada Master Fund Ltd. v. PxRE Grp. Ltd.*, No. 08-cv-10584, Transcript at 83 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 16, 2011).
- In January 2011, the court praised Robbins Geller attorneys: “They have gotten very good results for stockholders. . . . [Robbins Geller has] such a good track record.” *In re Compellent Technologies, Inc. S’holder Litig.*, No. 6084-VCL, Transcript at 20-21 (Del. Ch. Jan. 13, 2011).
- In August 2010, in reviewing the settlement papers submitted by the Firm, Judge Carlos Murguia stated that Robbins Geller performed “a commendable job of addressing the relevant issues with great detail and in a comprehensive manner . . . . The court respects the [Firm’s] experience in the field of derivative [litigation].” *Alaska Elec. Pension Fund v. Olofson*, No. 08-cv-02344-CM-JPO (D. Kan.) (Aug. 20, 2010 e-mail from court re: settlement papers).
- In June 2009, Judge Ira Warshawsky praised the Firm’s efforts in *In re Aeroflex, Inc. S’holder Litig.*: “There is no doubt that the law firms involved in this matter represented in my opinion the cream of the crop of class action business law and mergers and acquisition litigators, and from a judicial point of view it was a pleasure working with them.” *In re Aeroflex, Inc. S’holder Litig.*, No. 003943/07, Transcript at 25:14-18 (N.Y. Sup. Ct., Nassau Cty. June 30, 2009).
- In March 2009, in granting class certification, the Honorable Robert Sweet of the Southern District of New York commented in *In re NYSE Specialists Sec. Litig.*, 260 F.R.D. 55, 74 (S.D.N.Y. 2009): “As to the second prong, the Specialist Firms have not challenged, in this motion, the qualifications, experience, or ability of counsel for Lead Plaintiff, [Robbins Geller], to conduct this litigation. Given [Robbins Geller’s] substantial experience in securities class action litigation and the extensive discovery already conducted in this case, this element of adequacy has also been satisfied.”
- In June 2008, the court commented, “Plaintiffs’ lead counsel in this litigation, [Robbins Geller], has demonstrated its considerable expertise in shareholder litigation, diligently advocating the rights of Home Depot shareholders in this Litigation. [Robbins Geller] has acted with substantial skill and professionalism in representing the plaintiffs and the interests of Home Depot and its shareholders in prosecuting this case.” *City of Pontiac General Employees’ Ret. Sys. v. Langone*, No. 2006-122302, Findings of Fact in Support of Order and Final Judgment at 2 (Ga. Super. Ct., Fulton Cty. June 10, 2008).
- In a December 2006 hearing on the \$50 million consumer privacy class action settlement in *Kehoe v. Fidelity Fed. Bank & Tr.*, No. 03-80593-CIV (S.D. Fla.), United States District Court Judge Daniel

T.K. Hurley said the following:

First, I thank counsel. As I said repeatedly on both sides, we have been very, very fortunate. We have had fine lawyers on both sides. The issues in the case are significant issues. We are talking about issues dealing with consumer protection and privacy. Something that is increasingly important today in our society. . . . I want you to know I thought long and hard about this. I am absolutely satisfied that the settlement is a fair and reasonable settlement. . . . I thank the lawyers on both sides for the extraordinary effort that has been brought to bear here . . . .

*Kehoe v. Fidelity Fed. Bank & Tr.*, No. 03-80593-CIV, Transcript at 26, 28-29 (S.D. Fla. Dec. 7, 2006).

- In *Stanley v. Safeskin Corp.*, No. 99 CV 454 (S.D. Cal.), where Robbins Geller attorneys obtained \$55 million for the class of investors, Judge Moskowitz stated:

I said this once before, and I'll say it again. I thought the way that your firm handled this case was outstanding. This was not an easy case. It was a complicated case, and every step of the way, I thought they did a very professional job.

*Stanley v. Safeskin Corp.*, No. 99 CV 454, Transcript at 13 (S.D. Cal. May 25, 2004).

## ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHIES

### Mario Alba Jr. | Partner

Mario Alba is a partner in the Firm's Melville office. He is a member of the Firm's Institutional Outreach Team, which provides advice to the Firm's institutional clients, including numerous public pension systems and Taft-Hartley funds throughout the United States, and consults with them on issues relating to corporate fraud in the U.S. securities markets, as well as corporate governance issues and shareholder litigation. Some of Alba's institutional clients are currently involved in securities cases involving: BRF S.A.; Ryanair Holdings PLC; HCP, Inc.; Iconix Brand Group; Advisory Board Company; Endo International PLC; Impax Laboratories, Inc.; Super Micro Computer, Inc.; Skechers USA, Inc.; and Hertz Global Holdings, Inc. Alba's institutional clients are also involved in certain antitrust actions, namely: *In re National Prescription Opiate Litigation*, *In re Epipen (Epinephrine Injection, USP) Marketing, Sales Practices and Antitrust Litigation*, and *Forth v. Walgreen Co.* Alba has served as lead counsel in numerous cases and is responsible for initiating, investigating, researching, and filing securities and consumer fraud class actions. He has recovered millions of dollars in numerous actions, including cases against BHP Billiton Limited (\$50 million), NBTY, Inc. (\$16 million), OSI Pharmaceuticals (\$9 million), and PXRe Group, Ltd. (\$5.9 million). Alba has lectured at numerous institutional investor conferences throughout the United States on various shareholder issues, including at the Illinois Public Pension Fund Association, the New York State Teamsters Conference, the American Alliance Conference, and the TEXPERS/IPPPA Joint Conference at the New York Stock Exchange, among others.

### Education

B.S., St. John's University, 1999; J.D., Hofstra University School of Law, 2002

### Honors / Awards

Rising Star, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2012-2013, 2016-2017; B.S., Dean's List, St. John's University, 1999; Selected as participant in Hofstra Moot Court Seminar, Hofstra University School of Law

## Susan K. Alexander | Partner

Susan Alexander is a partner in the Firm's San Francisco office. Alexander's practice specializes in federal appeals of securities fraud class actions on behalf of investors. With nearly 30 years of federal appellate experience, she has argued on behalf of defrauded investors in circuit courts throughout the United States. Among her most notable cases are *In re VeriFone Holdings, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$95 million recovery) and the successful appellate ruling in *Alaska Elec. Pension Fund v. Flowserve Corp.* (\$55 million recovery). Other representative results include: *Stoyas v. Toshiba Corp.*, 896 F.3d 933 (9th Cir. 2018) (reversing dismissal of securities fraud action and holding that the Exchange Act applies to unsponsored American Depositary Shares), *cert. denied*, 588 U.S. \_\_ (2019); *Mineworkers' Pension Scheme v. First Solar Inc.*, 881 F.3d 750 (9th Cir. 2018) (affirming denial of summary judgment and holding that loss causation is proximate causation, rejecting more restrictive tests), *cert. denied*, 588 U.S. \_\_ (2019); *W. Va. Pipe Trades Health & Welfare Fund v. Medtronic, Inc.*, 845 F.3d 384 (8th Cir. 2016) (reversing summary judgment of securities fraud action on statute of limitations grounds); *In re Ubiquiti Networks, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 2016 U.S. App. LEXIS 19141 (9th Cir. 2016) (reversing dismissal of §11 claim); *Carpenters Pension Trust Fund of St. Louis v. Barclays PLC*, 750 F.3d 227 (2d Cir. 2014) (reversing dismissal of securities fraud complaint, focused on loss causation); *Panther Partners Inc. v. Ikanos Commc'ns, Inc.*, 681 F.3d 114 (2d Cir. 2012) (reversing dismissal of §11 claim); *City of Pontiac Gen. Emps. Ret. Sys. v. MBIA, Inc.*, 637 F.3d 169 (2d Cir. 2011) (reversing dismissal of securities fraud complaint, focused on statute of limitations); *In re Gilead Scis. Sec. Litig.*, 536 F.3d 1049 (9th Cir. 2008) (reversing dismissal of securities fraud complaint, focused on loss causation); *Barrie v. Intervoice-Brite, Inc.*, 397 F.3d 249 (5th Cir.) (reversing dismissal of securities fraud complaint, focused on scienter), *reh'g denied and op. modified*, 409 F.3d 653 (5th Cir. 2005); and *Pirraglia v. Novell, Inc.*, 339 F.3d 1182 (10th Cir. 2003) (reversing dismissal of securities fraud complaint, focused on scienter). Alexander's prior appellate work was with the California Appellate Project ("CAP"), where she prepared appeals and petitions for writs of *habeas corpus* on behalf of individuals sentenced to death. At CAP, and subsequently in private practice, she litigated and consulted on death penalty direct and collateral appeals for ten years.

## Education

B.A., Stanford University, 1983; J.D., University of California, Los Angeles, 1986

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2015-2019; American Academy of Appellate Lawyers; California Academy of Appellate Lawyers; Ninth Circuit Advisory Rules Committee; Appellate Delegate, Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference; ABA Council of Appellate Lawyers

## Jason H. Alperstein | Partner

Jason Alperstein is a partner in the Firm's Boca Raton office. His practice focuses on consumer fraud, securities fraud, mass torts, and data breach litigation. Alperstein was an integral member of the *In re Volkswagen "Clean Diesel" Marketing, Sales Practices, & Prods. Liab. Litig.*, No. 15-md-2672 (N.D. Cal.), litigation team, prosecuting claims on behalf of almost 600,000 consumers who were duped into purchasing and leasing Volkswagen, Audi and Porsche vehicles that were marketed as environmentally friendly, yet spewed toxic pollutants up to 40 times the legal limit permitted by the EPA. Working closely with Plaintiffs' Steering Committee ("PSC") member Paul J. Geller, Alperstein was involved in almost all aspects of the litigation. The PSC and government agencies ultimately reached a series of settlements on behalf of purchasers, lessees, and dealers that totaled well over \$17 billion, the largest consumer automotive settlement in history. Alperstein is actively involved in a number of other class actions and MDLs pending throughout the country, including: *In re Yahoo! Inc. Customer Data Security Breach Litig.*, No. 16-md-02752 (N.D. Cal.), regarding the largest data breach in history; *In re FieldTurf Artificial Turf Mktg. & Sales Practices Litig.*, No. 17-md-02779 (D.N.J.), concerning the sale of defective synthetic turf for use in athletic fields; *In re Chrysler-Dodge-Jeep Ecodiesel Mktg., Sales Practices & Prods. Liab. Litig.*, No. 17-md-02777 (N.D. Cal.), pertaining to Fiat Chrysler's use of defeat devices to hide emission levels on its Jeep and Dodge "EcoDiesel" vehicles; *Benkle v. Ford Motor Co.*, No. 16-cv-01569 (C.D. Cal.), involving defective electronic throttle body units in Ford vehicles; and *Zimmerman v. The 3M Company*, No. 17-cv-01062 (W.D. Mich.), relating to the dumping of toxic waste and polluting of groundwater in Kent County, Michigan.

Before joining Robbins Geller, Alperstein served on lead and co-lead litigation teams in nationwide and statewide class action lawsuits against dozens of the largest banking institutions in connection with the unlawful assessment of checking account overdraft fees. His efforts resulted in over \$250 million in settlements for his clients and significant changes in the way banks charge overdraft fees to their customers. In addition, he led consumer class actions against product manufacturers for false and deceptive labeling, and some of the world's largest clothing retailers for their use of false and deceptive comparative pricing in their outlet stores.

## Education

B.A., Brown University, 2004; M.B.A., University of Miami School of Business, 2008, J.D., University of Miami School of Law, 2008

## Honors / Awards

Rising Star, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2014-2019; 40 & Under Hot List, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2017-2019; Rising Star, Consumer Protection, *Law360*, 2017; J.D., *Cum Laude*, University of Miami School of Law, 2008; B.A., with Honors, Brown University, 2004

## Matthew I. Alpert | Partner

Matthew Alpert is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office and focuses on the prosecution of securities fraud litigation. He has helped recover over \$800 million for individual and institutional investors financially harmed by corporate fraud. Alpert's current cases include securities fraud cases against Valeant (D.N.J.), Santander Consumer USA (N.D. Tex.), Banc of California (C.D. Cal.), XPO Logistics (D. Conn.), and Inogen (C.D. Cal.). Alpert is part of the litigation team that successfully obtained class certification in a securities fraud class action against Regions Financial, a class certification decision which was substantively affirmed by the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit in *Local 703, I.B. of T. Grocery & Food Emps. Welfare Fund v. Regions Fin. Corp.*, 762 F.3d 1248 (11th Cir. 2014). Upon remand, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama granted class certification again, rejecting defendants' post-*Halliburton II* arguments concerning stock price impact.

## Education

B.A., University of Wisconsin at Madison, 2001; J.D., Washington University, St. Louis, 2005

## Honors / Awards

Rising Star, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2015-2019

## Darryl J. Alvarado | Partner

Darryl Alvarado is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. Alvarado focuses his practice on securities fraud and other complex civil litigation. Alvarado helped secure \$388 million for investors in J.P. Morgan RMBS in *Fort Worth Emps.' Ret. Fund v. J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.* That settlement is, on a percentage basis, the largest recovery ever achieved in an RMBS class action. He was also a member of a team of attorneys that secured \$95 million for investors in Morgan Stanley-issued RMBS in *In re Morgan Stanley Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Litig.* In addition, Alvarado was a member of a team of lawyers that obtained landmark settlements, on the eve of trial, from the major credit rating agencies and Morgan Stanley arising out of the fraudulent ratings of bonds issued by the Cheyne and Rhinebridge structured investment vehicles in *Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank v. Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated* and *King County, Washington v. IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG.* He was integral in obtaining several precedent-setting decisions in those cases, including defeating the rating agencies' historic First Amendment defense and defeating the ratings agencies' motions for summary judgment concerning the actionability of credit ratings.

## Education

B.A., University of California, Santa Barbara, 2004; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2007

## Honors / Awards

Rising Star, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2015-2019; 40 & Under Hot List, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2018-2019; "Outstanding Young Attorneys," *San Diego Daily Transcript*, 2011



## X. Jay Alvarez | Partner

Jay Alvarez is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. He focuses his practice on securities fraud litigation and other complex litigation. Alvarez's notable cases include *In re Qwest Commc'ns Int'l, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$400 million recovery), *In re Coca-Cola Sec. Litig.* (\$137.5 million settlement), *In re St. Jude Medical, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$50 million settlement), and *In re Cooper Cos. Sec. Litig.* (\$27 million recovery). Most recently, Alvarez was a member of the litigation team that secured a historic recovery on behalf of Trump University students in two class actions against President Donald J. Trump. The settlement provides \$25 million to approximately 7,000 consumers. This result means individual class members are eligible for upwards of \$35,000 in restitution. He represented the class on a *pro bono* basis.

Prior to joining the Firm, Alvarez served as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of California from 1991-2003. As an Assistant United States Attorney, he obtained extensive trial experience, including the prosecution of bank fraud, money laundering and complex narcotics conspiracy cases. During his tenure as an Assistant United States Attorney, Alvarez also briefed and argued numerous appeals before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

## Education

B.A., University of California, Berkeley, 1984; J.D., University of California, Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, 1987

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019

## Stephen R. Astley | Partner

Stephen Astley is a partner in the Firm's Boca Raton office. Astley devotes his practice to representing institutional and individual shareholders in their pursuit to recover investment losses caused by fraud. He has been lead counsel in numerous securities fraud class actions across the country, helping secure significant recoveries for his clients and investors. He was on the trial team that recovered \$60 million on behalf of investors in *City of Sterling Heights Gen. Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Hospira, Inc.* Other notable representations include: *In re Red Hat, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (E.D.N.C.) (\$20 million settlement); *Eshe Fund v. Fifth Third Bancorp* (S.D. Ohio) (\$16 million); *City of St. Clair Shores Gen. Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Lender Processing Serus., Inc.* (M.D. Fla.) (\$14 million); and *In re Synovus Fin. Corp.* (N.D. Ga.) (\$11.75 million).

Prior to joining the Firm, Astley was with the Miami office of Hunton & Williams, where he concentrated his practice on class action defense, including securities class actions and white collar criminal defense. Additionally, he represented numerous corporate clients accused of engaging in unfair and deceptive practices. Astley was also an active duty member of the United States Navy's Judge Advocate General's Corps where he was the Senior Defense Counsel for the Naval Legal Service Office Pearl Harbor Detachment. In that capacity, Astley oversaw trial operations for the Detachment and gained substantial first-chair trial experience as the lead defense counsel in over 75 courts-martial and administrative proceedings. Additionally, from 2002-2003, Astley clerked for the Honorable Peter T. Fay, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

## Education

B.S., Florida State University, 1992; M. Acc., University of Hawaii at Manoa, 2001; J.D., University of Miami School of Law, 1997

## Honors / Awards

J.D., *Cum Laude*, University of Miami School of Law, 1997; United States Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps., Lieutenant

## A. Rick Atwood, Jr. | Partner

Rick Atwood is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. As a recipient of the *California Lawyer* Attorney of the Year ("CLAY") Award for his work on behalf of shareholders, he has successfully represented shareholders in securities class actions, merger-related class actions, and shareholder derivative suits in federal and state courts in more than 30 jurisdictions. Through his litigation efforts at both the trial and appellate levels, Atwood has helped recover billions of dollars for public shareholders, including the largest post-merger common fund recoveries on record. Most recently, in *In re Dole Food Co., Inc. Stockholder Litig.*, which went to trial in the Delaware Court of Chancery on claims of breach of fiduciary duty on behalf of Dole Food Co., Inc. shareholders, Atwood helped obtain \$148 million, the largest trial verdict ever in a class action challenging a merger transaction. He was also a key member of the litigation team in *In re Kinder Morgan, Inc. S'holders Litig.*, where he helped obtain an unprecedented \$200 million common fund for former Kinder Morgan shareholders, the largest merger & acquisition class action recovery in history.

Atwood also led the litigation team that obtained an \$89.4 million recovery for shareholders in *In re Del Monte Foods Co. S'holders Litig.*, after which the Delaware Court of Chancery stated that "it was only through the effective use of discovery that the plaintiffs were able to 'disturb[ ] the patina of normalcy surrounding the transaction.'" The court further commented that "Lead Counsel engaged in hard-nosed discovery to penetrate and expose problems with practices that Wall Street considered 'typical.'" One Wall Street banker even wrote in *The Wall Street Journal* that "Everybody does it, but Barclays is the one that got caught with their hand in the cookie jar . . . . Now everybody has to rethink how we conduct ourselves in financing situations." Atwood's other significant opinions include *Brown v. Brewer* (\$45 million recovery) and *In re Prime Hospitality, Inc. S'holders Litig.* (\$25 million recovery).

## Education

B.A., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 1987; B.A., Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, 1988; J.D., Vanderbilt School of Law, 1991

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2017-2019; M&A Litigation Attorney of the Year in California, *Corporate International*, 2015; Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2014-2017; Attorney of the Year, *California Lawyer*, 2012; B.A., Great Distinction, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, 1988; B.A., Honors, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, 1987; Authorities Editor, *Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law*, 1991

## Aelish M. Baig | Partner

Aelish Marie Baig is a partner in the Firm's San Francisco office. She specializes in federal securities and consumer class actions. She focuses primarily on securities fraud litigation on behalf of individual and institutional investors, including state and municipal pension funds, Taft-Hartley funds, and private retirement and investment funds. Baig has litigated a number of cases through jury trial, resulting in multi-million dollar awards and settlements for her clients, and has prosecuted securities fraud, consumer and derivative actions obtaining millions of dollars in recoveries against corporations such as Wells Fargo, Verizon, Celera, Pall, and Prudential.

Baig, along with other Robbins Geller attorneys, is currently leading the effort on behalf of cities and counties around the country in *In re National Prescription Opiate Litigation*. Additionally, she prosecuted an action against Wells Fargo's directors and officers accusing the giant of engaging in the robo-signing of foreclosure papers so as to mass-process home foreclosures, a practice which contributed significantly to the 2008-2009 financial crisis. The resulting settlement was worth more than \$67 million in cash, corporate preventative measures and new lending initiatives for residents of cities devastated by Wells Fargo's alleged unlawful foreclosure practices. Baig was part of the litigation and trial team in *White v. Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless*, which resulted in a \$25 million settlement and Verizon's agreement to an injunction restricting its ability to impose early termination fees in future subscriber agreements. She was also part of the team that prosecuted dozens of stock option backdating actions, securing tens of millions of dollars in cash recoveries as well as the implementation of comprehensive corporate governance enhancements for numerous companies victimized by their directors' and officers' fraudulent stock option backdating practices. Additionally, Baig prosecuted an action against Prudential Insurance for its alleged failure to pay life insurance benefits to beneficiaries of policyholders it knew or had reason to know had died, resulting in a settlement in excess of \$30 million.

## Education

B.A., Brown University, 1992; J.D., Washington College of Law at American University, 1998

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Litigation Trailblazer, *The National Law Journal*, 2019; California Trailblazer, *The Recorder*, 2019; Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2012-2013; J.D., *Cum Laude*, Washington College of Law at American University, 1998; Senior Editor, *Administrative Law Review*, Washington College of Law at American University

## Randall J. Baron | Partner

Randy Baron is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. He specializes in securities litigation, corporate takeover litigation, and breach of fiduciary duty actions. For almost two decades, Baron has headed up a team of lawyers whose accomplishments include obtaining instrumental rulings both at injunction and trial phases, and establishing liability of financial advisors and investment banks. With an in-depth understanding of merger and acquisition and breach of fiduciary duty law, an ability to work under extreme time pressures, and the experience and willingness to take a case through trial, he has been responsible for recovering more than a billion dollars for shareholders.

Notable achievements over the years include: *In re Kinder Morgan, Inc. S'holders Litig.* (Kan. Dist. Ct., Shawnee Cty.), where Baron obtained an unprecedented \$200 million common fund for former Kinder Morgan shareholders, the largest merger & acquisition class action recovery in history; *In re Dole Food Co., Inc. Stockholder Litig.* (Del. Ch.), where he went to trial in the Delaware Court of Chancery on claims of breach of fiduciary duty on behalf of Dole Food Co., Inc. shareholders and obtained \$148 million, the largest trial verdict ever in a class action challenging a merger transaction; and *In re Rural/Metro Corp. Stockholders Litig.* (Del. Ch.), where Baron and co-counsel obtained nearly \$110 million total recovery for shareholders against Royal Bank of Canada Capital Markets LLC. In *In re Del Monte Foods Co. S'holders Litig.* (Del. Ch.), he exposed the unseemly practice by investment bankers of participating on both sides of large merger and acquisition transactions and ultimately secured an \$89 million settlement for shareholders of Del Monte. Baron was one of the lead attorneys representing about 75 public and private institutional investors that filed and settled individual actions in *In re WorldCom Sec. Litig.* (S.D.N.Y.), where more than \$657 million was recovered, the largest opt-out (non-class) securities action in history.

## Education

B.A., University of Colorado at Boulder, 1987; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 1990

## Honors / Awards

Fellow, Advisory Board, Litigation Counsel of America (LCA); Rated Distinguished by Martindale-Hubbell; National Practice Area Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2019-2020; Local Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2018, 2020; Best Lawyer in America, *Best Lawyers*®, 2020; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Leading Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2014-2019; Leading Lawyer, *Chambers USA*, 2016-2019; Leading Lawyer in America, *Lawdragon*, 2011, 2017-2019; Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2016-2019; California Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2019; State Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2019; Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2014-2016, 2018-2019; Winning Litigator, *The National Law Journal*, 2018; Titan of the Industry, *The American Lawyer*, 2018; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2017; Mergers & Acquisitions Trailblazer, *The National Law Journal*, 2015-2016; Litigator of the Week, *The American Lawyer*, October 16, 2014; Attorney of the Year, *California Lawyer*, 2012; Litigator of the Week, *The American Lawyer*, October 7, 2011; J.D., *Cum Laude*, University of San Diego School of Law, 1990

## James E. Barz | Partner

James Barz is a partner at the Firm and manages the Firm's Chicago office. He is a trial lawyer who has tried 18 cases to verdict, a registered CPA, a former federal prosecutor, and has been an adjunct professor at Northwestern University School of Law from 2008 to 2019, teaching courses on trial advocacy and class action litigation. Barz has focused on representing investors in securities fraud class actions that have resulted in recoveries of over \$1 billion, including: *HCA* (\$215 million, M.D. Tenn.); *Motorola* (\$200 million, N.D. Ill.); *Sprint* (\$131 million, D. Kan.); *Orbital ATK* (\$108 million, E.D. Va.); *Psychiatric Solutions* (\$65 million, M.D. Tenn.); *Dana Corp.* (\$64 million, N.D. Ohio); and *Hospira* (\$60 million, N.D. Ill.). He has been lead trial counsel in several of these cases obtaining favorable settlements just days or weeks before trial and after obtaining denials of summary judgment. Barz is currently representing investors in securities fraud litigation against Valeant Pharmaceuticals Inc. (D.N.J.). Barz also handles whistleblower cases, including a successful settlement in *United States v. Signature Healthcare LLC* (M.D. Tenn.) (\$30 million), and antitrust cases, including recently being appointed to the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee in *In re Dealer Management Systems Antitrust Litigation* (N.D. Ill.).

## Education

B.B.A., Loyola University Chicago, School of Business Administration, 1995; J.D., Northwestern University School of Law, 1998

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2018-2019; Leading Lawyer, *Law Bulletin Media*, 2018; B.B.A., *Summa Cum Laude*, Loyola University Chicago, School of Business Administration, 1995; J.D., *Cum Laude*, Northwestern University School of Law, 1998

## Nathan W. Bear | Partner

Nate Bear is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. Bear advises institutional investors on a global basis. His clients include Taft-Hartley funds, public and multi-employer pension funds, fund managers, insurance companies and banks around the world. He counsels clients on securities fraud and corporate governance, and frequently speaks at conferences worldwide. He has recovered over \$1 billion for investors, including *In re Cardinal Health, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$600 million) and *Jones v. Pfizer Inc.* (\$400 million). In addition to initiating securities fraud class actions in the United States, he possesses direct experience in potential group actions in the United Kingdom, settlements in the European Union under the Wet Collectieve Afwikkeling Massaschade (WCAM), the Dutch Collective Mass Claims Settlement Act, as well as representative actions in Germany utilizing the Kapitalanlegermustersverfahrensgesetz (KapMuG), the Capital Market Investors' Model Proceeding Act. In *Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank v. Morgan Stanley & Co. Inc.*, Bear commenced a lawsuit resulting in the first major ruling upholding fraud allegations against the chief credit rating agencies. That ruling led to the filing of a similar case, *King County, Washington v. IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG*. These cases, arising from the fraudulent ratings of bonds issued by the Cheyne and Rhinebridge structured investment vehicles, ultimately obtained landmark settlements – on the eve of trial – from the major credit rating agencies and Morgan Stanley. Bear maintained an active role in litigation at the heart of the worldwide financial crisis, and is currently pursuing banks over their manipulation of LIBOR, FOREX, and other benchmark rates.

## Education

B.A., University of California at Berkeley, 1998; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2006

## Honors / Awards

Rising Star, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2015-2016; "Outstanding Young Attorneys," *San Diego Daily Transcript*, 2011

## Alexandra S. Bernay | Partner

Xan Bernay is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office, where she specializes in antitrust and unfair competition class-action litigation. She has also worked on some of the Firm's largest securities fraud class actions, including the *Enron* litigation, which recovered an unprecedented \$7.2 billion for investors. Bernay currently serves as co-lead counsel in *In re Payment Card Interchange Fee and Merchant Discount Antitrust Litig.*, in which a settlement of up to \$6.26 billion was recently preliminarily approved by the Eastern District of New York. This case was brought on behalf of millions of U.S. merchants against Visa and MasterCard and various card-issuing banks, challenging the way these companies set and collect tens of billions of dollars annually in merchant fees. The settlement is believed to be the largest antitrust class action settlement of all time.

Additionally, Bernay is involved in *In re Remicade Antitrust Litig.* pending in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania – a large case involving anticompetitive conduct in the biosimilars market, where the Firm is sole lead counsel for the end-payor plaintiffs. She is also part of the litigation team in *In re Dealer Mgmt. Sys. Antitrust Litig.* (N.D. Ill.), which involves anticompetitive conduct related to dealer management systems on behalf of auto dealerships across the country. Another representative case is *Persian Gulf Inc. v. BP West Coast Prods. LLC* (S.D. Cal.), a massive case against the largest gas refiners in the world brought by gasoline station owners who allege they were overcharged for gasoline in California as a result of anticompetitive conduct.

## Education

B.A., Humboldt State University, 1997; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2000

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Litigator of the Week, *Global Competition Review*, October 1, 2014



## Erin W. Boardman | Partner

Erin Boardman is a partner in the Firm's Melville office, where her practice focuses on representing individual and institutional investors in class actions brought pursuant to the federal securities laws. She has been involved in the prosecution of numerous securities class actions that have resulted in millions of dollars in recoveries for defrauded investors, including: *Medoff v. CVS Caremark Corp.* (D.R.I.) (\$48 million recovery); *Construction Laborers Pension Trust of Greater St. Louis v. Autoliv Inc.* (S.D.N.Y.) (\$22.5 million recovery); *In re Gildan Activewear Inc. Sec. Litig.* (S.D.N.Y.) (resolved as part of a \$22.5 million global settlement); *In re L.G. Phillips LCD Co., Ltd., Sec. Litig.* (S.D.N.Y.) (\$18 million recovery); *In re Giant Interactive Grp., Inc. Sec. Litig.* (S.D.N.Y.) (\$13 million recovery); *In re Coventry HealthCare, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (D. Md.) (\$10 million recovery); *Lenartz v. American Superconductor Corp.* (D. Mass.) (\$10 million recovery); *Dudley v. Haub* (D.N.J.) (\$9 million recovery); *Hildenbrand v. W Holding Co.* (D.P.R.) (\$8.75 million recovery); *In re Doral Financial Corp. Sec. Litig.* (D.P.R.) (\$7 million recovery); and *Van Dongen v. CNinsure Inc.* (S.D.N.Y.) (\$6.625 million recovery). During law school, Boardman served as Associate Managing Editor of *the Journal of Corporate, Financial and Commercial Law* interned in the chambers of the Honorable Kiyo A. Matsumoto in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York, and represented individuals on a *pro bono* basis through the Workers' Rights Clinic.

## Education

B.A., State University of New York at Binghamton, 2003; J.D., Brooklyn Law School, 2007

## Honors / Awards

Rising Star, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2015-2018; B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, State University of New York at Binghamton, 2003

## Douglas R. Britton | Partner

Doug Britton is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. His practice focuses on securities fraud and corporate governance. Britton has been involved in settlements exceeding \$1 billion and has secured significant corporate governance enhancements to improve corporate functioning. Notable achievements include *In re WorldCom, Inc. Sec. & "ERISA" Litig.*, where he was one of the lead partners that represented a number of opt-out institutional investors and secured an unprecedented recovery of \$651 million; *In re SureBeam Corp. Sec. Litig.*, where he was the lead trial counsel and secured an impressive recovery of \$32.75 million; and *In re Amazon.com, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, where he was one of the lead attorneys securing a \$27.5 million recovery for investors.

## Education

B.B.A., Washburn University, 1991; J.D., Pepperdine University School of Law, 1996

## Honors / Awards

J.D., *Cum Laude*, Pepperdine University School of Law, 1996

## Luke O. Brooks | Partner

Luke Brooks is a partner in the Firm's securities litigation practice group in the San Diego office. He focuses primarily on securities fraud litigation on behalf of individual and institutional investors, including state and municipal pension funds, Taft-Hartley funds, and private retirement and investment funds. Brooks served as trial counsel in *Jaffe v. Household International* in the Northern District of Illinois, a securities class action that obtained a record-breaking \$1.575 billion settlement after 14 years of litigation, including a six-week jury trial in 2009 that resulted in a verdict for plaintiffs. Other prominent cases recently prosecuted by Brooks include *Fort Worth Employees' Retirement Fund v. J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.*, in which plaintiffs recovered \$388 million for investors in J.P. Morgan residential mortgage-backed securities, and a pair of cases – *Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank v. Morgan Stanley & Co. Inc.* (“Cheyne”) and *King County, Washington, et al. v. IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG* (“Rhinebridge”) – in which plaintiffs obtained a settlement, on the eve of trial in Cheyne, from the major credit rating agencies and Morgan Stanley arising out of the fraudulent ratings of bonds issued by the Cheyne and Rhinebridge structured investment vehicles. *Reuters* described the settlement as a “landmark” deal and emphasized that it was the “first time S&P and Moody’s have settled accusations that investors were misled by their ratings.” An article published in *Rolling Stone* magazine entitled “The Last Mystery of the Financial Crisis” similarly credited Robbins Geller with uncovering “a mountain of evidence” detailing the credit rating agencies’ fraud.

## Education

B.A., University of Massachusetts at Amherst, 1997; J.D., University of San Francisco, 2000

## Honors / Awards

Local Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2017-2018, 2020; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; California Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2019; State Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2017-2018; Member, *University of San Francisco Law Review*, University of San Francisco

## Spencer A. Burkholz | Partner

Spence Burkholz is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office and a member of the Firm's Executive and Management Committees. He has 24 years of experience in prosecuting securities class actions and private actions on behalf of large institutional investors. Burkholz was one of the lead trial attorneys in *Jaffe v. Household International* in the Northern District of Illinois, a securities class action that obtained a record-breaking \$1.575 billion settlement after 14 years of litigation, including a six-week jury trial in 2009 that resulted in a verdict for plaintiffs. Burkholz has also recovered billions of dollars for injured shareholders in cases such as *Enron* (\$7.2 billion), *WorldCom* (\$657 million), *Countrywide* (\$500 million), and *Qwest* (\$445 million).

## Education

B.A., Clark University, 1985; J.D., University of Virginia School of Law, 1989

## Honors / Awards

Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell; Top 100 Trial Lawyer, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2018-2020; National Practice Area Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2020; Local Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2015-2018, 2020; Lawyer of the Year, *Best Lawyers®*, 2020; Best Lawyer in America, *Best Lawyers®*, 2018-2020; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2017-2019; Leading Lawyer in America, *Lawdragon*, 2018-2019; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Top 20 Trial Lawyer in California, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2019; California Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2019; State Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2019; Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2015-2016, 2019; Top Lawyer in San Diego, *San Diego Magazine*, 2013-2019; Plaintiff Attorney of the Year, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2018; B.A., *Cum Laude*, Clark University, 1985; *Phi Beta Kappa*, Clark University, 1985

## Michael G. Capeci | Partner

Michael Capeci is a partner in Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP's Melville office. His practice focuses on prosecuting complex securities class action lawsuits in federal and state courts. Throughout his tenure with the Firm, Capeci has played an integral role in the teams prosecuting cases such as: *In re BHP Billiton Ltd. Sec. Litig.* (\$50 million recovery); *Galestan v. OneMain Holdings, Inc.* (\$9 million recovery); *Carpenters Pension Trust Fund of St. Louis v. Barclays PLC* (\$14 million recovery); *City of Pontiac General Employees' Retirement System v. Lockheed Martin Corporation* (\$19.5 million recovery); and *Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union No. 630 Pension-Annuity Trust Fund v. Arbitron Inc.* (\$7 million recovery). Capeci is currently prosecuting numerous cases in federal and state courts alleging violations of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Securities Act of 1933.

## Education

B.S., Villanova University, 2007; J.D., Hofstra University School of Law, 2010

## Honors / Awards

Rising Star, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2014-2019; J.D., *Cum Laude*, Hofstra University School of Law, 2010

## Brian E. Cochran | Partner

Brian Cochran is a partner in the Firm's San Diego and Chicago offices. He focuses his practice on complex securities and shareholder derivative litigation. In particular, Cochran specializes in case investigation and initiation, and lead plaintiff issues arising under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. He was a member of the litigation team that obtained a \$65 million recovery in *Garden City Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Psychiatric Solutions, Inc.*, the third largest securities recovery ever in the Middle District of Tennessee and the largest in more than a decade.

Most recently, Cochran was a member of the litigation team that secured a historic recovery on behalf of Trump University students in two class actions against President Donald J. Trump. The settlement provides \$25 million to approximately 7,000 consumers. This result means individual class members are eligible for upwards of \$35,000 in restitution. He represented the class on a *pro bono* basis. In addition, Cochran developed a groundbreaking securities fraud lawsuit against Fifth Street Finance and its external asset manager, which led to over \$14 million in settlements, significant corporate reforms and a follow-on SEC investigation. Cochran has also helped secure class certification and/or successfully opposed a motion to dismiss in class action litigation against several prominent corporate defendants, including Goldman Sachs, Big Lots, and Scotts Miracle-Gro.

## Education

A.B., Princeton University, 2006; J.D., University of California at Berkeley School of Law, Boalt Hall, 2012

## Honors / Awards

Rising Star, *The Legal 500*, 2019; A.B., With Honors, Princeton University, 2006; J.D., Order of the Coif, University of California at Berkeley School of Law, Boalt Hall, 2012

## Susannah R. Conn | Partner

Susannah Conn is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office, where her practice focuses on complex securities litigation. Since joining the Firm, Conn has participated in the prosecution of several cases that have resulted in substantial recoveries for investors, including *Alaska Elec. Pension Fund v. Pharmacia Corp.*, *City of Livonia Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Wyeth* and *In re Sanofi-Aventis Sec. Litig.* Most recently, she was a member of the Firm's trial team in *Hsu v. Puma Biotechnology, Inc.*, No. SACV15-0865 (C.D. Cal.), a securities fraud class action that resulted in a verdict in favor of investors after a two-week jury trial.

## Education

B.A., University of Wyoming, 1995; J.D., California Western School of Law, 1999

## Honors / Awards

J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, California Western School of Law, 1999; Executive Lead Articles Editor, *California Western Law Review*, California Western School of Law; B.A., *Cum Laude*, University of Wyoming, 1995; Outstanding Graduate Award, University of Wyoming

## Joseph D. Daley | Partner

Joseph Daley is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office, serves on the Firm's Securities Hiring Committee, and is a member of the Firm's Appellate Practice Group. Precedents include: *City of Providence v. Bats Glob. Mkts., Inc.*, 878 F.3d 36 (2d Cir. 2017); *DeJulius v. New Eng. Health Care Emps. Pension Fund*, 429 F.3d 935 (10th Cir. 2005); *Frank v. Dana Corp.* ("Dana I"), 547 F.3d 564 (6th Cir. 2008); *Frank v. Dana Corp.* ("Dana II"), 646 F.3d 954 (6th Cir. 2011); *Freidus v. Barclays Bank Plc*, 734 F.3d 132 (2d Cir. 2013); *In re HealthSouth Corp. Sec. Litig.*, 334 F. App'x 248 (11th Cir. 2009); *In re Merck & Co. Sec., Derivative & ERISA Litig.*, 493 F.3d 393 (3d Cir. 2007); *In re Quality Sys., Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 865 F.3d 1130 (9th Cir. 2017); *In re Qwest Commc'ns Int'l*, 450 F.3d 1179 (10th Cir. 2006); *Luther v. Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP*, 533 F.3d 1031 (9th Cir. 2008); *NECA-IBEW Health & Welfare Fund v. Goldman Sachs & Co.*, 693 F.3d 145 (2d Cir. 2012); *Rosenbloom v. Pyott* ("Allergan"), 765 F.3d 1137 (9th Cir. 2014); *Silverman v. Motorola Solutions, Inc.*, 739 F.3d 956 (7th Cir. 2013); *Siracusano v. Matrixx Initiatives, Inc.*, 585 F.3d 1167 (9th Cir. 2009), *aff'd*, 563 U.S. 27 (2011); and *Southland Sec. Corp. v. INSpire Ins. Solutions Inc.*, 365 F.3d 353 (5th Cir. 2004). Daley is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, as well as before 12 U.S. Courts of Appeals around the nation.

## Education

B.S., Jacksonville University, 1981; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 1996

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2011-2012, 2014-2018; Appellate Moot Court Board, Order of the Barristers, University of San Diego School of Law; Best Advocate Award (Traynore Constitutional Law Moot Court Competition), First Place and Best Briefs (Alumni Torts Moot Court Competition and USD Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition)

## Patrick W. Daniels | Partner

Patrick Daniels is a founding and managing partner in the Firm's San Diego office. He is widely recognized as a leading corporate governance and investor advocate. *Daily Journal*, the leading legal publisher in California, named him one of the 20 most influential lawyers in California under 40 years of age. Additionally, the Yale School of Management's Millstein Center for Corporate Governance and Performance awarded Daniels its "Rising Star of Corporate Governance" honor for his outstanding leadership in shareholder advocacy and activism.

Daniels is an advisor to political and financial leaders throughout the world. He counsels private and state government pension funds and fund managers in the United States, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and other countries within the European Union on issues related to corporate fraud in the United States securities markets and "best practices" in the corporate governance of publicly traded companies. Daniels has represented dozens of institutional investors in some of the largest and most significant shareholder actions, including *Enron*, *WorldCom*, *AOL Time Warner*, *BP*, *Pfizer*, *Countrywide*, *Petrobras*, and *Volkswagen*, to name just a few. In the wake of the financial crisis, he represented dozens of investors in structured investment products in ground-breaking actions against the ratings agencies and Wall Street banks that packaged and sold supposedly highly rated shoddy securities to institutional investors all around the world.

## Education

B.A., University of California, Berkeley, 1993; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 1997

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Rising Star of Corporate Governance, Yale School of Management's Milstein Center for Corporate Governance & Performance, 2008; One of the Most 20 Most Influential Lawyers in the State of California Under 40 Years of Age, *Daily Journal*; B.A., *Cum Laude*, University of California, Berkeley, 1993

## Stuart A. Davidson | Partner

Stuart Davidson is a partner in the Firm's Boca Raton office. His practice focuses on complex consumer class actions, including cases involving deceptive and unfair trade practices, privacy and data breach issues, and antitrust violations. Davidson served as class counsel in one of the earliest privacy cases, *Kehoe v. Fidelity Federal Bank & Trust*, where he represented half-a-million Florida drivers against a national bank for purchasing their private information from the state department of motor vehicles for marketing purposes, in violation of the Driver's Privacy Protection Act. His efforts resulted in a seminal privacy decision on damages by the Eleventh Circuit, 421 F.3d 1209 (11th Cir. 2005), *cert. denied*, 547 U.S. 1051 (2006), and after years of hard-fought litigation, including an appeal to the United States Supreme Court, he was able to obtain a \$50 million recovery for the class. He was also integral in obtaining a settlement valued at \$15 million in *In re Sony Gaming Networks & Customer Data Security Breach Litigation*, concerning claims related to the massive data breach of Sony's PlayStation Network, and currently serves as a member of the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee in *In re Yahoo! Inc. Customer Data Security Breach Litigation* in the Northern District of California regarding the largest data breach in history. Davidson is actively involved in *In re Facebook Biometric Information Privacy Litigation*, concerning Facebook's alleged privacy violations through its collection of user's biometric identifiers without informed consent, a cutting-edge nationwide privacy consumer class action in California.

Most recently, Davidson was appointed to the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee in *In re Intel Corp. CPU Marketing, Sales Practices and Products Liability Litigation*, which concerns serious security vulnerabilities – known as “Spectre” and “Meltdown” – that infect nearly all of Intel's x86 processors manufactured and sold since 1995, the patching of which results in processing speed degradation of the impacted computer, server or mobile device. Davidson also currently serves as co-lead counsel for hundreds of retired NHL players in *In re NHL Players' Concussion Injury Litigation* in the District of Minnesota, and is spearheading several aspects of *In re EpiPen (Epinephrine Injection, USP) Marketing, Sales Practices and Antitrust Litigation* in the District of Kansas, a case involving the illegal monopolization of the epinephrine auto-injector market, which allowed the prices of the life-saving EpiPen to rise over 600% in 9 years, and where Robbins Geller named partner Paul J. Geller was appointed co-lead counsel.

Davidson is a former lead assistant public defender in the Felony Division of the Broward County, Florida Public Defender's Office. During his tenure at the Public Defender's Office, he tried over 30 jury trials, conducted hundreds of depositions, handled numerous evidentiary hearings, engaged in extensive motion practice, and defended individuals charged with major crimes ranging from third-degree felonies to life and capital felonies.

## Education

B.A., State University of New York at Geneseo, 1993; J.D., Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law, 1996

## Honors / Awards

J.D., *Summa Cum Laude*, Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law, 1996; Associate Editor, *Nova Law Review*, Book Awards in Trial Advocacy, Criminal Pretrial Practice and International Law

## Jason C. Davis | Partner

Jason Davis is a partner in the Firm's San Francisco office where he practices securities class actions and complex litigation involving equities, fixed-income, synthetic, and structured securities issued in public and private transactions. Davis was on the trial team in *Jaffe v. Household Int'l, Inc.*, a securities class action that obtained a record-breaking \$1.575 billion settlement after 14 years of litigation, including a six-week jury trial in 2009 that resulted in a verdict for plaintiffs. Most recently, he was part of the litigation team in *Luna v. Marvell Tech. Grp., Ltd.*, resulting in a \$72.5 million settlement that represents approximately 24% to 50% of the best estimate of classwide damages suffered by investors.

Before joining the Firm, Davis focused on cross-border transactions, mergers and acquisitions at Cravath, Swaine and Moore LLP in New York.

## Education

B.A., Syracuse University, 1998; J.D., University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law, 2002

## Honors / Awards

B.A., *Summa Cum Laude*, Syracuse University, 1998; International Relations Scholar of the year, Syracuse University; Teaching fellow, examination awards, Moot court award, University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law



## Mark J. Dearman | Partner

Mark Dearman is a partner in the Firm's Boca Raton office, where his practice focuses on consumer fraud, securities fraud, mass torts, antitrust, whistleblower, and corporate takeover litigation. Dearman, along with other Robbins Geller attorneys, is currently leading the effort on behalf of cities and counties around the country in *In re National Prescription Opiate Litigation*. He was also recently appointed as the Chair of the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee in *In re Apple Inc. Device Performance Litigation* and was appointed to the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee in *In re FieldTurf Artificial Turf Mktg. Practices Litig.*, which alleges that FieldTurf USA Inc. and its related companies sold defective synthetic turf for use in athletic fields. His other recent representative cases include: *In re NHL Players' Concussion Injury Litig.*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 38755 (D. Minn. 2015); *In re Sony Gaming Networks & Customer Data Sec. Breach Litig.*, 903 F. Supp. 2d 942 (S.D. Cal. 2012); *In re Volkswagen "Clean Diesel" Mktg. Sales Practice, & Prods. Liab. Litig.*, 2016 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 1357 (N.D. Cal. 2016); *In re Ford Fusion & C-Max Fuel Econ. Litig.*, 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 155383 (S.D.N.Y. 2015); *Looper v. FCA US LLC*, No. 5:14-cv-00700 (C.D. Cal.); *In re Aluminum Warehousing Antitrust Litig.*, 95 F. Supp. 3d 419 (S.D.N.Y. 2015), *aff'd*, 833 F.3d 151 (2d Cir. 2016); *In re Liquid Aluminum Sulfate Antitrust Litig.*, No. 16-md-2687 (D.N.J.); *In re Winn-Dixie Stores, Inc. S'holder Litig.*, No. 16-2011-CA-010616 (Fla. 4th Jud. Cir. Ct., Duval Cty.); *Gemelas v. Dannon Co. Inc.*, No. 1:08-cv-00236 (N.D. Ohio); and *In re AuthenTec, Inc. S'holder Litig.*, No. 05-2012-CA-57589 (Fla. 18th Jud. Cir. Ct., Brevard Cty.). Prior to joining the Firm, he founded Dearman & Gerson, where he defended Fortune 500 companies, with an emphasis on complex commercial litigation, consumer claims, and mass torts (products liability and personal injury), and has obtained extensive jury trial experience throughout the United States. Having represented defendants for so many years before joining the Firm, Dearman has a unique perspective that enables him to represent clients effectively.

## Education

B.A., University of Florida, 1990; J.D., Nova Southeastern University, 1993

## Honors / Awards

AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell; Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2014-2019; In top 1.5% of Florida Civil Trial Lawyers in *Florida Trend's Florida Legal Elite*, 2004, 2006

## Kathleen B. Douglas | Partner

Kathleen Douglas is a partner in Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP's Boca Raton office. She focuses her practice on securities fraud class actions and consumer fraud.

Douglas was a member of the litigation team in *In re UnitedHealth Grp. Inc. PSLRA Litig.*, achieving a substantial \$925 million settlement. In addition to the monetary recovery, UnitedHealth also made critical changes to a number of its corporate governance policies, including electing a shareholder-nominated member to the company's Board of Directors. Douglas also worked on *Nieman v. Duke Energy Corp.* (\$146.25 million recovery), which is the largest recovery in North Carolina for a case involving securities fraud and is one of the five largest recoveries in the Fourth Circuit. She also worked on the *R.H. Donnelley* case, obtaining a \$25 million settlement, and the *21st Century* case, resulting in a \$2.2 million recovery. Most recently, Douglas was a member of the team of attorneys that represented investors in *Knurr v. Orbital ATK, Inc.*, No. 1:16-cv-01031-TSE-MSN (E.D. Va.), which recovered \$108 million for shareholders and is believed to be the fourth-largest securities class action settlement in the history of the Eastern District of Virginia.

Douglas has served as class counsel in several class actions brought on behalf of Florida emergency room physicians. These cases were against some of the nation's largest Health Maintenance Organizations and settled for substantial increases in reimbursement rates and millions of dollars in past damages for the class.

## Education

B.S., Georgetown University, 2004; J.D., University of Miami School of Law, 2007

## Honors / Awards

Rising Star, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2012-2017; B.S., *Cum Laude*, Georgetown University, 2004

## Travis E. Downs III | Partner

Travis Downs is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. His areas of expertise include prosecution of shareholder and securities litigation, including complex shareholder derivative actions. Downs led a team of lawyers who successfully prosecuted over 65 stock option backdating derivative actions in federal and state courts across the country, resulting in hundreds of millions in financial givebacks for the plaintiffs and extensive corporate governance enhancements, including annual directors elections, majority voting for directors, and shareholder nomination of directors. Notable cases include: *In re Community Health Sys., Inc. S'holder Derivative Litig.* (\$60 million in financial relief and unprecedented corporate governance reforms); *In re Marvell Tech. Grp. Ltd. Derivative Litig.* (\$54 million in financial relief and extensive corporate governance enhancements); *In re McAfee, Inc. Derivative Litig.* (\$30 million in financial relief and extensive corporate governance enhancements); *In re Affiliated Computer Servs. Derivative Litig.* (\$30 million in financial relief and extensive corporate governance enhancements); *In re KB Home S'holder Derivative Litig.* (\$30 million in financial relief and extensive corporate governance enhancements); *In re Juniper Networks Derivative Litig.* (\$22.7 million in financial relief and extensive corporate governance enhancements); *In re Nvidia Corp. Derivative Litig.* (\$15 million in financial relief and extensive corporate governance enhancements); and *City of Pontiac Gen. Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Langone* (achieving landmark corporate governance reforms for investors).

He was also part of the litigation team that obtained a \$67 million settlement in *City of Westland Police & Fire Ret. Sys. v. Stumpf*, a shareholder derivative action alleging that Wells Fargo participated in the mass-processing of home foreclosure documents by engaging in widespread robo-signing, and a \$250 million settlement in *In re Google, Inc. Derivative Litig.*, an action alleging that Google facilitated in the improper advertising of prescription drugs. Downs is a frequent speaker at conferences and seminars and has lectured on a variety of topics related to shareholder derivative and class action litigation.

## Education

B.A., Whitworth University, 1985; J.D., University of Washington School of Law, 1990

## Honors / Awards

Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell; Best Lawyer in America, *Best Lawyers*®, 2018-2020; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Top Lawyer in San Diego, *San Diego Magazine*, 2013-2019; Board of Trustees, Whitworth University; Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2008; B.A., Honors, Whitworth University, 1985

## Daniel S. Drosman | Partner

Dan Drosman is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office and a member of the Firm's Management Committee. He focuses his practice on securities fraud and other complex civil litigation and has obtained significant recoveries for investors in cases such as *Morgan Stanley*, *Cisco Systems*, *Coca-Cola*, *Petco*, *PMI* and *America West*. Drosman served as one of the lead trial attorneys in *Jaffe v. Household Int'l, Inc.* in the Northern District of Illinois, a securities class action that obtained a record-breaking \$1.575 billion settlement after 14 years of litigation, including a six-week jury trial in 2009 that resulted in a verdict for plaintiffs. Drosman also led a group of attorneys prosecuting fraud claims against the credit rating agencies, where he was distinguished as one of the few plaintiffs' counsel to overcome the credit rating agencies' motions to dismiss.

Prior to joining the Firm, Drosman served as an Assistant District Attorney for the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, and an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of California, where he investigated and prosecuted violations of the federal narcotics, immigration, and official corruption law.

## Education

B.A., Reed College, 1990; J.D., Harvard Law School, 1993

## Honors / Awards

Best Lawyer in America, *Best Lawyers*®, 2019-2020; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Leading Lawyer in America, *Lawdragon*, 2018-2019; Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2017-2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2017-2018; Top 100 Lawyer, *Daily Journal*, 2017; Department of Justice Special Achievement Award, Sustained Superior Performance of Duty; B.A., Honors, Reed College, 1990; *Phi Beta Kappa*, Reed College, 1990

## Thomas E. Egler | Partner

Tom Egler is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office and focuses his practice on representing clients in major complex, multidistrict litigations, such as *Lehman Brothers*, *Countrywide Mortgage Backed Securities*, *WorldCom*, *AOL Time Warner* and *Qwest*. He has represented institutional investors both as plaintiffs in individual actions and as lead plaintiffs in class actions. Prior to joining the Firm, Egler was a law clerk to the Honorable Donald E. Ziegler, Chief Judge, United States District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania.

## Education

B.A., Northwestern University, 1989; J.D., The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, 1995

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, 2017-2018; Associate Editor, the *Catholic University Law Review*

## Alan I. Ellman | Partner

Alan Ellman is a partner in the Firm's Melville office, where he concentrates his practice on prosecuting complex securities fraud cases on behalf of institutional investors. Most recently, Ellman was on the team of Robbins Geller attorneys who obtained a \$34.5 million recovery in *Patel v. L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc.*, which represents a high percentage of damages that plaintiffs could reasonably expect to be recovered at trial and is more than eight times higher than the average settlement of cases with comparable investor losses. He was also on the team of attorneys who recovered in excess of \$34 million for investors in *In re OSG Sec. Litig.*, which represented an outsized recovery of 93% of bond purchasers' damages and 28% of stock purchasers' damages. The creatively structured settlement included more than \$15 million paid by a bankrupt entity. In 2006, Ellman received a Volunteer and Leadership Award from Housing Conservation Coordinators (HCC) for his *pro bono* service defending a client in Housing Court against a non-payment action, arguing an appeal before the Appellate Term, and staffing HCC's legal clinic. He also successfully appealed a *pro bono* client's criminal sentence before the Appellate Division.

## Education

B.S., B.A., State University of New York at Binghamton, 1999; J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, 2003

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, 2017-2019; Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2014-2015; B.S., B.A., *Cum Laude*, State University of New York at Binghamton, 1999

## Jason A. Forge | Partner

Jason Forge is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. He specializes in complex investigations, litigation, and trials. As a federal prosecutor and private practitioner, Forge has conducted and supervised scores of jury and bench trials in federal and state courts, including the month-long trial of a defense contractor who conspired with Congressman Randy "Duke" Cunningham in the largest bribery scheme in congressional history. He recently obtained approval of a \$160 million recovery in the first securities fraud case against Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. in *City of Pontiac General Employees' Retirement System v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.* Most recently, Forge was a member of the Firm's trial team in *Hsu v. Puma Biotechnology, Inc.*, a securities fraud class action that resulted in a verdict in favor of investors after a two-week jury trial.

Forge was a key member of the litigation team that secured a historic recovery on behalf of Trump University students in two class actions against President Donald J. Trump. The settlement refunds over 90% of the money thousands of students paid to "enroll" in Trump University. He represented the class on a *pro bono* basis. Forge has also successfully defeated motions to dismiss and obtained class certification against several prominent defendants, including the first federal RICO case against Scotts Miracle-Gro, which recently settled for up to \$85 million. He was a member of the litigation team that obtained a \$125 million settlement in *In re LendingClub Securities Litigation*, a settlement that ranks among the top ten largest securities recoveries ever in the Northern District of California.

In a case against another prominent defendant, Pfizer Inc., Forge led an investigation that uncovered key documents that Pfizer had not produced in discovery. Although fact discovery in the case had already closed, the district judge ruled that the documents had been improperly withheld and ordered that discovery be reopened, including reopening the depositions of Pfizer's former CEO, CFO, and General Counsel. Less than six months after completing these depositions, Pfizer settled the case for \$400 million.

## Education

B.B.A., The University of Michigan Ross School of Business, 1990; J.D., The University of Michigan Law School, 1993

## Honors / Awards

Local Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2020; Best Lawyer in America, *Best Lawyers*®, 2019-2020; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Plaintiffs' Lawyer Trailblazer, *The National Law Journal*, 2018; Top 100 Lawyer, *Daily Journal*, 2017; Litigator of the Year, *Our City San Diego*, 2017; Two-time recipient of one of Department of Justice's highest awards: Director's Award for Superior Performance by Litigation Team; numerous commendations from Federal Bureau of Investigation (including commendation from FBI Director Robert Mueller III), Internal Revenue Service, and Defense Criminal Investigative Service; J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, Order of the Coif, The University of Michigan Law School, 1993; B.B.A., High Distinction, The University of Michigan Ross School of Business, 1990

## Paul J. Geller | Partner

Paul Geller, managing partner of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP's Boca Raton, Florida office, is a founding partner of the Firm, a member of its Executive and Management Committees and head of the Firm's Consumer Practice Group. Geller's 25 years of litigation experience is broad, and he has handled cases in each of the Firm's practice areas. Notably, before devoting his practice to the representation of consumers and investors, he defended companies in high-stakes class action litigation, providing him an invaluable perspective. Geller has tried bench and jury trials on both the plaintiffs' and defendants' sides, and has argued before numerous state, federal and appellate courts throughout the country.

Geller was recently selected to serve in a leadership position on behalf of governmental entities and other plaintiffs in the sprawling litigation concerning the nationwide prescription opioid epidemic. In reporting on the selection of the lawyers to lead the case, *The National Law Journal* reported that Geller and "[t]he team reads like a 'Who's Who' in mass torts." Geller was also part of the leadership team representing consumers in the massive *Volkswagen "Clean Diesel" Emissions* case. The San Francisco legal newspaper *The Recorder* labeled Geller and the group that was appointed in that case, which settled for more than \$17 billion, a "class action dream team."

Geller is also currently serving as Co-Lead Counsel in *In re EpiPen (Epinephrine Injection, USP) Mktg., Sales Practices & Antitrust Litig.*, a nationwide class action that alleges that pharmaceutical company Mylan N.V. and others engaged in anticompetitive and unfair business conduct in its sale and marketing of the EpiPen Auto-Injector device.

Some of Geller's other recent noteworthy successes include a \$265 million recovery against Massey Energy in *In re Massey Energy Co. Sec. Litig.*, in which Massey was found accountable for a tragic explosion at the Upper Big Branch mine in Raleigh County, West Virginia. Geller also secured a \$146.25 million recovery against Duke Energy in *Nieman v. Duke Energy Corp.*, the largest recovery in North Carolina for a case involving securities fraud, and one of the five largest recoveries in the Fourth Circuit.

## Education

B.S., University of Florida, 1990; J.D., Emory University School of Law, 1993

## Honors / Awards

Rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell; Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America (LCA) Proven Trial Lawyers; Best Lawyer in America, *Best Lawyers*®, 2017-2020; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Leading Lawyer in America, *Lawdragon*, 2006-2007, 2009-2019; Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2007-2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2016, 2019; Plaintiffs' Lawyer Trailblazer, *The National Law Journal*, 2018; Lawyer of the Year, *Best Lawyers*®, 2018; Attorney of the Month, *Attorney At Law*, 2017; Featured in "Lawyer Limelight" series, *Lawdragon*, 2017; Top Rated Lawyer, South Florida's Legal Leaders, *Miami Herald*, 2015; Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2013; "Legal Elite," *Florida Trend Magazine*; One of "Florida's Most Effective Lawyers," *American Law Media*, One of Florida's top lawyers in *South Florida Business Journal*, One of the Nation's Top "40 Under 40," *The National Law Journal*; One of Florida's Top Lawyers, *Law & Politics*; Editor, *Emory Law Journal*; Order of the Coif, Emory University School of Law

## Christopher C. Gold | Partner

Christopher Gold is a partner in the Firm's Boca Raton office. His practice focuses on mass tort and class action litigation involving consumer fraud, privacy and data breach issues, and securities fraud. He has worked on a number of notable cases and has successfully recovered millions of dollars on behalf of clients.

Gold was integral in obtaining a settlement valued at \$15 million in *In re Sony Gaming Networks & Customer Data Security Breach Litigation*, concerning claims related to the massive data breach of Sony's PlayStation Network. Gold is actively involved in *In re Yahoo! Inc. Customer Data Security Breach Litigation* in the Northern District of California, which arises from the largest data breach in history. He is also actively involved in *In re Facebook Biometric Information Privacy Litigation*, a cutting-edge nationwide privacy consumer class action in California concerning Facebook's alleged privacy violations through its alleged collection of user's biometric identifiers without informed consent, as well as *In re Intel Corp. CPU Marketing, Sales Practices and Products Liability Litigation* and *Hauck v. Advanced Micro Devices, Inc.*, two cases arising from the so-called "Meltdown" and "Spectre" vulnerabilities that allegedly exist in virtually all modern computer chips. Other notable consumer cases Gold has worked on include: *Friedman v. AARP, Inc.*, 855 F.3d 1047 (9th Cir. 2017); *In re Clorox Consumer Litig.*, 894 F. Supp. 2d 1224 (N.D. Cal. 2012); *Dumont v. Litton Loan Servicing, LP*, No. 12 Civ. 2677 (ER), 2015 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 29787 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 11, 2015); *Lesti v. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.*, 960 F. Supp. 2d 1311 (M.D. Fla. 2013). Gold is fluent in Brazilian Portuguese.

## Education

B.S., Lynn University, 2006; J.D., DePaul University College of Law, 2010

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2019



## Jonah H. Goldstein | Partner

Jonah Goldstein is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office and is responsible for prosecuting complex securities cases and obtaining recoveries for investors. He also represents corporate whistleblowers who report violations of the securities laws. Goldstein has achieved significant settlements on behalf of investors including in *In re HealthSouth Sec. Litig.* (over \$670 million recovered against HealthSouth, UBS and Ernst & Young), *In re Cisco Sec. Litig.* (approximately \$100 million), and *Marcus v. J.C. Penney Company, Inc.* (\$97.5 million recovery). Goldstein also served on the Firm's trial team in *In re AT&T Corp. Sec. Litig.*, MDL No. 1399 (D.N.J.), which settled after two weeks of trial for \$100 million, and aided in the \$65 million recovery in *Garden City Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Psychiatric Solutions, Inc.*, the third largest securities recovery ever in the Middle District of Tennessee and the largest in more than a decade. Most recently, he was part of the litigation team in *Luna v. Marvell Tech. Grp., Ltd.*, resulting in a \$72.5 million settlement that represents approximately 24% to 50% of the best estimate of classwide damages suffered by investors. Before joining the Firm, Goldstein served as a law clerk for the Honorable William H. Erickson on the Colorado Supreme Court and as an Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of California, where he tried numerous cases and briefed and argued appeals before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

## Education

B.A., Duke University, 1991; J.D., University of Denver College of Law, 1995

## Honors / Awards

Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2018-2019; Comments Editor, *University of Denver Law Review*, University of Denver College of Law

## Benny C. Goodman III | Partner

Benny Goodman is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. He primarily represents plaintiffs in shareholder actions on behalf of aggrieved corporations. Goodman has recovered hundreds of millions of dollars in shareholder derivative actions pending in state and federal courts across the nation. Most recently, he led a team of lawyers in litigation brought on behalf of Community Health Systems, Inc., resulting in a \$60 million payment to the company, the largest recovery in a shareholder derivative action in Tennessee and the Sixth Circuit, as well as best in class value enhancing corporate governance reforms that included two shareholder nominated directors to the Community Health Board of Directors.

Similarly, Goodman recovered a \$25 million payment to Lumber Liquidators and numerous corporate governance reforms, including a shareholder nominated director, in *In re Lumber Liquidators Holdings, Inc. S'holder Derivative Litig.* In *In re Google Inc. S'holder Derivative Litig.*, Goodman achieved groundbreaking corporate governance reforms designed to mitigate regulatory and legal compliance risk associated with online pharmaceutical advertising, including among other things, the creation of a \$250 million fund to help combat rogue pharmacies from improperly selling drugs online.

## Education

B.S., Arizona State University, 1994; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2000

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, 2018-2019; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2017

## Elise J. Grace | Partner

Elise Grace is a partner in the San Diego office and counsels the Firm's institutional clients on options to secure premium recoveries in securities litigation both within the United States and internationally. Grace is a frequent lecturer and author on securities and accounting fraud, and develops annual MCLE and CPE accredited educational programs designed to train public fund representatives on practices to protect and maximize portfolio assets, create long-term portfolio value and best fulfill fiduciary duties. Grace has routinely been named a Recommended Lawyer by *The Legal 500*. Grace has prosecuted various significant securities fraud class actions, as well as the AOL Time Warner state and federal securities opt-out litigations, which resulted in a combined settlement of over \$629 million for defrauded investors. Before joining the Firm, Grace practiced at Clifford Chance, where she defended numerous Fortune 500 companies in securities class actions and complex business litigation.

## Education

B.A., University of California, Los Angeles, 1993; J.D., Pepperdine School of Law, 1999

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2016-2017; J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, Pepperdine School of Law, 1999; American Jurisprudence Bancroft-Whitney Award – Civil Procedure, Evidence, and Dalsimer Moot Court Oral Argument; Dean's Academic Scholarship Recipient, Pepperdine School of Law; B.A., *Summa Cum Laude*, University of California, Los Angeles, 1993; B.A., *Phi Beta Kappa*, University of California, Los Angeles, 1993

## Tor Gronborg | Partner

Tor Gronborg is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office and a member of the Firm's Management Committee. He often lectures on topics such as the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and electronic discovery. Gronborg has served as lead or co-lead counsel in numerous securities fraud cases that have collectively recovered nearly \$2 billion for investors. Most recently, he was a member of the Firm's trial team in *Hsu v. Puma Biotechnology, Inc.*, No. SACV15-0865 (C.D. Cal.), a securities fraud class action that resulted in a verdict in favor of investors after a two-week jury trial.

Gronborg's work has included significant recoveries against corporations such as Cardinal Health (\$600 million), Motorola (\$200 million), Duke Energy (\$146.25 million), Sprint Nextel Corp. (\$131 million), Prison Realty (\$104 million), CIT Group (\$75 million), Wyeth (\$67.5 million) and Intercept Pharmaceuticals (\$55 million). On three separate occasions, Gronborg's pleadings have been upheld by the federal Courts of Appeals (*Broudo v. Dura Pharm., Inc.*, 339 F.3d 933 (9th Cir. 2003), *rev'd on other grounds*, 544 U.S. 336 (2005); *In re Daou Sys.*, 411 F.3d 1006 (9th Cir. 2005); *Staehr v. Hartford Fin. Servs. Grp.*, 547 F.3d 406 (2d Cir. 2008)). He has also been responsible for a number of significant rulings, including *In re Sanofi-Aventis Sec. Litig.*, 293 F.R.D. 449 (S.D.N.Y. 2013); *Silverman v. Motorola, Inc.*, 798 F. Supp. 2d 954 (N.D. Ill. 2011); *Roth v. Aon Corp.*, No. 04-C-6835, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 18471 (N.D. Ill. Mar. 7, 2008); *In re Cardinal Health, Inc. Sec. Litigs.*, 426 F. Supp. 2d 688 (S.D. Ohio 2006); and *In re Dura Pharm., Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 452 F. Supp. 2d 1005 (S.D. Cal. 2006).

## Education

B.A., University of California, Santa Barbara, 1991; Rotary International Scholar, University of Lancaster, U.K., 1992; J.D., University of California, Berkeley, 1995

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Plaintiffs' Lawyer Trailblazer, *The National Law Journal*, 2019; Super Lawyer, 2013-2019; Moot Court Board Member, University of California, Berkeley; AFL-CIO history scholarship, University of California, Santa Barbara

## Ellen Gusikoff Stewart | Partner

Ellen Stewart is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office, and is a member of the Firm's Summer Associate Hiring Committee. She currently practices in the Firm's settlement department, negotiating and documenting complex securities, merger, ERISA and derivative action settlements. Notable settlements include: *KBC Asset Management v. 3D Systems Corp.* (D.S.C. 2018) (\$50 million); *Luna v. Marvell Tech. Grp.* (N.D. Cal. 2018) (\$72.5 million); *Garden City Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Psychiatric Solutions, Inc.* (M.D. Tenn. 2015) (\$65 million); and *City of Sterling Heights Gen. Emps.' Ret. Sys v. Hospira, Inc.* (N.D. Ill. 2014) (\$60 million).

Stewart has served on the Federal Bar Association Ad Hoc Committee for the revisions to the Settlement Guidelines for the Northern District of California and was a contributor to the Guidelines and Best Practices – Implementing 2018 Amendments to Rule 23 Class Action Settlement Provisions manual of the Bolch Judicial Institute at the Duke University School of Law.

## Education

B.A., Muhlenberg College, 1986; J.D., Case Western Reserve University, 1989

## Honors / Awards

Rated Distinguished by Martindale-Hubbell

## Robert Henssler | Partner

Bobby Henssler is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office, where he focuses his practice on securities fraud and other complex civil litigation. He has obtained significant recoveries for investors in cases such as *Enron*, *Blackstone* and *CIT Group*. Henssler is currently a key member of the team of attorneys prosecuting fraud claims against Goldman Sachs stemming from Goldman's conduct in subprime mortgage transactions (including "Abacus").

Most recently, Henssler served on the litigation team for *Schuh v. HCA Holdings, Inc.*, which resulted in a \$215 million recovery for shareholders, the largest securities class action recovery ever in Tennessee. The recovery achieved approximately 70% of classwide damages, which as a percentage of damages significantly exceeds the median class action recovery of 2%-3% of damages. Henssler was also part of the litigation teams for *Marcus v. J.C. Penney Company, Inc.* (\$97.5 million recovery); *Landmen Partners Inc. v. The Blackstone Group L.P.* (\$85 million recovery); *In re Novatel Wireless Sec. Litig.* (\$16 million recovery); *Carpenters Pension Trust Fund of St. Louis v. Barclays PLC* (\$14 million settlement); and *Kmiec v. Powerwave Technologies, Inc.* (\$8.2 million settlement).

## Education

B.A., University of New Hampshire, 1997; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2001

## Honors / Awards

Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2018-2019

## Dennis J. Herman | Partner

Dennis Herman is a partner in the Firm's San Francisco office where he focuses his practice on securities class actions. He has led or been significantly involved in the prosecution of numerous securities fraud claims that have resulted in substantial recoveries for investors, including settled actions against Massey Energy (\$265 million), Coca-Cola (\$137 million), VeriSign (\$78 million), Psychiatric Solutions, Inc. (\$65 million), St. Jude Medical, Inc. (\$50 million), NorthWestern (\$40 million), BancorpSouth (\$29.5 million), America Service Group (\$15 million), Specialty Laboratories (\$12 million), Stellant (\$12 million) and Threshold Pharmaceuticals (\$10 million).

## Education

B.S., Syracuse University, 1982; J.D., Stanford Law School, 1992

## Honors / Awards

Northern California Best Lawyer, *Best Lawyers*®, 2020; Best Lawyer in America, *Best Lawyers*®, 2018-2020; Super Lawyer, 2017-2018; Order of the Coif, Stanford Law School; Urban A. Sontheimer Award (graduating second in his class), Stanford Law School; Award-winning Investigative Newspaper Reporter and Editor in California and Connecticut

## Steven F. Hubachek | Partner

Steve Hubachek is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. He is a member of the Firm's appellate group, where his practice concentrates on federal appeals. He has more than 25 years of appellate experience, has argued over 100 federal appeals, including 3 cases before the United States Supreme Court and 7 cases before en banc panels of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Prior to his work with the Firm, Hubachek joined Perkins Coie in Seattle, Washington, as an associate. He was admitted to the Washington State Bar in 1987 and was admitted to the California State Bar in 1990, practicing for many years with Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc. He also had an active trial practice, including over 30 jury trials, and was Chief Appellate Attorney for Federal Defenders.

## Education

B.A., University of California, Berkeley, 1983; J.D., Hastings College of the Law, 1987

## Honors / Awards

AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell; Top Lawyer in San Diego, *San Diego Magazine*, 2014-2019; Super Lawyer, 2007-2009, 2019; Assistant Federal Public Defender of the Year, National Federal Public Defenders Association, 2011; Appellate Attorney of the Year, San Diego Criminal Defense Bar Association, 2011 (co-recipient); President's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service, Mid City Little League, San Diego, 2011; E. Stanley Conant Award for exceptional and unselfish devotion to protecting the rights of the indigent accused, 2009 (joint recipient); *The Daily Transcript* Top Attorneys, 2007; J.D., *Cum Laude*, Order of the Coif, Thurston Honor Society, Hastings College of Law, 1987

## Maxwell R. Huffman | Partner

Maxwell Huffman is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. He focuses his practice on representing both institutional and individual shareholders in securities class action litigation in the context of mergers and acquisitions. Huffman was part of the litigation team for *In re Dole Food Co., Inc. Stockholder Litig.*, where he went to trial in the Delaware Court of Chancery on claims of breach of fiduciary duty on behalf of Dole Food Co., Inc. shareholders and obtained \$148 million, the largest trial verdict ever in a class action challenging a merger transaction.

## Education

B.A., California State University, Sacramento, 2005; J.D., Gonzaga University School of Law, 2009

## Honors / Awards

Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2019; Winning Litigator, *The National Law Journal*, 2018; Titan of the Industry, *The American Lawyer*, 2018

## James I. Jaconette | Partner

James Jaconette is one of the founding partners of the Firm and is located in its San Diego office. He manages cases in the Firm's securities class action and shareholder derivative litigation practices. He has served as one of the lead counsel in securities cases with recoveries to individual and institutional investors totaling over \$8 billion. He also advises institutional investors, including hedge funds, pension funds and financial institutions. Landmark securities actions in which he contributed in a primary litigating role include *In re Informix Corp. Sec. Litig.*, and *In re Dynegy Inc. Sec. Litig.* and *In re Enron Corp. Sec. Litig.*, where he represented lead plaintiff The Regents of the University of California. Most recently, Jaconette was part of the trial team in *Schuh v. HCA Holdings, Inc.*, which resulted in a \$215 million recovery for shareholders, the largest securities class action recovery ever in Tennessee. The recovery achieved approximately 70% of classwide damages, which as a percentage of damages significantly exceeds the median class action recovery of 2%-3% of damages.

## Education

B.A., San Diego State University, 1989; M.B.A., San Diego State University, 1992; J.D., University of California Hastings College of the Law, 1995

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; J.D., *Cum Laude*, University of California Hastings College of the Law, 1995; Associate Articles Editor, *Hastings Law Journal*, University of California Hastings College of the Law; B.A., with Honors and Distinction, San Diego State University, 1989

## Rachel L. Jensen | Partner

Rachel Jensen is a partner in Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP's San Diego office. For 16 years, Jensen has developed a track record of success in helping to craft impactful business reforms and recover billions of dollars on behalf of individuals, businesses, and government entities injured by unlawful business practices, fraudulent schemes, and hazardous products.

Jensen was one of the lead attorneys who secured a historic recovery on behalf of Trump University students nationwide in two class actions against President Donald J. Trump, which provided \$25 million and nearly 100% refunds to class members. Jensen represented the class on a *pro bono* basis. As a member of the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee in the Fiat Chrysler EcoDiesel litigation, Jensen helped obtain a \$840 million global settlement for concealed defeat devices in "EcoDiesel" SUVs and trucks. Jensen also represented drivers against Volkswagen in one of the most brazen corporate frauds in recent history, helping recover \$17 billion for emission cheating in "clean" diesel vehicles. Additionally, Jensen serves as lead counsel for investors in Grupo Televisa ADRs who lost millions when it was revealed that the Mexican media giant obtained broadcasting rights to FIFA World Cup tournaments not by fair play but bribery. Jensen also serves as one of the lead counsel for policyholders against certain Lloyd's of London syndicates for collusive practices in the insurance market. Most recently, Jensen's representation of California passengers in a landmark consumer and civil rights case against Greyhound for subjecting them to discriminatory immigration raids had an immediate impact as Greyhound now provides "know your rights" information to passengers and implemented other business reforms.

Among other recoveries, Jensen has played significant roles in *In re LendingClub Sec. Litig.*, No. 3:16-cv-02627-WHA (N.D. Cal.) (\$125 million settlement that ranks among the top ten largest securities recoveries ever in N.D. Cal.); *Negrete v. Allianz Life Ins. Co. of N. Am.*, No. CV056838CAS(MANx) (C.D. Cal.) (\$250 million to senior citizens targeted for exorbitant deferred annuities that would not mature in their lifetimes); *In re Ins. Brokerage Antitrust Litig.*, No. 04-5184(CCC) (D.N.J.) (\$200 million recovered for policyholders who paid inflated premiums due to kickback scheme among major insurers and brokers); *In re Morning Song Bird Food Litig.*, No. 3:12-cv-01592-JAH-AGS (S.D. Cal.) (\$85 million settlement in refunds to bird lovers who purchased Scotts Miracle-Gro wild bird food treated with pesticides that are hazardous to birds); *City of Westland Police & Fire Ret. Sys. v. Stumpf*, No. 3:11-cv-02369-SI (N.D. Cal.) (\$67 million in homeowner down-payment assistance and credit counseling for cities hardest hit by the foreclosure crisis and computer integration for mortgage servicing segments in derivative settlement with Wells Fargo for "robo-signing" of foreclosure affidavits); *In re Mattel, Inc., Toy Lead Paint Prods. Liab. Litig.*, No. 2:07-ml-01897-DSF-AJW (C.D. Cal.) (\$50 million in refunds and quality assurance business reforms for toys made in China with lead and magnets); and *In re Checking Account Overdraft Litig.*, No. 1:09-md-2036-JLK (S.D. Fla.) (\$500 million in settlements with major banks for manipulating debit transactions to maximize overdraft fees).

## Education

B.A., Florida State University, 1997; University of Oxford, International Human Rights Law Program at New College, Summer 1998; J.D., Georgetown University Law School, 2000

## Honors / Awards

California Trailblazer, *The Recorder*, 2019; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Leading Lawyer in America, *Lawdragon*, 2017-2019; Super Lawyer, 2016-2019; Plaintiffs' Lawyer Trailblazer, *The National Law Journal*, 2018; Top Woman Lawyer, *Daily Journal*, 2017; Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015; Nominated for 2011 Woman of the Year, *San Diego Magazine*; Editor-in-Chief, *First Annual Review of Gender and Sexuality Law*, Georgetown University Law School; Dean's List 1998-1999; B.A., *Cum Laude*, Florida State University's Honors Program, 1997; *Phi Beta Kappa*

## Steven M. Jodlowski | Partner

Steven Jodlowski is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. His practice focuses on high-stakes complex litigation, often involving antitrust, securities and consumer claims. In recent years, he has specialized in representing investors in a series of antitrust actions involving the manipulation of benchmark rates, including the ISDAfix Benchmark litigation, which to date has resulted in the recovery of \$504.5 million on behalf of investors, *In re Treasuries Sec. Auction Antitrust Litig.*, and *In re SSA Bonds Antitrust Litig.* Jodlowski was also part of the trial team in an antitrust monopolization case against a multinational computer and software company.

Jodlowski has successfully prosecuted numerous antitrust and RICO cases. These cases resulted in the recovery of more than \$1 billion for investors and policyholders. Jodlowski has also represented institutional and individual shareholders in corporate takeover actions in state and federal court. He has handled pre- and post-merger litigation stemming from the acquisition of publicly listed companies in the biotechnology, oil and gas, information technology, specialty retail, electrical, banking, finance and real estate industries, among others.

## Education

B.B.A., University of Central Oklahoma, 2002; J.D., California Western School of Law, 2005

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015-2019; Outstanding Antitrust Litigation Achievement in Private Law Practice, American Antitrust Institute, 2018; CAOC Consumer Attorney of the Year Award Finalist, 2015; J.D., *Cum Laude*, California Western School of Law, 2005

## Chad Johnson | Partner

Chad Johnson is a partner in the Firm's Manhattan office. Johnson has more than 25 years' experience handling complex securities cases and breach of fiduciary duty actions, which includes significant time as a plaintiffs' lawyer, a securities-fraud prosecutor and a defense lawyer. Johnson previously served as the head of New York's securities fraud unit referred to as the Investor Protection Bureau. In that role, he prosecuted cases that resulted in billions of dollars of recoveries for New Yorkers and made new law in the area of securities enforcement for the benefit of investors. Among the cases that Johnson handled in that role included prosecuting dark pool operators for making false statements to the investing public.

In the private sector, Johnson represents institutional and other investors in securities and breach of fiduciary duty cases, including representing investors in direct or "opt-out" actions and also in class actions. Johnson represents some of the world's largest and most sophisticated asset managers, public pension funds and sovereign wealth funds. Johnson also represents whistleblowers in false claims act or "*qui tam*" actions.

## Education

B.A., University of Michigan, 1989; J.D., Harvard Law School, 1993

## Honors / Awards

J.D., *Cum Laude*, Harvard Law School, 1993; B.A., High Distinction, University of Michigan, 1989



## Evan J. Kaufman | Partner

Evan Kaufman is a partner in the Firm's Melville office. He focuses his practice in the area of complex litigation, including securities, ERISA, corporate fiduciary duty, derivative, and consumer fraud class actions. Kaufman has served as lead counsel or played a significant role in numerous actions, including *In re TD Banknorth S'holders Litig.* (\$50 million recovery); *In re Gen. Elec. Co. ERISA Litig.* (\$40 million cost to GE, including significant improvements to GE's employee retirement plan, and benefits to GE plan participants valued in excess of \$100 million); *EnergySolutions, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$26 million recovery); *Lockheed Martin Corp. Sec. Litig.* (\$19.5 million recovery); *In re Warner Chilcott Ltd. Sec. Litig.* (\$16.5 million recovery); *In re Third Avenue Mgmt. Sec. Litig.* (\$14.25 million recovery); *In re Giant Interactive Grp., Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$13 million recovery); *In re Royal Grp. Tech. Sec. Litig.* (\$9 million recovery); *Fidelity Ultra Short Bond Fund Litig.* (\$7.5 million recovery); *In re Audiovox Derivative Litig.* (\$6.75 million recovery and corporate governance reforms); *State Street Yield Plus Fund Litig.* (\$6.25 million recovery); *In re Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., Internet Strategies Sec. Litig.* (resolved as part of a \$39 million global settlement); and *In re MONY Grp., Inc. S'holder Litig.* (obtained preliminary injunction requiring disclosures in proxy statement).

## Education

B.A., University of Michigan, 1992; J.D., Fordham University School of Law, 1995

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, 2013-2015, 2017-2019; Member, *Fordham International Law Journal*, Fordham University School of Law

## David A. Knotts | Partner

David Knotts is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office and, in addition to ongoing litigation work, teaches a full-semester course on M&A litigation at the University of California Berkeley School of Law. He focuses his practice on securities class action litigation in the context of mergers and acquisitions, representing both individual shareholders and institutional investors. Knotts has been counsel of record for shareholders on a number of significant recoveries in courts and throughout the country, including *In re Rural/Metro Corp. Stockholders Litig.* (nearly \$110 million total recovery, affirmed by the Delaware Supreme Court in *RBC v. Jervis*), *In re Del Monte Foods Co. S'holders Litig.* (\$89.4 million), *Websense* (\$40 million), *In re Onyx S'holders Litig.* (\$30 million), and *Joy Global* (\$20 million). *Websense* and *Onyx* are both believed to be the largest post-merger class settlements in California state court history. When Knotts recently presented the settlement as lead counsel for the stockholders in *Joy Global*, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin noted that "this is a pretty extraordinary settlement, recovery on behalf of the members of the class. . . . [I]t's always a pleasure to work with people who are experienced and who know what they are doing."

Before joining Robbins Geller, Knotts was an associate at one of the largest law firms in the world and represented corporate clients in various aspects of state and federal litigation, including major antitrust matters, trade secret disputes and unfair competition claims.

## Education

B.S., University of Pittsburgh, 2001; J.D., Cornell Law School, 2004

## Honors / Awards

Next Generation Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2017-2019; 40 & Under Hot List, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2018; Wiley W. Manuel Award for Pro Bono Legal Services, State Bar of California; Casa Cornelia Inns of Court; J.D., *Cum Laude*, Cornell Law School, 2004

## Laurie L. Largent | Partner

Laurie Largent is a partner in the Firm's San Diego, California office. Her practice focuses on securities class action and shareholder derivative litigation and she has helped recover millions of dollars for injured shareholders. Largent was part of the litigation team that obtained a \$265 million recovery in *In re Massey Energy Co. Sec. Litig.*, in which Massey was found accountable for a tragic explosion at the Upper Big Branch mine in Raleigh County, West Virginia. She also helped obtain \$67.5 million for Wyeth shareholders in *City of Livonia Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Wyeth*, settling claims that the defendants misled investors about the safety and commercial viability of one of the company's leading drug candidates. Most recently, Largent was on the team that secured a \$64 million recovery for Dana Corp. shareholders in *Plumbers & Pipefitters Nat'l Pension Fund v. Burns*, in which the Firm's Appellate Practice Group successfully appealed to the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals twice, reversing the district court's dismissal of the action. Some of Largent's other cases include: *In re Sanofi-Aventis Sec. Litig.* (S.D.N.Y.) (\$40 million); *In re Bridgepoint Educ., Inc. Sec. Litig.* (S.D. Cal.) (\$15.5 million); *Ross v. Abercrombie & Fitch Co.* (S.D. Ohio) (\$12 million); *Maiman v. Talbott* (C.D. Cal.) (\$8.25 million); *In re Cafepress Inc. S'holder Litig.* (Cal. Super. Ct., San Mateo Cty.) (\$8 million); and *Krystek v. Ruby Tuesday, Inc.* (M.D. Tenn.) (\$5 million). Largent's current cases include securities fraud cases against Dell, Inc. (W.D. Tex.) and Banc of California (C.D. Cal.).

She is a past board member on the San Diego County Bar Foundation and the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program. Largent has also served as an Adjunct Business Law Professor at Southwestern College in Chula Vista, California.

## Education

B.B.A., University of Oklahoma, 1985; J.D., University of Tulsa, 1988

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Board Member, San Diego County Bar Foundation, 2013-2017; Board Member, San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program, 2014-2017

## Angel P. Lau | Partner

Angel Lau is a partner in Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP's San Diego office, where her practice focuses on complex securities litigation. She is a member of the litigation team prosecuting actions against investment banks and the leading national credit rating agencies for their role in structuring and rating structured investment vehicles. These cases are among the first to successfully allege fraud against the rating agencies, whose ratings have historically been protected by the First Amendment.

As part of the Firm's litigation team, Lau helped secure a \$388 million recovery for investors in J.P. Morgan residential mortgage-backed securities in *Fort Worth Employees' Retirement Fund v. J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.* The resulting settlement is, on a percentage basis, the largest recovery ever achieved in a class action brought on behalf of purchasers of RMBS. She was part of the litigation team that obtained a landmark \$272 million recovery from the Second Circuit Court of Appeals in its precedent-setting *NECA-IBEW Health & Welfare Fund v. Goldman Sachs & Co.* decision, which dramatically expanded the scope of permissible class actions asserting claims under the Securities Act of 1933 on behalf of mortgage-backed securities investors. Additionally, Lau also helped to obtain a landmark settlement, on the eve of trial, from the major credit rating agencies and Morgan Stanley arising out of the fraudulent ratings of bonds issued by the structured investment vehicles in *Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank v. Morgan Stanley & Co. Inc.* Prior to joining the Firm, Lau worked at an investment bank in New York, with experience in arbitrage trading and securitized products.

## Education

B.A., Stanford University, 1994; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2012

## Arthur C. Leahy | Partner

Art Leahy is a founding partner in the Firm's San Diego office and a member of the Firm's Executive and Management Committees. He has over 20 years of experience successfully litigating securities actions and derivative cases. Leahy has recovered well over two billion dollars for the Firm's clients and has negotiated comprehensive pro-investor corporate governance reforms at several large public companies. Most recently, Leahy helped secure a \$272 million recovery on behalf of mortgage-backed securities investors in *NECA-IBEW Health & Welfare Fund v. Goldman Sachs & Co.* In the *Goldman Sachs* case, he helped achieve favorable decisions in the Second Circuit Court of Appeals on behalf of investors of Goldman Sachs mortgage-backed securities and again in the Supreme Court, which denied Goldman Sachs' petition for certiorari, or review, of the Second Circuit's reinstatement of the plaintiff's case. He was also part of the Firm's trial team in the AT&T securities litigation, which AT&T and its former officers paid \$100 million to settle after two weeks of trial. Prior to joining the Firm, he served as a judicial extern for the Honorable J. Clifford Wallace of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Alan C. Kay of the United States District Court for the District of Hawaii.

## Education

B.A., Point Loma Nazarene University, 1987; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 1990

## Honors / Awards

Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Top Lawyer in San Diego, *San Diego Magazine*, 2013-2019; Super Lawyer, 2016-2017; J.D., *Cum Laude*, University of San Diego School of Law, 1990; Managing Editor, *San Diego Law Review*, University of San Diego School of Law

## Nathan R. Lindell | Partner

Nate Lindell is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office, where his practice focuses on representing aggrieved investors in complex civil litigation. He has helped achieve numerous significant recoveries for investors, including: *In re Enron Corp. Sec. Litig.* (\$7.2 billion recovery); *In re HealthSouth Corp. Sec. Litig.* (\$671 million recovery); *Luther v. Countrywide Fin. Corp.* (\$500 million recovery); *Fort Worth Employees' Retirement Fund v. J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.* (\$388 million recovery); *NECA-IBEW Health & Welfare Fund v. Goldman Sachs & Co.* (\$272 million recovery); *In re Morgan Stanley Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Litig.* (\$95 million recovery); *Massachusetts Bricklayers and Masons Trust Funds v. Deutsche Alt-A Securities, Inc.* (\$32.5 million recovery); *City of Ann Arbor Employees' Ret. Sys. v. Citigroup Mortgage Loan Trust Inc.* (\$24.9 million recovery); and *Plumbers' Union Local No. 12 Pension Fund v. Nomura Asset Acceptance Corp.* (\$21.2 million recovery). In October 2016, Lindell successfully argued in front of the New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division, First Judicial Department, for the reversal of an earlier order granting defendants' motion to dismiss in *Phoenix Light SF Limited, et al. v. Morgan Stanley, et al.*

Lindell was also a member of the litigation team responsible for securing a landmark victory from the Second Circuit Court of Appeals in its precedent-setting *NECA-IBEW Health & Welfare Fund v. Goldman Sachs & Co.* decision, which dramatically expanded the scope of permissible class actions asserting claims under the Securities Act of 1933 on behalf of mortgage-backed securities investors, and ultimately resulted in a \$272 million recovery for investors.

## Education

B.S., Princeton University, 2003; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2006

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015-2017; Charles W. Caldwell Alumni Scholarship, University of San Diego School of Law; CALI/AmJur Award in Sports and the Law

## Ryan Llorens | Partner

Ryan Llorens is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. Llorens' practice focuses on litigating complex securities fraud cases. He has worked on a number of securities cases that have resulted in significant recoveries for investors, including *In re HealthSouth Corp. Sec. Litig.* (\$670 million); *AOL Time Warner* (\$629 million); *In re AT&T Corp. Sec. Litig.* (\$100 million); *In re Fleming Cos. Sec. Litig.* (\$95 million); and *In re Cooper Cos., Inc. Sec Litig.* (\$27 million).

## Education

B.A., Pitzer College, 1997; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2002

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015

## Andrew S. Love | Partner

Andrew Love is a partner in the Firm's San Francisco office. His practice focuses primarily on appeals of securities fraud class action cases. Love has briefed and argued cases on behalf of defrauded investors and consumers in several U.S. Courts of Appeal, as well as in the California appellate courts. Prior to joining the Firm, Love represented inmates on California's death row in appellate and habeas corpus proceedings, successfully arguing capital cases in both the California Supreme Court and the Ninth Circuit. During his many years as a death penalty lawyer, he co-chaired the Capital Case Defense Seminar (2004-2013), recognized as the largest conference for death penalty practitioners in the country. He regularly presented at the seminar and at other conferences on a wide variety of topics geared towards effective appellate practice. Additionally, he was on the faculty of the National Institute for Trial Advocacy's Post-Conviction Skills Seminar. Love has also written several articles on appellate advocacy and capital punishment that have appeared in *The Daily Journal*, *CACJ Forum*, *American Constitution Society*, and other publications.

## Education

University of Vermont, 1981; J.D., University of San Francisco School of Law, 1985

## Honors / Awards

J.D., *Cum Laude*, University of San Francisco School of Law, 1985; McAuliffe Honor Society, University of San Francisco School of Law, 1982-1985

## Erik W. Luedeke | Partner

Erik Luedeke is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office, where he represents individual and institutional investors in shareholder derivative and securities litigation. As corporate fiduciaries, directors and officers are duty-bound to act in the best interest of the corporation and its shareholders. When they fail to do so they breach their fiduciary duty and may be held liable for harm caused to the corporation. Luedeke's shareholder derivative practice focuses on litigating breach of fiduciary duty and related claims on behalf of corporations and shareholders injured by wayward corporate fiduciaries. Notable shareholder derivative actions in which he recently participated and the recoveries he helped to achieve include *In re Community Health Sys., Inc. S'holder Derivative Litig.* (\$60 million in financial relief and unprecedented corporate governance reforms), *In re Lumber Liquidators Holdings, Inc. S'holder Derivative Litig.* (\$26 million in financial relief plus substantial governance), and *In re Google Inc. S'holder Derivative Litig.* (\$250 million in financial relief to fund substantial governance).

Luedeke's practice also includes the prosecution of complex securities class action cases on behalf of aggrieved investors. Luedeke was a member of the litigation team in *Jaffe v. Household Int'l, Inc.*, No. 02-C-5893 (N.D. Ill.), that resulted in a record-breaking \$1.575 billion settlement after 14 years of litigation, including a six-week jury trial ending in a plaintiffs' verdict. He was also a member of the litigation teams in *In re UnitedHealth Grp. Inc. PSLRA Litig.*, No. 06-CV-1691 (D. Minn.) (\$925 million recovery), and *In re Questcor Pharm., Inc. Sec. Litig.*, No. 8:12-cv-01623 (C.D. Cal.) (\$38 million recovery).

## Education

B.S./B.A., University of California Santa Barbara, 2001; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2006

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015-2017; Student Comment Editor, *San Diego International Law Journal*, University of San Diego School of Law



## Carmen A. Medici | Partner

Carmen Medici is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office and focuses on complex antitrust class action litigation and unfair competition law. He represents businesses and consumers who are the victims of price-fixing, monopolization, collusion, and other anticompetitive and unfair business practices. Medici specializes in litigation against giants in the financial, pharmaceutical and commodities industries.

A veteran of litigation in the credit card industry, Medici is currently representing merchants in *In re Payment Card Interchange Fee and Merchant Discount Litig.*, in which a settlement of up to \$6.26 billion was recently preliminarily approved by the Eastern District of New York. Thought to be the largest antitrust class action case in history, the case charges Visa, MasterCard and the country's major banks with violating federal law in the allegedly collusive manner in which rules are set in the industry, including rules requiring payment of ever-increasing interchange fees by merchants. He is also a part of the co-lead counsel team in *In re SSA Bonds Antitrust Litig.*, pending in the Southern District of New York, representing bond purchasers who were defrauded by a brazen price-fixing scheme perpetrated by traders at some of the nation's largest banks. Medici is also a member of the litigation team in *In re Dealer Management Systems Antitrust Litig.*, a lawsuit brought on behalf of car dealerships pending in federal court in Chicago, where one defendant has settled for nearly \$30 million.

## Education

B.S., Arizona State University, 2003; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2006

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015-2019

## Matthew S. Melamed | Partner

Matthew Melamed is a partner in Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP's San Francisco office, where he focuses on securities litigation whistleblower representation. Since joining the Firm, he has been a member of litigation teams responsible for substantial investor recoveries, including *Jones v. Pfizer Inc.* (S.D.N.Y.), *In re St. Jude Medical, Inc. Securities Litigation* (D. Minn.), *Oklahoma Police Pension & Retirement System v. Sientra, Inc.* (Cal. Super. Ct., San Mateo Cty.), and *In re Willbros Group, Inc. Securities Litigation* (S.D. Tex.). He has also contributed to the Firm's appellate work, including in *Mineworkers' Pension Scheme, British Coal Staff Superannuation v. First Solar, Inc.* (9th Cir.) and *China Development Industrial Bank v. Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated* (N.Y. App. Div.). Along with other Robbins Geller attorneys, Melamed is currently leading the effort on behalf of cities, counties, and states in a nationwide litigation concerning the marketing and distribution of prescription opioids.

## Education

B.A., Wesleyan University, 1996; J.D., University of California, Hastings College of the Law, 2008

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015-2018; J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, University of California, Hastings College of the Law, 2008; Tony Patino Fellow, University of California, Hastings College of the Law; Order of the Coif, University of California, Hastings College of the Law; Senior Articles Editor, *Hastings Law Journal*, University of California, Hastings College of the Law; Student Director, General Assistance Advocacy Project, University of California, Hastings College of the Law

## Mark T. Millkey | Partner

Mark Millkey is a partner in the Firm's Melville office. He has significant experience in the areas of securities and consumer litigation, as well as in federal and state court appeals.

During his career, Millkey has worked on a major consumer litigation against MetLife that resulted in a benefit to the class of approximately \$1.7 billion, as well as a securities class action against Royal Dutch/Shell that settled for a minimum cash benefit to the class of \$130 million and a contingent value of more than \$180 million. Since joining Robbins Geller, he has worked on securities class actions that have resulted in approximately \$300 million in settlements.

## Education

B.A., Yale University, 1981; M.A., University of Virginia, 1983; J.D., University of Virginia, 1987

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, 2013-2019

## David W. Mitchell | Partner

David Mitchell is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office and focuses his practice on antitrust and securities fraud litigation. He is a former federal prosecutor who has tried nearly 20 jury trials. As head of the Firm's Antitrust and Competition Law Practice Group, he has served as lead or co-lead counsel in numerous cases and has helped achieve substantial settlements for shareholders. His most notable antitrust cases include *Dahl v. Bain Capital Partners, LLC*, obtaining more than \$590 million for shareholders, and *In re Payment Card Interchange Fee and Merchant Discount Antitrust Litig.*, in which a settlement of up to \$6.26 billion was recently preliminarily approved by the Eastern District of New York. Thought to be the largest antitrust class action case in history, the case charges Visa, MasterCard and the country's major banks with violating federal law in the allegedly collusive manner in which rules are set in the industry, including rules requiring payment of ever-increasing interchange fees by merchants.

Additionally, Mitchell served as co-lead counsel in the ISDAfix Benchmark action against 14 major banks and broker ICAP plc, obtaining \$504.5 million for plaintiffs. Currently, Mitchell serves as court-appointed lead counsel in *In re Aluminum Warehousing Antitrust Litig., City of Providence, Rhode Island v. BATS Global Markets Inc., In re SSA Bonds Antitrust Litig., In re Remicade Antitrust Litig.* and *In re 1-800 Contacts Antitrust Litig.*

## Education

B.A., University of Richmond, 1995; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 1998

## Honors / Awards

Member, Enright Inn of Court; Best Lawyer in America, *Best Lawyers*®, 2018-2020; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Super Lawyer, 2016-2019; Honoree, Outstanding Antitrust Litigation Achievement in Private Law Practice, American Antitrust Institute, 2018; Antitrust Trailblazer, *The National Law Journal*, 2015; "Best of the Bar," *San Diego Business Journal*, 2014

## Maureen E. Mueller | Partner

Maureen Mueller is a partner in the Firm's Boca Raton office, where her practice focuses on complex securities litigation. Mueller has helped recover more than \$3 billion for investors. She was a member of the Firm's trial team in *Jaffe v. Household Int'l, Inc.*, No. 02-C-05893 (N.D. Ill.), a securities class action that obtained a record-breaking \$1.575 billion settlement after 14 years of litigation, including a six-week jury trial in 2009 that resulted in a verdict for plaintiffs. She was also a member of the team of attorneys responsible for recovering a record-breaking \$925 million for investors in the *UnitedHealth* litigation, *In re UnitedHealth Grp. Inc. PSLRA Litig.*, No. 06-CV-1216 (JMR/FLN) (D. Minn.), and served as co-lead counsel in *In re Wachovia Preferred Securities and Bond/Notes Litig.*, No. 09 Civ. 6351 (RJS) (S.D.N.Y.), which recovered \$627 million. More recently, Mueller was part of the litigation team that secured a \$64 million recovery for shareholders of Dana Corp. in *Plumbers & Pipefitters National Pension Fund v. Burns*, No. 3:05-cv-07393-JGC (N.D. Ohio), in which the Firm's Appellate Practice Group successfully appealed to the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals twice, reversing the district court's dismissal of the action. She was also a member of the team of attorneys that recovered \$13 million in *Burges v. BancorpSouth, Inc.*, No. 3:14-cv-01564 (M.D. Tenn.), and represented investors in *Knurr v. Orbital ATK, Inc.*, No. 1:16-cv-01031-TSE-MSN (E.D. Va.), which recovered \$108 million for shareholders and is believed to be the fourth-largest securities class action settlement in the history of the Eastern District of Virginia.

## Education

B.S., Trinity University, 2002; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2007

## Honors / Awards

Next Generation Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2018-2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2017, 2019; Top Litigator Under 40, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2017; Top Women Lawyer, *Daily Journal*, 2017; Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015-2017; "Outstanding Young Attorneys," *San Diego Daily Transcript*, 2010; Lead Articles Editor, *San Diego Law Review*, University of San Diego School of Law

## Danielle S. Myers | Partner

Danielle Myers is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office and focuses her practice on complex securities litigation. Myers is one of the partners that oversees the Portfolio Monitoring Program® and provides legal recommendations to the Firm's institutional investor clients on their options to maximize recoveries in securities litigation, both within the United States and internationally, from inception to settlement. In addition, Myers advises the Firm's clients in connection with lead plaintiff applications and has secured appointment of the Firm's clients as lead plaintiff and the Firm's appointment as lead counsel in over 125 securities class actions in the past several years which have yielded more than \$1 billion for investors, including 2018-2019 recoveries in *City of Pontiac Gen. Ret. Sys. v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.*, No. 5:12-cv-5162 (W.D. Ark.) (\$160 million); *Knurr v. Orbital ATK, Inc.*, No. 1:16-cv-01031 (E.D. Va.) (\$105 million pending final approval); *Evellard v. LendingClub Corp.*, No. 3:16-cv-02627 (N.D. Cal.) (\$125 million); and *Marcus v. J.C. Penney Co., Inc.*, No. 6:13-cv-00736 (E.D. Tex.) (\$97.5 million). Myers is also a frequent lecturer on securities fraud and corporate governance reform at conferences and events around the world.

## Education

B.A., University of California at San Diego, 1997; J.D., University of San Diego, 2008

## Honors / Awards

Future Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2019-2020; Next Generation Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2017-2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2019; Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015-2018; One of the "Five Associates to Watch in 2012," *Daily Journal*; Member, *San Diego Law Review*; CALI Excellence Award in Statutory Interpretation

## Eric I. Niehaus | Partner

Eric Niehaus is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office, where his practice focuses on complex securities and derivative litigation. His efforts have resulted in numerous multi-million dollar recoveries to shareholders and extensive corporate governance changes. Recent examples include: *In re NYSE Specialists Sec. Litig.* (S.D.N.Y.); *In re Novatel Wireless Sec. Litig.* (S.D. Cal.); *Batwin v. Occam Networks, Inc.* (C.D. Cal.); *Commc'ns Workers of Am. Plan for Emps.' Pensions and Death Benefits v. CSK Auto Corp.* (D. Ariz.); *Marie Raymond Revocable Tr. v. Mat Five* (Del. Ch.); and *Kelleher v. ADVO, Inc.* (D. Conn.). Niehaus is currently prosecuting cases against several financial institutions arising from their role in the collapse of the mortgage-backed securities market. Before joining the Firm, Niehaus worked as a Market Maker on the American Stock Exchange in New York, and the Pacific Stock Exchange in San Francisco.

## Education

B.S., University of Southern California, 1999; J.D., California Western School of Law, 2005

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015-2016; J.D., *Cum Laude*, California Western School of Law, 2005; Member, *California Western Law Review*

## Brian O. O'Mara | Partner

Brian O'Mara is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. His practice focuses on complex securities and antitrust litigation. Since 2003, O'Mara has served as lead or co-lead counsel in numerous shareholder and antitrust actions, including: *Bennett v. Sprint Nextel Corp.* (D. Kan.) (\$131 million recovery); *In re CIT Grp. Inc. Sec. Litig.* (S.D.N.Y.) (\$75 million recovery); *In re MGM Mirage Sec. Litig.* (D. Nev.) (\$75 million recovery); *C.D.T.S. No. 1 v. UBS AG* (S.D.N.Y.); *In re Aluminum Warehousing Antitrust Litig.* (S.D.N.Y.); and *Alaska Elec. Pension Fund v. Bank of Am. Corp.* (S.D.N.Y.). Most recently, O'Mara served as class counsel in the ISDAfix Benchmark action against 14 major banks and broker ICAP plc, obtaining \$504.5 million for plaintiffs.

O'Mara has been responsible for a number of significant rulings, including: *Alaska Elec. Pension Fund v. Bank of Am. Corp.*, 175 F. Supp. 3d 44 (S.D.N.Y. 2016); *Bennett v. Sprint Nextel Corp.*, 298 F.R.D. 498 (D. Kan. 2014); *In re MGM Mirage Sec. Litig.*, 2013 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 139356 (D. Nev. 2013); *In re Constar Int'l, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 2008 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 16966 (E.D. Pa. 2008), *aff'd*, 585 F.3d 774 (3d Cir. 2009); *In re Direct Gen. Corp. Sec. Litig.*, 2006 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 56128 (M.D. Tenn. 2006); and *In re Dura Pharm., Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 452 F. Supp. 2d 1005 (S.D. Cal. 2006). Prior to joining the Firm, he served as law clerk to the Honorable Jerome M. Polaha of the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada.

## Education

B.A., University of Kansas, 1997; J.D., DePaul University, College of Law, 2002

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Super Lawyer, 2016-2019; Outstanding Antitrust Litigation Achievement in Private Law Practice, American Antitrust Institute, 2018; CALI Excellence Award in Securities Regulation, DePaul University, College of Law

## Lucas F. Olts | Partner

Luke Olts is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office, where his practice focuses on securities litigation on behalf of individual and institutional investors. Olts has recently focused on litigation related to residential mortgage-backed securities, and has served as lead counsel or co-lead counsel in some of the largest recoveries arising from the collapse of the mortgage market. For example, he was a member of the team that recovered \$388 million for investors in J.P. Morgan residential mortgage-backed securities in *Fort Worth Employees' Retirement Fund v. J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.*, and a member of the litigation team responsible for securing a \$272 million settlement on behalf of mortgage-backed securities investors in *NECA-IBEW Health & Welfare Fund v. Goldman Sachs & Co.* Olts also served as co-lead counsel in *In re Wachovia Preferred Securities and Bond/Notes Litig.*, which recovered \$627 million under the Securities Act of 1933. He also served as lead counsel in *Siracusano v. Matrixx Initiatives, Inc.*, in which the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously affirmed the decision of the Ninth Circuit that plaintiffs stated a claim for securities fraud under §10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and SEC Rule 10b-5. Before joining the Firm, Olts served as a Deputy District Attorney for the County of Sacramento, where he tried numerous cases to verdict, including crimes of domestic violence, child abuse, and sexual assault.

## Education

B.A., University of California, Santa Barbara, 2001; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2004

## Honors / Awards

Future Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2018-2020; Next Generation Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2017; Top Litigator Under 40, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2017; Under 40 Hotlist, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2016

## Steven W. Pepich | Partner

Steve Pepich is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. His practice has focused primarily on securities class action litigation, but has also included a wide variety of complex civil cases, including representing plaintiffs in mass tort, royalty, civil rights, human rights, ERISA and employment law actions. Pepich has participated in the successful prosecution of numerous securities class actions, including: *Carpenters Health & Welfare Fund v. Coca-Cola Co.*, No. 1:00-CV-2838 (\$137.5 million recovery); *In re Fleming Cos. Inc. Sec. & Derivative Litig.*, No. 5-03-MD-1530 (\$95 million recovered); *In re Boeing Sec. Litig.*, No. C-97-1715Z (\$92 million recovery); *In re Louisiana-Pacific Corp. Sec. Litig.*, No. C-95-707 (\$65 million recovery); *Haw. Structural Ironworkers Pension Trust Fund v. Calpine Corp.*, No. 1-04-CV-021465 (\$43 million recovery); *In re Advanced Micro Devices Sec. Litig.*, No. C-93-20662 (\$34 million recovery); and *Gohler v. Wood*, No. 92-C-181 (\$17.2 million recovery). Pepich was a member of the plaintiffs' trial team in *Mynaf v. Taco Bell Corp.*, which settled after two months of trial on terms favorable to two plaintiff classes of restaurant workers for recovery of unpaid wages. He was also a member of the plaintiffs' trial team in *Newman v. Stringfellow* where, after a nine-month trial in Riverside, California, all claims for exposure to toxic chemicals were ultimately resolved for \$109 million.

## Education

B.S., Utah State University, 1980; J.D., DePaul University, 1983

## Daniel J. Pfefferbaum | Partner

Daniel Pfefferbaum is a partner in the Firm's San Francisco office, where his practice focuses on complex securities litigation. He has been a member of litigation teams that have recovered more than \$100 million for investors, including: *Garden City Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Psychiatric Sols., Inc.* (\$65 million recovery); *In re PMI Grp., Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$31.25 million recovery); *Cunha v. Hansen Natural Corp.* (\$16.25 million recovery); *In re Accuray Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$13.5 million recovery); and *Twinde v. Threshold Pharm., Inc.* (\$10 million recovery). Pfefferbaum was a member of the litigation team that secured a historic recovery on behalf of Trump University students in two class actions against President Donald J. Trump. The settlement provides \$25 million to approximately 7,000 consumers. This result means individual class members are eligible for upwards of \$35,000 in restitution. He represented the class on a *pro bono* basis.

## Education

B.A., Pomona College, 2002; J.D., University of San Francisco School of Law, 2006; LL.M. in Taxation, New York University School of Law, 2007

## Honors / Awards

Future Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2018-2020; 40 & Under Hot List, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2016-2019; Top 40 Under 40, *Daily Journal*, 2017; Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2013-2017



## Theodore J. Pinta | Partner

Ted Pinta is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. Pinta has over 20 years of experience prosecuting securities fraud actions and derivative actions and over 15 years of experience prosecuting insurance-related consumer class actions, with recoveries in excess of \$1 billion. He was part of the litigation team in the AOL Time Warner state and federal court securities opt-out actions, which arose from the 2001 merger of America Online and Time Warner. These cases resulted in a global settlement of \$618 million. Pinta was also on the trial team in *Knapp v. Gomez*, which resulted in a plaintiff's verdict. Pinta has successfully prosecuted several RICO cases involving the deceptive sale of deferred annuities, including cases against Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America (\$250 million), American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company (\$129 million), Midland National Life Insurance Company (\$80 million) and Fidelity & Guarantee Life Insurance Company (\$53 million). He has participated in the successful prosecution of numerous other insurance and consumer class actions, including: (i) actions against major life insurance companies such as Manufacturer's Life (\$555 million initial estimated settlement value) and Principal Mutual Life Insurance Company (\$380+ million) involving the deceptive sale of life insurance; (ii) actions against major homeowners insurance companies such as Allstate (\$50 million) and Prudential Property and Casualty Co. (\$7 million); (iii) actions against automobile insurance companies such as the Auto Club and GEICO; and (iv) actions against Columbia House (\$55 million) and BMG Direct, direct marketers of CDs and cassettes. Additionally, Pinta has served as a panelist for numerous Continuing Legal Education seminars on federal and state court practice and procedure.

### Education

B.A., University of California, Berkeley, 1984; J.D., University of Utah College of Law, 1987

### Honors / Awards

Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell; Top Lawyer in San Diego, *San Diego Magazine*, 2013-2019; Super Lawyer, 2014-2017; CAOC Consumer Attorney of the Year Award Finalist, 2015; Note and Comment Editor, *Journal of Contemporary Law*, University of Utah College of Law; Note and Comment Editor, *Journal of Energy Law and Policy*, University of Utah College of Law

## Willow E. Radcliffe | Partner

Willow Radcliffe is a partner in the Firm's San Francisco office and concentrates her practice on securities class action litigation in federal court. Radcliffe has been significantly involved in the prosecution of numerous securities fraud claims, including actions filed against Flowserve, NorthWestern and Ashworth, and has represented plaintiffs in other complex actions, including a class action against a major bank regarding the adequacy of disclosures made to consumers in California related to Access Checks. Before joining the Firm, she clerked for the Honorable Maria-Elena James, Magistrate Judge for the United States District Court for the Northern District of California.

### Education

B.A., University of California, Los Angeles 1994; J.D., Seton Hall University School of Law, 1998

### Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; J.D., *Cum Laude*, Seton Hall University School of Law, 1998; Most Outstanding Clinician Award; Constitutional Law Scholar Award

## Mark S. Reich | Partner

Mark Reich is a partner in the Firm's Melville office. Reich focuses his practice on challenging unfair mergers and acquisitions in courts throughout the country. Reich's notable cases include: *In re Aramark Corp. S'holders Litig.*, where he achieved a \$222 million increase in consideration paid to shareholders of Aramark and a substantial reduction to management's voting power – from 37% to 3.5% – in connection with the approval of the going-private transaction; *In re Delphi Fin. Grp. S'holders Litig.*, resulting in a \$49 million post-merger settlement for Class A Delphi shareholders; and *In re TD Banknorth S'holders Litig.*, where Reich played a significant role in raising the inadequacy of the \$3 million initial settlement, which the court rejected as wholly inadequate, and later resulted in a vastly increased \$50 million recovery.

Reich has also played a central role in other shareholder related litigation. His cases include *In re Gen. Elec. Co. ERISA Litig.*, resulting in structural changes to company's 401(k) plan valued at over \$100 million, benefiting current and future plan participants, and *In re Doral Fin. Corp. Sec. Litig.*, obtaining a \$129 million recovery for shareholders in a securities fraud litigation.

## Education

B.A., Queens College, 1997; J.D., Brooklyn Law School, 2000

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, 2013-2019; Member, *The Journal of Law and Policy*, Brooklyn Law School; Member, Moot Court Honor Society, Brooklyn Law School

## Jack Reise | Partner

Jack Reise is a partner in the Firm's Boca Raton office. Devoted to protecting the rights of those who have been harmed by corporate misconduct, his practice focuses on class action litigation (including securities fraud, shareholder derivative actions, consumer protection, antitrust, and unfair and deceptive insurance practices). Reise also dedicates a substantial portion of his practice to representing shareholders in actions brought under the federal securities laws. He is currently serving as lead counsel in more than a dozen cases nationwide. As lead counsel, Reise represented investors in a series of cases involving mutual funds charged with improperly valuating their net assets, which settled for a total of more than \$50 million. Other notable actions include: *In re NewPower Holdings Sec. Litig.* (\$41 million settlement); *In re Red Hat Sec. Litig.* (\$20 million settlement); and *In re AFC Enters., Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$17.2 million settlement). Prior to joining the Firm, Reise represented individuals suffering the debilitating effects of asbestos exposure back in the 1950s and 1960s.

## Education

B.A., Binghamton University, 1992; J.D., University of Miami School of Law, 1995

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; American Jurisprudence Book Award in Contracts; J.D., *Cum Laude*, University of Miami School of Law, 1995; *University of Miami Inter-American Law Review*, University of Miami School of Law

## Darren J. Robbins | Partner

Darren Robbins is a founding partner of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP. Over the last two decades, he has served as lead counsel in more than 100 securities class actions and has recovered billions of dollars for injured shareholders. Robbins has obtained significant recoveries in a number of actions arising out of wrongdoing related to the issuance of residential mortgage-backed securities, including the case against Goldman Sachs (\$272 million recovery). Robbins also served as co-lead counsel in connection with a \$627 million recovery for investors in *In re Wachovia Preferred Securities & Bond/Notes Litig.*, one of the largest credit-crisis settlements involving Securities Act claims. Robbins also recently served as lead counsel in *Schuh v. HCA Holdings, Inc.*, which resulted in a \$215 million recovery for shareholders.

One of the hallmarks of Robbins' practice has been his focus on corporate governance reform. In *UnitedHealth*, a securities fraud class action arising out of an options backdating scandal, Robbins represented lead plaintiff CalPERS and was able to obtain the cancellation of more than 3.6 million stock options held by the company's former CEO and secure a record \$925 million cash recovery for shareholders. Robbins also negotiated sweeping corporate governance reforms, including the election of a shareholder-nominated director to the company's board of directors, a mandatory holding period for shares acquired via option exercise, and compensation reforms that tied executive pay to performance. Recently, Robbins led a shareholder derivative action brought by several pension funds on behalf of Community Health Systems, Inc. The case yielded a \$60 million payment to Community Health, as well as corporate governance reforms that included two shareholder-nominated directors, the creation and appointment of a Healthcare Law Compliance Coordinator, the implementation of an executive compensation clawback in the event of a restatement, the establishment of an insider trading controls committee, and the adoption of a political expenditure disclosure policy.

## Education

B.S., University of Southern California, 1990; M.A., University of Southern California, 1990; J.D., Vanderbilt Law School, 1993

## Honors / Awards

Local Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2013-2018, 2020; Best Lawyer in America, *Best Lawyers*®, 2010-2020; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2011, 2017, 2019; Leading Lawyer, *Chambers USA*, 2014-2019; Leading Lawyer in America, *Lawdragon*, 2006-2007, 2009-2019; Benchmark California Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2019; State Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2019; Super Lawyer, 2013-2019; Lawyer of the Year, *Best Lawyers*®, 2017; Influential Business Leader, *San Diego Business Journal*, 2017; Litigator of the Year, *Our City San Diego*, 2017; Top 50 Lawyers in San Diego, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2015; One of the Top 100 Lawyers Shaping the Future, *Daily Journal*; One of the "Young Litigators 45 and Under," *The American Lawyer*; Attorney of the Year, *California Lawyer*; Managing Editor, *Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law*, Vanderbilt Law School

## Robert J. Robbins | Partner

Robert Robbins is a partner in the Firm's Boca Raton office. He focuses his practice on investigating securities fraud, initiating securities class actions, and helping institutional and individual shareholders litigate their claims to recover investment losses caused by fraud. Representing shareholders in all aspects of class actions brought pursuant to the federal securities laws, Robbins provides counsel in numerous securities fraud class actions across the country, helping secure significant recoveries for investors. Robbins has been a member of litigation teams responsible for the successful prosecution of many securities class actions, including *Hospira* (\$60 million recovery); *3D Systems* (\$50 million); *CVS Caremark* (\$48 million recovery); *Baxter International* (\$42.5 million recovery); *R.H. Donnelley* (\$25 million recovery); *Spiegel* (\$17.5 million recovery); *TECO Energy* (\$17.35 million recovery); *AFC Enterprises* (\$17.2 million recovery); *Accretive Health* (\$14 million recovery); *Lender Processing Services* (\$14 million recovery); *Imperial Holdings* (\$12 million recovery); *Mannatech* (\$11.5 million recovery); *Newpark Resources* (\$9.24 million recovery); *Gilead Sciences* (\$8.25 million recovery); *TCP International* (\$7.175 million recovery); *Cryo Cell International* (\$7 million recovery); *Gainsco* (\$4 million recovery); and *Body Central* (\$3.425 million recovery). Robbins is currently representing investors in securities fraud litigation against Valeant Pharmaceuticals International, Inc. (D.N.J.).

## Education

B.S., University of Florida, 1999; J.D., University of Florida College of Law, 2002

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015-2017; J.D., High Honors, University of Florida College of Law, 2002; Member, *Journal of Law and Public Policy*, University of Florida College of Law; Member, *Phi Delta Phi*, University of Florida College of Law; *Pro bono* certificate, Circuit Court of the Eighth Judicial Circuit of Florida; Order of the Coif

## Henry Rosen | Partner

Henry Rosen is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office, where he is a member of the Hiring Committee and Technology Committee, the latter of which focuses on applications to digitally manage documents produced during litigation and internally generate research files. He has significant experience prosecuting every aspect of securities fraud class actions and has obtained more than \$1 billion on behalf of defrauded investors. Prominent cases include *In re Cardinal Health, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, in which Rosen recovered \$600 million for defrauded shareholders. This \$600 million settlement is the largest recovery ever in a securities fraud class action in the Sixth Circuit, and remains one of the largest settlements in the history of securities fraud litigation. Additional recoveries include: *Jones v. Pfizer Inc.* (\$400 million); *In re First Energy* (\$89.5 million); *In re CIT Grp. Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$75 million); *Stanley v. Safeskin Corp.* (\$55 million); *In re Storage Tech. Corp. Sec. Litig.* (\$55 million); and *Rasner v. Sturm* (FirstWorld Communications) (\$25.9 million).

## Education

B.A., University of California, San Diego, 1984; J.D., University of Denver, 1988

## Honors / Awards

Editor-in-Chief, *University of Denver Law Review*, University of Denver

## David A. Rosenfeld | Partner

David Rosenfeld is a partner in the Firm's Melville office. He has focused his practice of law for more than 15 years in the areas of securities litigation and corporate takeover litigation. He has been appointed as lead counsel in dozens of securities fraud lawsuits and has successfully recovered hundreds of millions of dollars for defrauded shareholders. Rosenfeld works on all stages of litigation, including drafting pleadings, arguing motions, and negotiating settlements. Most recently, he was on the team of Robbins Geller attorneys who obtained a \$34.5 million recovery in *Patel v. L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc.*, which represents a high percentage of damages that plaintiffs could reasonably expect to be recovered at trial and is more than eight times higher than the average settlement of cases with comparable investor losses.

Additionally, Rosenfeld led the Robbins Geller team in recovering in excess of \$34 million for investors in Overseas Shipholding Group, which represented an outsized recovery of 93% of bond purchasers' damages and 28% of stock purchasers' damages. The creatively structured settlement included more than \$15 million paid by a bankrupt entity. Rosenfeld also led the effort that resulted in the recovery of nearly 90% of losses for investors in Austin Capital, a sub-feeder fund of Bernard Madoff. In connection with this lawsuit, Rosenfeld met with and interviewed Madoff in federal prison. Rosenfeld has also achieved remarkable recoveries against companies in the financial industry. In addition to recovering \$70 million for investors in Credit Suisse Group, and having been appointed lead counsel in the securities fraud lawsuit against First BanCorp (which provided shareholders with a \$74.25 million recovery), he recently settled claims against Barclays for \$14 million, or 20% of investors' damages, for statements made about its LIBOR practices.

## Education

B.S., Yeshiva University, 1996; J.D., Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, 1999

## Honors / Awards

Advisory Board Member of *Stafford's Securities Class Action Reporter*; Future Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2016-2020; Super Lawyer, 2014-2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2018; Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2011-2013

## Robert M. Rothman | Partner

Robert Rothman is a partner in the Firm's Melville office. He has extensive experience litigating cases involving investment fraud, consumer fraud and antitrust violations. Robert also lectures to institutional investors throughout the world. Rothman has served as lead counsel on behalf of consumers and investors in numerous class actions where he has recovered hundreds of millions of dollars, including cases against First Bancorp (\$74.25 million recovery), CVS (\$48 million recovery), Popular, Inc. (\$37.5 million recovery), and iStar Financial, Inc. (\$29 million recovery). He actively represents shareholders in connection with going-private transactions and tender offers. For example, in connection with a tender offer made by Citigroup, Rothman secured an increase of more than \$38 million over what was originally offered to shareholders. He also actively litigates consumer fraud cases, including a case alleging false advertising where the defendant agreed to a settlement valued in excess of \$67 million.

## Education

B.A., State University of New York at Binghamton, 1990; J.D., Hofstra University School of Law, 1993

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, 2011, 2013-2019; Dean's Academic Scholarship Award, Hofstra University School of Law; J.D., with Distinction, Hofstra University School of Law, 1993; Member, *Hofstra Law Review*, Hofstra University School of Law

## Samuel H. Rudman | Partner

Sam Rudman is a founding member of the Firm, a member of the Firm's Executive and Management Committees, and manages the Firm's New York offices. His 25-year securities practice focuses on recognizing and investigating securities fraud, and initiating securities and shareholder class actions to vindicate shareholder rights and recover shareholder losses. A former attorney with the SEC, Rudman has recovered hundreds of millions of dollars for shareholders, including a \$200 million recovery in *Motorola*, a \$129 million recovery in *Doral Financial*, an \$85 million recovery in *Blackstone*, a \$74 million recovery in *First BanCorp*, a \$65 million recovery in *Forest Labs*, a \$50 million recovery in *TD Banknorth*, a \$48 million recovery in *CVS Caremark*, and a \$34.5 million recovery in *L-3 Communications Holdings*.

## Education

B.A., Binghamton University, 1989; J.D., Brooklyn Law School, 1992

## Honors / Awards

National Practice Area Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2019-2020; Local Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2013-2020; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2018-2019; Leading Lawyer, *Chambers USA*, 2014-2019; Leading Lawyer in America, *Lawdragon*, 2016-2019; Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2013, 2017-2019; Super Lawyer, 2007-2019; Dean's Merit Scholar, Brooklyn Law School; Moot Court Honor Society, Brooklyn Law School; Member, *Brooklyn Journal of International Law*, Brooklyn Law School

## Joseph Russello | Partner

Joseph Russello is a partner in the Firm's Melville office. He principally prosecutes violations of the federal securities laws and breaches of fiduciary duty on behalf of individual and institutional investors. During his tenure at the Firm, Russello has achieved significant results in complex and challenging cases.

Currently, Russello is leading the Firm's efforts in litigating securities claims against several companies in the Commercial Division of the New York State Supreme Court, New York County, in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Cyan, Inc. v. Beaver Cty. Emps.' Ret. Fund*, \_ U.S. \_, 138 S. Ct. 1061 (2018), which confirmed that state courts have concurrent jurisdiction of claims under the Securities Act of 1933. He is also prosecuting federal securities fraud cases against Telefonaktiebolaget LM Ericsson (known as Ericsson) and former executives and directors of Allied Nevada Gold Corporation, the latter of which was the subject of a favorable decision from the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals reversing dismissal and reinstating the claims in their entirety (*In re Allied Nev. Gold Corp. Sec. Litig.*, 743 F. App'x 887 (9th Cir. 2018) (summary order)).

Recently, Russello led the team responsible for recovering \$50 million in litigation against BHP Billiton, an Australian-based mining company accused of failing to disclose significant safety problems at the Fundão iron-ore dam, in Brazil. Together with Brazilian mining company Vale S.A., BHP owned Samarco Mineração S.A., which operated the mining complex at which the Fundão dam was located. On November 5, 2015, the dam collapsed and unleashed a torrent of mining waste, resulting in the death of 19 people, the destruction of the town of Bento Rodrigues, and the decimation of the surrounding environment. Even today, this event is regarded as the worst environmental disaster in Brazil's history. Russello and a team from Robbins Geller represented two institutional investors and an individual in defeating BHP's motion to dismiss (*In re BHP Billiton Ltd. Sec. Litig.*, 276 F. Supp. 3d 65 (S.D.N.Y. 2017)), and prosecuted and ultimately resolved the case on behalf of two sets of purchasers of American Depositary Shares (ADSs) trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

## Education

B.A., Gettysburg College, 1998; J.D., Hofstra University School of Law, 2001

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Super Lawyer, 2014-2019; *Law360* Securities Editorial Advisory Board, 2017

## Scott H. Saham | Partner

Scott Saham is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office, where his practice focuses on complex securities litigation. He is licensed to practice law in both California and Michigan. Most recently, Saham was a member of the litigation team that obtained a \$125 million settlement in *In re LendingClub Sec. Litig.*, a settlement that ranks among the top ten largest securities recoveries ever in the Northern District of California. He was also part of the litigation teams in *Schuh v. HCA Holdings, Inc.*, which resulted in a \$215 million recovery for shareholders, the largest securities class action recovery ever in Tennessee, and *Luna v. Marvell Tech. Grp., Ltd.*, which resulted in a \$72.5 million settlement that represents approximately 24% to 50% of the best estimate of classwide damages suffered by investors. He also served as lead counsel prosecuting the *Pharmacia* securities litigation in the District of New Jersey, which resulted in a \$164 million recovery. Additionally, Saham was lead counsel in the *In re Coca-Cola Sec. Litig.* in the Northern District of Georgia, which resulted in a \$137.5 million recovery after nearly eight years of litigation. He also obtained reversal from the California Court of Appeal of the trial court's initial dismissal of the landmark *Countrywide* mortgage-backed securities action. This decision is reported as *Luther v. Countrywide Fin. Corp.*, 195 Cal. App. 4th 789 (2011), and following this ruling that revived the action the case settled for \$500 million.

## Education

B.A., University of Michigan, 1992; J.D., University of Michigan Law School, 1995

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019

## Jessica T. Shinnfield | Partner

Jessica Shinnfield is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. Currently, her practice focuses on initiating, investigating and prosecuting securities fraud class actions. She was a member of the litigation team prosecuting actions against investment banks and leading national credit rating agencies for their roles in structuring and rating structured investment vehicles backed by toxic assets in *Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank v. Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated* and *King County, Washington v. IKB Deutsche Industriebank AG*. These cases were among the first to successfully allege fraud against the rating agencies, whose ratings have traditionally been protected by the First Amendment. Shinnfield also litigated individual opt-out actions against AOL Time Warner – *Regents of the Univ. of Cal. v. Parsons* and *Ohio Pub. Emps. Ret. Sys. v. Parsons* (recovery more than \$600 million). Additionally, she litigated an action against Omnicare, in which she recently helped obtain a favorable ruling for plaintiffs from the United States Supreme Court. Shinnfield has also successfully appealed lower court decisions in the Second, Seventh and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeals.

## Education

B.A., University of California at Santa Barbara, 2001; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 2004

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015-2019; 40 & Under Hot List, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2018-2019; B.A., *Phi Beta Kappa*, University of California at Santa Barbara, 2001



## Elizabeth A. Shonson | Partner

Elizabeth Shonson is a partner in the Firm's Boca Raton office. She concentrates her practice on representing investors in class actions brought pursuant to the federal securities laws. Shonson has litigated numerous securities fraud class actions nationwide, helping achieve significant recoveries for aggrieved investors. She was a member of the litigation teams responsible for recouping millions of dollars for defrauded investors, including: *In re Massey Energy Co. Sec. Litig.* (S.D. W.Va.) (\$265 million); *Nieman v. Duke Energy Corp.* (W.D.N.C.) (\$146.25 million recovery); *Eshe Fund v. Fifth Third Bancorp* (S.D. Ohio) (\$16 million); *City of St. Clair Shores Gen. Emps. Ret. Sys. v. Lender Processing Servs., Inc.* (M.D. Fla.) (\$14 million); and *In re Synovus Fin. Corp.* (N.D. Ga.) (\$11.75 million).

## Education

B.A., Syracuse University, 2001; J.D., University of Florida Levin College of Law, 2005

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2016-2019; J.D., *Cum Laude*, University of Florida Levin College of Law, 2005; Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Technology Law & Policy*; Phi Delta Phi; B.A., with Honors, *Summa Cum Laude*, Syracuse University, 2001; Phi Beta Kappa

## Trig Smith | Partner

Trig Smith is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office where he focuses his practice on complex securities litigation. He has been involved in the prosecution of numerous securities class actions that have resulted in over a billion dollars in recoveries for investors. His cases have included: *In re Cardinal Health, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$600 million recovery); *Jones v. Pfizer Inc.* (\$400 million recovery); *Silverman v. Motorola, Inc.* (\$200 million recovery); and *City of Livonia Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Wyeth* (\$67.5 million). Most recently, he was a member of the Firm's trial team in *Hsu v. Puma Biotechnology, Inc.*, a securities fraud class action that resulted in a verdict in favor of investors after a two-week jury trial.

## Education

B.S., University of Colorado, Denver, 1995; M.S., University of Colorado, Denver, 1997; J.D., Brooklyn Law School, 2000

## Honors / Awards

Member, *Brooklyn Journal of International Law*, Brooklyn Law School; CALI Excellence Award in Legal Writing, Brooklyn Law School

## Mark Solomon | Partner

Mark Solomon is a founding partner in the Firm's San Diego office and leads its international litigation practice. Over the last 23 years, he has regularly represented United States- and United Kingdom-based pension funds, and asset managers in class and non-class securities litigation in federal and state courts throughout the United States. He has been admitted to the Bars of England and Wales (Barrister) and California, but now practices exclusively in California, as well as in various United States federal district and appellate courts.

Solomon has spearheaded the prosecution of many significant securities fraud cases. He has obtained multi-hundred million dollar recoveries for plaintiffs in pre-trial settlements and significant corporate governance reforms designed to limit recidivism and promote appropriate standards. He litigated, through the rare event of trial, the securities class action against Helionetics Inc. and its executives, where he won a \$15.4 million federal jury verdict. Prior to the most recent financial crisis, he was instrumental in obtaining some of the first mega-recoveries in the field in California and Texas, serving as co-lead counsel in *In re Informix Corp. Sec. Litig.* (N.D. Cal.) and recovering \$131 million for Informix investors; and serving as co-lead counsel in *Schwartz v. TXU Corp.* (N.D. Tex.), where he helped obtain a recovery of over \$149 million for a class of purchasers of TXU securities. Solomon is currently counsel to a number of pension funds serving as lead plaintiffs in cases throughout the United States.

## Education

B.A., Trinity College, Cambridge University, England, 1985; L.L.M., Harvard Law School, 1986; Inns of Court School of Law, Degree of Utter Barrister, England, 1987

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Super Lawyer, 2017-2018; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2016-2017; Lizette Bentwich Law Prize, Trinity College, 1983 and 1984; Hollond Travelling Studentship, 1985; Harvard Law School Fellowship, 1985-1986; Member and Hardwicke Scholar of the Honourable Society of Lincoln's Inn

## Douglas Wilens | Partner

Douglas Wilens is a partner in the Firm's Boca Raton office. Wilens is a member of the Firm's Appellate Practice Group, participating in numerous appeals in federal and state courts across the country. Most notably, Wilens handled successful and precedent-setting appeals in *Ind. Pub. Ret. Sys. v. SAIC, Inc.*, 818 F.3d 85 (2d Cir. 2016) (addressing duty to disclose under SEC Regulation Item 303 in §10(b) case), *Mass. Ret. Sys. v. CVS Caremark Corp.*, 716 F.3d 229 (1st Cir. 2013) (addressing pleading of loss causation in §10(b) case), and *Lormand v. US Unwired, Inc.*, 565 F.3d 228 (5th Cir. 2009) (addressing pleading of falsity, scienter and loss causation in §10(b) case).

Before joining the Firm, Wilens was an associate at a nationally recognized firm, where he litigated complex actions on behalf of numerous professional sports leagues, including the National Basketball Association, the National Hockey League and Major League Soccer. He has also served as an adjunct professor at Florida Atlantic University and Nova Southeastern University, where he taught undergraduate and graduate-level business law classes.

## Education

B.S., University of Florida, 1992; J.D., University of Florida College of Law, 1995

## Honors / Awards

Book Award for Legal Drafting, University of Florida College of Law; J.D., with Honors, University of Florida College of Law, 1995

## Shawn A. Williams | Partner

Shawn Williams is a partner in the Firm's San Francisco office and a member of the Firm's Management Committee. His practice focuses on securities class actions. Williams was among the lead class counsel for the Firm recovering investor losses in notable cases, including *Chicago Laborers Pension Fund v. Alibaba Grp. Holding Ltd.* (\$75 million recovery); *In re Krispy Kreme Doughnuts, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$75 million recovery); *In re Medtronic, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$43 million recovery); *In re Cadence Design Sys., Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$38 million recovery); and *City of Sterling Heights Gen. Emps' Ret. Sys. v. Prudential Fin., Inc.* (\$33 million recovery). Williams is also among the Firm's lead attorneys prosecuting shareholder derivative actions, securing tens of millions of dollars in cash recoveries and negotiating the implementation of comprehensive corporate governance enhancements, such as *In re McAfee, Inc. Derivative Litig.*; *In re Marvell Tech. Grp. Ltd. Derivative Litig.*; *In re KLA Tencor S'holder Derivative Litig.*; and *The Home Depot, Inc. Derivative Litig.* Prior to joining the Firm in 2000, Williams served for 5 years as an Assistant District Attorney in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, where he tried over 20 cases to New York City juries and led white-collar fraud grand jury investigations.

## Education

B.A., The State of University of New York at Albany, 1991; J.D., University of Illinois, 1995

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Top 100 Lawyer, *Daily Journal*, 2019; California Trailblazer, *The Recorder*, 2019; Titan of the Plaintiffs Bar, *Law360*, 2019; Plaintiffs' Lawyer Trailblazer, *The National Law Journal*, 2019; Leading Lawyer in America, *Lawdragon*, 2018-2019; Super Lawyer, 2014-2017; Board Member, California Bar Foundation, 2012-2014

## David T. Wissbroecker | Partner

David Wissbroecker is a partner in the Firm's San Diego and Chicago offices. He focuses his practice on securities class action litigation in the context of mergers and acquisitions, representing both individual shareholders and institutional investors. As part of the litigation team at Robbins Geller, Wissbroecker has helped secure monetary recoveries for shareholders that collectively exceed \$1 billion. Wissbroecker has litigated numerous high profile cases in Delaware and other jurisdictions, including shareholder class actions challenging the acquisitions of Dole, Kinder Morgan, Del Monte Foods, Affiliated Computer Services, Intermix and Rural Metro. His practice has recently expanded to include numerous proxy fraud cases in federal court, along with shareholder document demand litigation in Delaware. Before joining the Firm, Wissbroecker served as a staff attorney for the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, and then as a law clerk for the Honorable John L. Coffey, Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

## Education

B.A., Arizona State University, 1998; J.D., University of Illinois College of Law, 2003

## Honors / Awards

Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2019; Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2015; J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, University of Illinois College of Law, 2003; B.A., *Cum Laude*, Arizona State University, 1998

## Christopher M. Wood | Partner

Christopher Wood is a partner in the Firm's Nashville office, where his practice focuses on complex securities litigation. He has been a member of litigation teams responsible for recovering hundreds of millions of dollars for investors, including: *In re Massey Energy Co. Sec. Litig.* (\$265 million recovery); *In re VeriFone Holdings, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$95 million recovery); *Garden City Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Psychiatric Sols., Inc.* (\$65 million recovery); *In re Micron Tech., Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$42 million recovery); and *Winslow v. BancorpSouth, Inc.* (\$29.5 million recovery).

Wood has provided *pro bono* legal services through the San Francisco Bar Association's Volunteer Legal Services Program, the Ninth Circuit's Pro Bono Program, Volunteer Lawyers & Professionals for the Arts, and Tennessee Justice for Our Neighbors.

## Education

B.A., Vanderbilt University, 2003; J.D., University of San Francisco School of Law, 2006

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer "Rising Star," 2011-2013, 2015-2018

## Debra J. Wyman | Partner

Debra Wyman is a partner in the Firm's San Diego office. She specializes in securities litigation and has litigated numerous cases against public companies in state and federal courts that have resulted in over \$1 billion in securities fraud recoveries. Wyman was a member of the trial team in *Schuh v. HCA Holdings, Inc.*, which resulted in a \$215 million recovery for shareholders, the largest securities class action recovery ever in Tennessee. The recovery achieved approximately 70% of classwide damages, which as a percentage of damages significantly exceeds the median class action recovery of 2%-3% of damages. Wyman prosecuted the complex securities and accounting fraud case *In re HealthSouth Corp. Sec. Litig.*, one of the largest and longest-running corporate frauds in history, in which \$671 million was recovered for defrauded HealthSouth investors. She was also part of the trial team that litigated *In re AT&T Corp. Sec. Litig.*, which was tried in the United States District Court, District of New Jersey, and settled after only two weeks of trial for \$100 million. Most recently, Wyman was part of the litigation team that secured a \$64 million recovery for Dana Corp. shareholders in *Plumbers & Pipefitters National Pension Fund v. Burns*, in which the Firm's Appellate Practice Group successfully appealed to the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals twice, reversing the district court's dismissal of the action.

## Education

B.A., University of California Irvine, 1990; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 1997

## Honors / Awards

Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Top Women Lawyer, *Daily Journal*, 2017; Litigator of the Year, *Our City San Diego*, 2017; Super Lawyer, 2016-2017

## Laura M. Andracchio | Of Counsel

Laura Andracchio is Of Counsel in the Firm's San Diego office. Having first joined the Firm in 1997, she was a Robbins Geller partner for ten years before her role as Of Counsel. As a partner with the Firm, Andracchio led dozens of securities fraud cases against public companies throughout the country, recovering hundreds of millions of dollars for injured investors. Her current focus remains securities fraud litigation under the federal securities laws.

Most recently, Andracchio was a member of the litigation team in *City of Pontiac Gen. Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Walmart Stores, Inc.*, No. 5:12-cv-05162 (W.D. Ark.), in which a \$160 million recovery for Walmart investors was approved in 2019. She also assisted the litigation team in a case brought against J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., *Fort Worth Emps.' Ret. Fund v. J.P. Morgan Chase & Co.*, No. 1:09-03701 (S.D.N.Y.), on behalf of investors in residential mortgage-backed securities, which resulted in a recovery of \$388 million in 2017.

Andracchio was also a lead member of the trial team in *In re AT&T Corp. Sec. Litig.*, recovering \$100 million for the class after two weeks of trial in district court in New Jersey. Before trial, she managed and litigated the case, which was pending for four years. She also led the trial team in *Brody v. Hellman*, a case against Qwest and former directors of U.S. West seeking an unpaid dividend, recovering \$50 million for the class, which was largely comprised of U.S. West retirees. Other cases Andracchio has litigated include *City of Hialeah Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Toll Bros., Inc.*; *Ross v. Abercrombie & Fitch Co.*; *In re GMH Cmty. Tr. Sec. Litig.*; *In re Vicuron Pharm., Inc. Sec. Litig.*; and *In re Navarre Corp. Sec. Litig.*

## Education

B.A., Bucknell University, 1986; J.D., Duquesne University School of Law, 1989

## Honors / Awards

Order of the Barristers, J.D., with honors, Duquesne University School of Law, 1989

## Randi D. Bandman | Of Counsel

Randi Bandman is Of Counsel in the Firm's Boca Raton office. Throughout her career, she has represented and advised hundreds of clients, including pension funds, managers, banks, and hedge funds, such as the Directors Guild of America, Screen Actors Guild, Writers Guild of America, and Teamster funds. Bandman's cases have yielded billions of dollars of recoveries. Notable cases include the AOL Time Warner, Inc. merger (\$629 million), *In re Enron Corp. Sec. Litig.* (\$7.2 billion), Private Equity litigation (*Dahl v. Bain Capital Partners, LLC*) (\$590.5 million), and *In re WorldCom Sec. Litig.* (\$657 million).

Bandman is currently representing plaintiffs in the Foreign Exchange Litigation pending in the Southern District of New York which alleges collusive conduct by the world's largest banks to fix prices in the \$5.3 trillion a day foreign exchange market and in which billions of dollars have been recovered to date for injured plaintiffs. Bandman is part of the Robbins Geller Co-Lead Counsel team representing the class in the "High Frequency Trading" case, which accuses stock exchanges of giving unfair advantages to high-speed traders versus all other investors, resulting in billions of dollars being diverted. Bandman is also currently a member of the trial team in *In re Facebook Biometric Information Privacy Litigation*, concerning Facebook's alleged privacy violations through its collection of user's biometric identifiers without informed consent. Bandman was instrumental in the landmark state settlement with the tobacco companies for \$12.5 billion. Bandman also led an investigation with congressional representatives on behalf of artists into allegations of "pay for play" tactics, represented Emmy winning writers with respect to their claims involving a long-running television series, represented a Hall of Fame sports figure, and negotiated agreements in connection with a major motion picture. Recently, Bandman was chosen to serve on the Law Firm Advisory Board of the Association of Media & Entertainment Counsel, an organization made up of thousands of attorneys from studios, networks, guilds, talent agencies, and top media companies, dealing with protecting content distributed through a variety of formats worldwide.

## Education

B.A., University of California, Los Angeles; J.D., University of Southern California

## Lea Malani Bays | Of Counsel

Lea Malani Bays is Of Counsel in the Firm's San Diego office. She focuses on e-discovery issues, from preservation through production, and provides counsel to the Firm's multi-disciplinary, e-discovery team consisting of attorneys, forensic analysts, and database professionals. Through her role as counsel to the e-discovery team, Bays is very familiar with the various stages of e-discovery, including identification of relevant electronically stored information, data culling, predictive coding protocols, privilege, and responsiveness reviews, as well as having experience in post-production discovery through trial preparation. Through speaking at various events, she is also a leader in shaping the broader dialogue on e-discovery issues.

Bays was recently part of the litigation team that earned the approval of a \$131 million settlement in favor of plaintiffs in *Bennett v. Sprint Nextel Corp.* The settlement, which resolved claims arising from Sprint Corporation's ill-fated merger with Nextel Communications in 2005, represents a significant recovery for the plaintiff class, achieved after five years of tireless effort by the Firm. Prior to joining Robbins Geller, Bays was a Litigation Associate at Kaye Scholer LLP's New York office. She has experience in a wide range of litigation, including complex securities litigation, commercial contract disputes, business torts, antitrust, civil fraud, and trust and estate litigation.

## Education

B.A., University of California, Santa Cruz, 1997; J.D., New York Law School, 2007

## Honors / Awards

Leading Lawyer, *Chambers USA*, 2019; J.D., *Magna Cum Laude*, New York Law School, 2007; Executive Editor, *New York Law School Law Review*; Legal Aid Society's Pro Bono Publico Award; NYSBA Empire State Counsel; Professor Stephen J. Ellmann Clinical Legal Education Prize; John Marshall Harlan Scholars Program, Justice Action Center



## Mary K. Blasy | Of Counsel

Mary Blasy is Of Counsel to the Firm and is based in the Firm's Melville and Washington, D.C. offices. Her practice focuses on the investigation, commencement, and prosecution of securities fraud class actions and shareholder derivative suits. Blasy has recovered hundreds of millions of dollars for investors in securities fraud class actions against Reliance Acceptance Corp. (\$66 million); Sprint Corp. (\$50 million); Titan Corporation (\$15+ million); Martha Stewart Omni-Media, Inc. (\$30 million); and Coca-Cola Co. (\$137.5 million). Blasy has also been responsible for prosecuting numerous complex shareholder derivative actions against corporate malefactors to address violations of the nation's securities, environmental, and labor laws, obtaining corporate governance enhancements valued by the market in the billions of dollars.

In 2014, the Presiding Justice of the Appellate Division of the Second Department of the Supreme Court of the State of New York appointed Blasy to serve as a member of the Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commission, which until December 2018 reviewed the qualifications of candidates seeking public election to New York State Supreme Courts in the 10th Judicial District. She also served on the *Law360* Securities Editorial Advisory Board from 2015 to 2016.

## Education

B.A., California State University, Sacramento, 1996; J.D., UCLA School of Law, 2000

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2016-2019; *Law360* Securities Editorial Advisory Board, 2015-2016; Member, Independent Judicial Election Qualification Commission, 2014-2018

## Bruce Boyens | Of Counsel

Bruce Boyens is Of Counsel to the Firm. A private practitioner in Denver, Colorado since 1990, he specializes in consulting with labor unions on issues relating to labor and environmental law, labor organizing, labor education, union elections, internal union governance, and alternative dispute resolutions. Boyens was a Regional Director for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters elections in 1991 and 1995. He developed and taught collective bargaining and labor law courses for the George Meany Center, the United Mine Workers of America, Transportation Workers Local 260, the Kentucky Nurses Association, among others.

In addition, Boyens served as the Western Regional Director and Counsel for the United Mine Workers from 1983-1990, where he was the chief negotiator in over 30 major agreements, and represented the United Mine Workers in all legal matters. From 1973-1977, he served as General Counsel to District 17 of the United Mine Workers Association, and also worked as an underground coal miner during that time.

## Education

J.D., University of Kentucky College of Law, 1973; Harvard University, Certificate in Environmental Policy and Management

## William K. Cavanagh, Jr. | Of Counsel

Bill Cavanagh is Of Counsel in the Firm's Washington, D.C. office. Cavanagh concentrates his practice in employee benefits law and works with the Firm's Institutional Outreach Team. Prior to joining Robbins Geller, Cavanagh was employed by Ullico for the past nine years, most recently as President of Ullico Casualty Group. The Ullico Casualty Group is the leading provider of fiduciary liability insurance for trustees in both the private as well as the public sector. Prior to that he was President of the of Ullico Investment Company.

Preceding Cavanagh's time at Ullico, he was a partner at the labor and employee benefits firm Cavanagh and O'Hara in Springfield, Illinois for 28 years. In that capacity, Cavanagh represented public pension funds, jointly trustee Taft-Hartley, health, welfare, pension, and joint apprenticeship funds advising on fiduciary and compliance issues both at the Board level as well as in administrative hearings, federal district courts, and the United States Courts of Appeals. During the course of his practice, Cavanagh had extensive trial experience in state and the relevant federal district courts. Additionally, Cavanagh served as co-counsel on a number of cases representing trustees seeking to recover plan assets lost as a result of fraud in the marketplace.

### Education

B.A., Georgetown University, 1974; J.D., John Marshall Law School, 1978

### Honors / Awards

Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell

## Christopher Collins | Of Counsel

Christopher Collins is Of Counsel in the Firm's San Diego office and his practice focuses on antitrust and consumer protection. Collins served as co-lead counsel in *Wholesale Elec. Antitrust Cases I & II*, charging an antitrust conspiracy by wholesale electricity suppliers and traders of electricity in California's newly deregulated wholesale electricity market wherein plaintiffs secured a global settlement for California consumers, businesses and local governments valued at more than \$1.1 billion. He was also involved in California's tobacco litigation, which resulted in the \$25.5 billion recovery for California and its local entities. Collins is currently counsel on the California Energy Manipulation antitrust litigation, the Memberworks upsell litigation, as well as a number of consumer actions alleging false and misleading advertising and unfair business practices against major corporations. He formerly served as a Deputy District Attorney for Imperial County where he was in charge of the Domestic Violence Unit.

### Education

B.A., Sonoma State University, 1988; J.D., Thomas Jefferson School of Law, 1995

## Patrick J. Coughlin | Of Counsel

Patrick Coughlin is Of Counsel to the Firm and is based in the San Diego office. He has been lead counsel for several major securities matters, including one of the earliest and largest class action securities cases to go to trial, *In re Apple Computer Sec. Litig.*, No. C-84-20148 (N.D. Cal.). Most recently, Coughlin was a member of the Firm's trial team in *Hsu v. Puma Biotechnology, Inc.*, No. SACV15-0865 (C.D. Cal.), a securities fraud class action that resulted in a verdict in favor of investors after a two-week jury trial. Coughlin is currently representing merchants in *In re Payment Card Interchange Fee and Merchant Discount Litig.*, in which a settlement of up to \$6.26 billion was recently preliminarily approved by the Eastern District of New York. Thought to be the largest antitrust class action case in history, the case charges Visa, MasterCard and the country's major banks with violating federal law in the allegedly collusive manner in which rules are set in the industry, including rules requiring payment of ever-increasing interchange fees by merchants.

Coughlin was one of the lead attorneys who secured a historic \$25 million recovery on behalf of approximately 7,000 Trump University students in two class actions against President Donald J. Trump, which means individual class members are eligible for upwards of \$35,000 in restitution. He represented the class on a *pro bono* basis. Additional prominent securities class actions prosecuted by Coughlin include the *Enron* litigation, in which \$7.2 billion was recovered; the *Qwest* litigation, in which a \$445 million recovery was obtained; and the *HealthSouth* litigation, in which a \$671 million recovery was obtained.

## Education

B.S., Santa Clara University, 1977; J.D., Golden Gate University, 1983

## Honors / Awards

Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell; Best Lawyer in America, *Best Lawyers*®, 2006-2020; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Plaintiffs' Lawyer Trailblazer, *The National Law Journal*, 2019; Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2004-2019; Top Lawyer in San Diego, *San Diego Magazine*, 2013-2019; Outstanding Antitrust Litigation Achievement in Private Law Practice, American Antitrust Institute, 2018; Senior Statesman, *Chambers USA*, 2014-2018; Antitrust Trailblazer, *The National Law Journal*, 2015; Top 100 Lawyers, *Daily Journal*, 2008; Leading Lawyer in America, *Lawdragon*, 2006, 2008-2009

## Vicki Multer Diamond | Of Counsel

Vicki Multer Diamond is Of Counsel to the Firm and is based in the Firm's Melville office. She has over 25 years of experience as an investigator and attorney. Her practice at the Firm focuses on the initiation, investigation, and prosecution of securities fraud class actions. Diamond played a significant role in the factual investigations and successful oppositions to the defendants' motions to dismiss in a number of cases, including *Tableau*, *One Main*, *Valeant*, and *Orbital ATK*.

Diamond has served as an investigative consultant to several prominent law firms, corporations, and investment firms. Before joining the Firm, she was an Assistant District Attorney in Brooklyn, New York where she served as a senior Trial Attorney in the Felony Trial Bureau, and was special counsel to the Special Commissioner of Investigations for the New York City schools, where she investigated and prosecuted crime and corruption within the New York City school system.

## Education

B.A., State University of New York at Binghamton, 1990; J.D., Hofstra University School of Law, 1993

## Honors / Awards

Member, *Hofstra Property Law Journal*, Hofstra University School of Law

## Michael J. Dowd | Of Counsel

Mike Dowd was a founding partner of the Firm. He has practiced in the area of securities litigation for 20 years, prosecuting dozens of complex securities cases and obtaining significant recoveries for investors in cases such as *UnitedHealth* (\$925 million), *WorldCom* (\$657 million), *AOL Time Warner* (\$629 million), *Qwest* (\$445 million), and *Pfizer* (\$400 million).

Dowd served as lead trial counsel in *Jaffe v. Household International* in the Northern District of Illinois, a securities class action that obtained a record-breaking \$1.575 billion settlement after 14 years of litigation, including a six-week jury trial in 2009 that resulted in a verdict for plaintiffs. Dowd also served as the lead trial lawyer in *In re AT&T Corp. Sec. Litig.*, which was tried in the District of New Jersey and settled after only two weeks of trial for \$100 million. Dowd served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of California from 1987-1991, and again from 1994-1998, where he handled dozens of jury trials and was awarded the Director's Award for Superior Performance.

## Education

B.A., Fordham University, 1981; J.D., University of Michigan School of Law, 1984

## Honors / Awards

Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell; Director's Award for Superior Performance, United States Attorney's Office; Lawyer of the Year, *Best Lawyers*®, 2020; Best Lawyer in America, *Best Lawyers*®, 2015-2020; Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer, *Lawdragon*, 2019; Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2016-2019; Super Lawyer, *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2010-2019; Top Lawyer in San Diego, *San Diego Magazine*, 2013-2019; Hall of Fame, *Lawdragon*, 2018; Litigator of the Year, *Our City San Diego*, 2017; Leading Lawyer in America, *Lawdragon*, 2014-2016; Litigator of the Week, *The American Lawyer*, 2015; Litigation Star, *Benchmark Litigation* 2013; Directorship 100, NACD Directorship, 2012; Attorney of the Year, *California Lawyer*, 2010; Top 100 Lawyers, *Daily Journal*, 2009; B.A., *Magna Cum Laude*, Fordham University, 1981

## John K. Grant | Of Counsel

John Grant is Of Counsel in the Firm's San Francisco office where he devotes his practice to representing investors in securities fraud class actions. Grant has been lead or co-lead counsel in numerous securities actions and recovered tens of millions of dollars for shareholders. His cases include: *In re Micron Tech, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$42 million recovery); *Perera v. Chiron Corp.* (\$40 million recovery); *King v. CBT Grp., PLC* (\$32 million recovery); and *In re Exodus Commc'ns, Inc. Sec. Litig.* (\$5 million recovery).

## Education

B.A., Brigham Young University, 1988; J.D., University of Texas at Austin, 1990

## Mitchell D. Gravo | Of Counsel

Mitchell Gravo is Of Counsel to the Firm and is a member of the Firm's institutional investor client services group. With more than 30 years of experience as a practicing attorney, he serves as liaison to the Firm's institutional investor clients throughout the United States and Canada, advising them on securities litigation matters.

Gravo's clients include Anchorage Economic Development Corporation, Anchorage Convention and Visitors Bureau, UST Public Affairs, Inc., International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Alaska Seafood International, Distilled Spirits Council of America, RIM Architects, Anchorage Police Department Employees Association, Fred Meyer, and the Automobile Manufacturer's Association. Prior to joining the Firm, he served as an intern with the Municipality of Anchorage, and then served as a law clerk to Superior Court Judge J. Justin Ripley.

## Education

B.A., Ohio State University; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law

## Helen J. Hodges | Of Counsel

Helen Hodges is Of Counsel in the Firm's San Diego office. She specializes in securities fraud litigation. Hodges has been involved in numerous securities class actions, including: *Dynegy*, which settled for \$474 million; *Thurber v. Mattel*, which was settled for \$122 million; *Nat'l Health Labs*, which was settled for \$64 million; and *Knapp v. Gomez*, Civ. No. 87-0067-H(M) (S.D. Cal.), in which a plaintiffs' verdict was returned in a Rule 10b-5 class action. Additionally, beginning in 2001, Hodges focused on the prosecution of *Enron*, where a record \$7.2 billion recovery was obtained for investors.

## Education

B.S., Oklahoma State University, 1979; J.D., University of Oklahoma, 1983

## Honors / Awards

Rated AV by Martindale-Hubbell; Top Lawyer in San Diego, *San Diego Magazine*, 2013-2019; Super Lawyer, 2007; Oklahoma State University Foundation Board of Trustees, 2013

## David J. Hoffa | Of Counsel

David Hoffa is Of Counsel in the Firm's Washington D.C. office. He has served as a liaison to over 110 institutional investors in portfolio monitoring, securities litigation and claims filing matters. His practice focuses on providing a variety of legal and consulting services to U.S. state and municipal employee retirement systems and single and multi-employer U.S. Taft-Hartley benefit funds. In addition to serving as a leader on the Firm's Israel Institutional Investor Outreach Team, Hoffa also serves as a member of the Firm's lead plaintiff advisory team, and advises public and multi-employer pension funds around the country on issues related to fiduciary responsibility, legislative and regulatory updates, and "best practices" in the corporate governance of publicly traded companies.

Early in his legal career, Hoffa worked for a law firm based in Birmingham, Michigan, where he appeared regularly in Michigan state court in litigation pertaining to business, construction and employment related matters. Hoffa has also appeared before the Michigan Court of Appeals on several occasions.

## Education

B.A., Michigan State University, 1993; J.D., Michigan State University College of Law, 2000

## Andrew W. Hutton | Of Counsel

Drew Hutton is Of Counsel in the Firm's San Diego and New York offices, responsible for simplifying cases of complex financial fraud. Hutton has prosecuted a variety of securities actions, achieving high-profile recoveries and results. Representative cases against corporations and their auditors include *In re AOL Time Warner Sec. Litig.* (\$2.5 billion) and *In re Williams Cos. Sec. Litig.* (\$311 million). Representative cases against corporations and their executives include *In re Broadcom Sec. Litig.* (\$150 million) and *In re Clarent Corp. Sec. Litig.* (class plaintiff's 10b-5 jury verdict against former CEO). Hutton is also active in shareholder derivative litigation, achieving monetary recoveries and governance changes, including *In re Affiliated Computer Servs. Derivative Litig.* (\$30 million), *In re KB Home S'holder Derivative Litig.* (\$30 million) and *In re KeyCorp Derivative Litig.* (modified CEO stock options and governance). Hutton has also litigated securities cases in bankruptcy court (*In re WorldCom, Inc.* – \$15 million for individual claimant) and a complex options case before FINRA (eight-figure settlement for individual investor). Hutton is also experienced in complex, multi-district consumer litigation. Representative nationwide insurance cases include *In re Prudential Sales Practices Litig.* (\$4 billion), *In re Metro. Life Ins. Co. Sales Practices Litig.* (\$2 billion) and *In re Conseco Life Ins. Co. Cost of Ins. Litig.* (\$200 million). Representative nationwide consumer lending cases include a \$30 million class settlement of Truth-in-Lending claims against American Express and a \$24 million class settlement of RICO and RESPA claims against Community Bank of Northern Virginia (now PNC Bank).

Hutton is the founder of Hutton Law Group, a plaintiffs' litigation practice currently representing retirees, individual investors and businesses, and is also the founder of Hutton Investigative Accounting, a financial forensics and investigation firm. Before founding Hutton Law and joining Robbins Geller, Hutton was a public company accountant, Certified Public Accountant, and broker of stocks, options and insurance products. Hutton has also served as an expert litigation consultant in both financial and corporate governance capacities. Hutton is often responsible for working with experts retained by the Firm in litigation and has conducted dozens of depositions of financial professionals, including audit partners, CFOs, directors, bankers, actuaries and opposing experts.

## Education

B.A., University of California, Santa Barbara, 1983; J.D., Loyola Law School, 1994



## Frank J. Janecek, Jr. | Of Counsel

Frank Janecek is Of Counsel in the Firm's San Diego office and practices in the areas of consumer/antitrust, Proposition 65, taxpayer and tobacco litigation. He served as co-lead counsel, as well as court appointed liaison counsel, in *Wholesale Elec. Antitrust Cases I & II*, charging an antitrust conspiracy by wholesale electricity suppliers and traders of electricity in California's newly deregulated wholesale electricity market. In conjunction with the Governor of the State of California, the California State Attorney General, the California Public Utilities Commission, the California Electricity Oversight Board, a number of other state and local governmental entities and agencies, and California's large, investor-owned electric utilities, plaintiffs secured a global settlement for California consumers, businesses and local governments valued at more than \$1.1 billion. Janecek also chaired several of the litigation committees in California's tobacco litigation, which resulted in the \$25.5 billion recovery for California and its local entities, and also handled a constitutional challenge to the State of California's Smog Impact Fee in *Ramos v. Dep't of Motor Vehicles*, which resulted in more than a million California residents receiving full refunds and interest, totaling \$665 million.

## Education

B.S., University of California, Davis, 1987; J.D., Loyola Law School, 1991

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, 2013-2018

## Nancy M. Juda | Of Counsel

Nancy Juda is Of Counsel to the Firm and is based in the Firm's Washington, D.C. office. Her practice focuses on advising Taft-Hartley pension and welfare funds on issues related to corporate fraud in the United States securities markets. Juda's experience as an ERISA attorney provides her with unique insight into the challenges faced by pension fund trustees as they endeavor to protect and preserve their funds' assets.

Prior to joining Robbins Geller, Juda was employed by the United Mine Workers of America Health & Retirement Funds, where she began her practice in the area of employee benefits law. She was also associated with a union-side labor law firm in Washington, D.C., where she represented the trustees of Taft-Hartley pension and welfare funds on qualification, compliance, fiduciary, and transactional issues under ERISA and the Internal Revenue Code.

Using her extensive experience representing employee benefit funds, Juda advises trustees regarding their options for seeking redress for losses due to securities fraud. She currently advises trustees of funds providing benefits for members of unions affiliated with North America's Building Trades of the AFL-CIO. Juda also represents funds in ERISA class actions involving breach of fiduciary claims.

## Education

B.A., St. Lawrence University, 1988; J.D., American University, 1992

## Francis P. Karam | Of Counsel

Frank Karam is Of Counsel to the Firm and is based in the Firm's Melville office. Karam is a trial lawyer with 30 years of experience. His practice focuses on complex class action litigation involving shareholders' rights and securities fraud. He also represents a number of landowners and royalty owners in litigation against large energy companies. He has tried complex cases involving investment fraud and commercial fraud, both on the plaintiff and defense side, and has argued numerous appeals in state and federal courts. Throughout his career, Karam has tried more than 100 cases to verdict.

Karam has served as a partner at several prominent plaintiffs' securities firms. From 1984 to 1990, Karam was an Assistant District Attorney in the Bronx, New York, where he served as a senior Trial Attorney in the Homicide Bureau. He entered private practice in 1990, concentrating on trial and appellate work in state and federal courts.

## Education

A.B., College of the Holy Cross; J.D., Tulane University School of Law

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, 2019; "Who's Who" for Securities Lawyers, *Corporate Governance Magazine*, 2015

## Ashley M. Kelly | Of Counsel

Ashley Kelly is Of Counsel in the San Diego office, where she represents large institutional and individual investors as a member of the Firm's antitrust and securities fraud practices. Her work is primarily federal and state class actions involving the federal antitrust and securities laws, common law fraud, breach of contract and accounting violations. Kelly's case work has been in the financial services, oil & gas, e-commerce and technology industries. In addition to being an attorney, she is a Certified Public Accountant. Kelly was an important member of the litigation team that obtained a \$500 million settlement on behalf of investors in *Luther v. Countrywide Fin. Corp.*, which was the largest residential mortgage-backed securities purchaser class action recovery in history.

## Education

B.S., Pennsylvania State University, 2005; J.D., Rutgers University-Camden, 2011

## Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, "Rising Star," 2016, 2018-2019

## Noam Mandel | Of Counsel

Noam Mandel is Of Counsel to the Firm and is based in the Manhattan office. His practice focuses on securities and shareholder litigation. Mandel has extensive experience representing investors in federal and state courts, advising them with respect to their interests in litigation, and investigating claims on their behalf. Before joining Robbins Geller, Mandel was a litigator with Quinn Emmanuel in New York. He began his career as a litigation associate with Simpson Thacher & Bartlett.

### Education

B.S., Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service, 1998; J.D., Boston University School of Law, 2002

### Honors / Awards

J.D., *Cum Laude*, Boston University School of Law, 2002; Member, *Boston University Law Review*, Boston University School of Law

## Jerry E. Martin | Of Counsel

Jerry Martin is Of Counsel in the Firm's Nashville office. He specializes in representing individuals who wish to blow the whistle to expose fraud and abuse committed by federal contractors, health care providers, tax cheats or those who violate the securities laws. Martin was a member of the litigation team that obtained a \$65 million recovery in *Garden City Emps.' Ret. Sys. v. Psychiatric Solutions, Inc.*, the third largest securities recovery ever in the Middle District of Tennessee and the largest in more than a decade.

Before joining the Firm, Martin served as the presidentially appointed United States Attorney for the Middle District of Tennessee from May 2010 to April 2013. As U.S. Attorney, he made prosecuting financial, tax and health care fraud a top priority. During his tenure, Martin co-chaired the Attorney General's Advisory Committee's Health Care Fraud Working Group. Martin has been recognized as a national leader in combatting fraud and has addressed numerous groups and associations, such as Taxpayers Against Fraud and the National Association of Attorneys General, and was a keynote speaker at the American Bar Association's Annual Health Care Fraud Conference.

### Education

B.A., Dartmouth College, 1996; J.D., Stanford University, 1999

### Honors / Awards

Super Lawyer, 2016-2018

## Ruby Menon | Of Counsel

Ruby Menon is Of Counsel to the Firm and serves as a member of the Firm's legal, advisory and business development group. She also serves as the liaison to the Firm's many institutional investor clients in the United States and abroad. For over 12 years, Menon served as Chief Legal Counsel to two large multi-employer retirement plans, developing her expertise in many areas of employee benefits and pension administration, including legislative initiatives and regulatory affairs, investments, tax, fiduciary compliance and plan administration.

### Education

B.A., Indiana University, 1985; J.D., Indiana University School of Law, 1988

## Eugene Mikolajczyk | Of Counsel

Eugene Mikolajczyk is Of Counsel to the Firm and is based in the Firm's San Diego Office. Mikolajczyk has over 30 years' experience prosecuting shareholder and securities litigation cases as both individual and class actions. Among the cases are *Heckmann v. Ahmanson*, in which the court granted a preliminary injunction to prevent a corporate raider from exacting greenmail from a large domestic media/entertainment company.

Mikolajczyk was a primary litigation counsel in an international coalition of attorneys and human rights groups that won a historic settlement with major U.S. clothing retailers and manufacturers on behalf of a class of over 50,000 predominantly female Chinese garment workers, in an action seeking to hold the Saipan garment industry responsible for creating a system of indentured servitude and forced labor. The coalition obtained an unprecedented agreement for supervision of working conditions in the Saipan factories by an independent NGO, as well as a substantial multi-million dollar compensation award for the workers.

### Education

B.S., Elizabethtown College, 1974; J.D., Dickinson School of Law, Penn State University, 1978

## Roxana Pierce | Of Counsel

Roxana Pierce is Of Counsel in the Firm's Washington D.C. office. She is an international lawyer whose practice focuses on securities litigation, arbitration, negotiations, contracts, international trade, real estate transactions and project development. She has represented clients in over 75 countries, with extensive experience in the Middle East, Asia, Russia, the former Soviet Union, Germany, Belgium, the Caribbean and India. Pierce's client base includes large institutional investors, international banks, asset managers, foreign governments, multi-national corporations, sovereign wealth funds and high net worth individuals.

Pierce has counseled international clients since 1994. She has spearheaded the contract negotiations for hundreds of projects, including several valued at over \$1 billion, and typically conducts her negotiations with the leadership of foreign governments and the leadership of Fortune 500 corporations, foreign and domestic. Pierce presently represents several European legacy banks in litigation concerning the 2008 financial crisis.

## Education

B.A., Pepperdine University, 1988; J.D., Thomas Jefferson School of Law, 1994

## Honors / Awards

Certificate of Accomplishment, Export-Import Bank of the United States; Humanitarian Spirit Award for Advocacy, The National Center for Children and Families, 2019

## Svenna Prado | Of Counsel

Svenna Prado is Of Counsel in the Firm's San Diego office, where she focuses on various aspects of international securities and consumer litigation. She was part of the litigation teams that secured settlements against German defendant IKB, as well as Deutsche Bank and Deutsche Bank/West LB for their role in structuring residential mortgage-backed securities and their subsequent collapse. Before joining the Firm, Prado was Head of the Legal Department for a leading international staffing agency in Germany where she focused on all aspects of employment litigation and corporate governance. After she moved to the United States, Prado worked with an internationally oriented German law firm as Counsel to corporate clients establishing subsidiaries in the United States and Germany. As a law student, Prado worked directly for several years for one of the appointed Trustees winding up Eastern German operations under receivership in the aftermath of the German reunification. Utilizing her experience in this area of law, Prado later helped many clients secure successful outcomes in U.S. Bankruptcy Court.

## Education

J.D., University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany, 1996; Qualification for Judicial Office, Upper Regional Court Nuremberg, Germany, 1998; New York University, "U.S. Law and Methodologies," 2001

## Stephanie Schroder | Of Counsel

Stephanie Schroder is Of Counsel in the Firm's San Diego office and focuses her practice on advising institutional investors, including public and multi-employer pension funds, on issues related to corporate fraud in the United States and worldwide financial markets. Schroder has been with the Firm since its formation in 2004, and has over 17 years of securities litigation experience.

Schroder has obtained millions of dollars on behalf of defrauded investors. Prominent cases include: *In re AT&T Corp. Sec. Litig.* (\$100 million recovery at trial); *In re FirstEnergy Corp. Sec. Litig.* (\$89.5 million recovery); *Rasner v. Sturm (FirstWorld Communications)*; and *In re Advanced Lighting Sec. Litig.* Schroder also specializes in derivative litigation for breaches of fiduciary duties by corporate officers and directors. Significant litigation includes *In re OM Group S'holder Litig.* and *In re Chiquita S'holder Litig.* Schroder also represented clients that suffered losses from the Madoff fraud in the *Austin Capital* and *Meridian Capital* litigations, which were successfully resolved. In addition, Schroder is a frequent lecturer on securities fraud, shareholder litigation, and options for institutional investors seeking to recover losses caused by securities and accounting fraud.

### Education

B.A., University of Kentucky, 1997; J.D., University of Kentucky College of Law, 2000

## Christopher P. Seefer | Of Counsel

Christopher Seefer is Of Counsel in the Firm's San Francisco office. He concentrates his practice in securities class action litigation, including cases against Verisign, UTStarcom, VeriFone, Nash Finch, NextCard, Terayon and America West. Seefer served as an Assistant Director and Deputy General Counsel for the Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission, which reported to Congress in January 2011 its conclusions as to the causes of the global financial crisis. Prior to joining the Firm, he was a Fraud Investigator with the Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury (1990-1999), and a field examiner with the Office of Thrift Supervision (1986-1990).

### Education

B.A., University of California Berkeley, 1984; M.B.A., University of California, Berkeley, 1990; J.D., Golden Gate University School of Law, 1998

## Arthur L. Shingler III | Of Counsel

Arthur Shingler is Of Counsel to the Firm and is based in the Firm's San Diego office. Shingler has successfully represented both public and private sector clients in hundreds of complex, multi-party actions with billions of dollars in dispute. Throughout his career, he has obtained outstanding results for those he has represented in cases generally encompassing shareholder derivative and securities litigation, unfair business practices litigation, publicity rights and advertising litigation, ERISA litigation, and other insurance, health care, employment and commercial disputes.

Representative matters in which Shingler served as lead litigation or settlement counsel include, among others: *In re Royal Dutch/Shell ERISA Litig.* (\$90 million settlement); *In re Priceline.com Sec. Litig.* (\$80 million settlement); *In re General Motors ERISA Litig.* (\$37.5 million settlement, in addition to significant revision of retirement plan administration); *Wood v. Ionatron, Inc.* (\$6.5 million settlement); *In re Lattice Semiconductor Corp. Derivative Litig.* (corporate governance settlement, including substantial revision of board policies and executive management); *In re 360networks Class Action Sec. Litig.* (\$7 million settlement); and *Rothschild v. Tyco Int'l (US), Inc.*, 83 Cal. App. 4th 488 (2000) (shaped scope of California's Unfair Practices Act as related to limits of State's False Claims Act).

## Education

B.A., Point Loma Nazarene College, 1989; J.D., Boston University School of Law, 1995

## Honors / Awards

B.A., *Cum Laude*, Point Loma Nazarene College, 1989

## Leonard B. Simon | Of Counsel

Leonard Simon is Of Counsel in the Firm's San Diego office. His practice has been devoted to litigation in the federal courts, including both the prosecution and the defense of major class actions and other complex litigation in the securities and antitrust fields. Simon has also handled a substantial number of complex appellate matters, arguing cases in the United States Supreme Court, several federal Courts of Appeals, and several California appellate courts. He has also represented large, publicly traded corporations. Simon served as plaintiffs' co-lead counsel in *In re Am. Cont'l Corp./Lincoln Sav. & Loan Sec. Litig.*, MDL No. 834 (D. Ariz.) (settled for \$240 million), and *In re NASDAQ Market-Makers Antitrust Litig.*, MDL No. 1023 (S.D.N.Y.) (settled for more than \$1 billion). He was also in a leadership role in several of the state court antitrust cases against Microsoft, and the state court antitrust cases challenging electric prices in California. He was centrally involved in the prosecution of *In re Washington Pub. Power Supply Sys. Sec. Litig.*, MDL No. 551 (D. Ariz.), the largest securities class action ever litigated.

Simon is an Adjunct Professor of Law at Duke University, the University of San Diego, and the University of Southern California Law Schools. He has lectured extensively on securities, antitrust, and complex litigation in programs sponsored by the American Bar Association Section of Litigation, the Practising Law Institute, and ALI-ABA, and at the UCLA Law School, the University of San Diego Law School, and the Stanford Business School. He is an Editor of *California Federal Court Practice* and has authored a law review article on the PSLRA.

## Education

B.A., Union College, 1970; J.D., Duke University School of Law, 1973

## Honors / Awards

Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell; Top Lawyer in San Diego, *San Diego Magazine*, 2016-2019; Super Lawyer, 2008-2016; J.D., Order of the Coif and with Distinction, Duke University School of Law, 1973

## Laura S. Stein | Of Counsel

Laura Stein is Of Counsel in the Firm's Philadelphia office. Since 1995, she has practiced in the areas of securities class action litigation, complex litigation and legislative law. Stein has served as one of the Firm's and the nation's top asset recovery experts with a focus on minimizing losses suffered by shareholders due to corporate fraud and breaches of fiduciary duty. She also seeks to deter future violations of federal and state securities laws by reinforcing the standards of good corporate governance. Stein works with over 500 institutional investors across the nation and abroad, and her clients have served as lead plaintiff in successful cases where billions of dollars were recovered for defrauded investors against such companies as: AOL Time Warner, TYCO, Cardinal Health, AT&T, Hanover Compressor, 1st Bancorp, Enron, Dynegy, Inc., Honeywell International, Bridgestone, LendingClub, Orbital ATK and Walmart, to name a few. Many of the cases led by Stein's clients have accomplished groundbreaking corporate governance achievements, including obtaining shareholder-nominated directors. She is a frequent presenter and educator on securities fraud monitoring, litigation and corporate governance.

## Education

B.A., University of Pennsylvania, 1992; J.D., University of Pennsylvania Law School, 1995



## Sandra Stein | Of Counsel

Sandra Stein is Of Counsel in the Firm's Philadelphia office. She concentrates her practice in securities class action litigation, legislative law and antitrust litigation. In a unique partnership with her daughter, Laura Stein, also Of Counsel to the Firm, the Steins have served as the Firm's and the nation's top asset recovery experts. The Steins focus on minimizing losses suffered by shareholders due to corporate fraud and breaches of fiduciary duty.

Previously, Stein served as Counsel to United States Senator Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania. During her service in the United States Senate, Stein was a member of Senator Specter's legal staff and a member of the United States Senate Judiciary Committee staff. She is also the Founder of the Institute for Law and Economic Policy (ILEP), a think tank that develops policy positions on selected issues involving the administration of justice within the American legal system. Stein has also produced numerous public service documentaries for which she was nominated for an Emmy and received an ACE award, cable television's highest award for excellence in programming.

## Education

B.S., University of Pennsylvania, 1961; J.D., Temple University School of Law, 1966

## Honors / Awards

Nominated for an Emmy and received an ACE award for public service documentaries

## John J. Stoia, Jr. | Of Counsel

John Stoia is Of Counsel to the Firm and is based in the Firm's San Diego office. He is one of the founding partners and former managing partner of the Firm. He focuses his practice on insurance fraud, consumer fraud and securities fraud class actions. Stoia has been responsible for over \$10 billion in recoveries on behalf of victims of insurance fraud due to deceptive sales practices such as "vanishing premiums" and "churning." He has worked on dozens of nationwide complex securities class actions, including *In re Am. Cont'l Corp./Lincoln Sav. & Loan Sec. Litig.*, which arose out of the collapse of Lincoln Savings & Loan and Charles Keating's empire. Stoia was a member of the plaintiffs' trial team that obtained verdicts against Keating and his co-defendants in excess of \$3 billion and settlements of over \$240 million.

He also represented numerous large institutional investors who suffered hundreds of millions of dollars in losses as a result of major financial scandals, including AOL Time Warner and WorldCom. Currently, Stoia is lead counsel in numerous cases against online discount voucher companies for violations of both federal and state laws including violation of state gift card statutes.

## Education

B.S., University of Tulsa, 1983; J.D., University of Tulsa, 1986; LL.M., Georgetown University Law Center, 1987

## Honors / Awards

Rated AV Preeminent by Martindale-Hubbell; Top Lawyer in San Diego, *San Diego Magazine*, 2013-2019; Super Lawyer, 2007-2017; Litigator of the Month, *The National Law Journal*, July 2000; LL.M. Top of Class, Georgetown University Law Center

## David C. Walton | Of Counsel

David Walton was a founding partner of Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP. For over 20 years, he has prosecuted class actions and private actions on behalf of defrauded investors, particularly in the area of accounting fraud. He has investigated and participated in the litigation of highly complex accounting scandals within some of America's largest corporations, including Enron (\$7.2 billion), HealthSouth (\$671 million), WorldCom (\$657 million), AOL Time Warner (\$629 million), Countrywide (\$500 million), and Dynegy (\$474 million), as well as numerous companies implicated in stock option backdating.

Walton is a member of the Bar of California, a Certified Public Accountant (California 1992), a Certified Fraud Examiner, and is fluent in Spanish. In 2003-2004, he served as a member of the California Board of Accountancy, which is responsible for regulating the accounting profession in California.

## Education

B.A., University of Utah, 1988; J.D., University of Southern California Law Center, 1993

## Honors / Awards

Recommended Lawyer, *The Legal 500*, 2019; Super Lawyer, 2015-2016; California Board of Accountancy, Member, 2003-2004; *Southern California Law Review*, Member, University of Southern California Law Center; Hale Moot Court Honors Program, University of Southern California Law Center

## **Bruce Gamble | Special Counsel**

Bruce Gamble is Special Counsel to the Firm in the Firm's Washington D.C. office and is a member of the Firm's institutional investor client services group. He serves as liaison with the Firm's institutional investor clients in the United States and abroad, advising them on securities litigation matters. Gamble formerly served as Of Counsel to the Firm, providing a broad array of highly specialized legal and consulting services to public retirement plans. Before working with Robbins Geller, Gamble was General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer for the District of Columbia Retirement Board, where he served as chief legal advisor to the Board of Trustees and staff. Gamble's experience also includes serving as Chief Executive Officer of two national trade associations and several senior level staff positions on Capitol Hill.

### **Education**

B.S., University of Louisville, 1979; J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, 1989

### **Honors / Awards**

Executive Board Member, National Association of Public Pension Attorneys, 2000-2006; American Banker selection as one of the most promising U.S. bank executives under 40 years of age, 1992

## **Tricia L. McCormick | Special Counsel**

Tricia McCormick is Special Counsel to the Firm and focuses primarily on the prosecution of securities class actions. McCormick has litigated numerous cases against public companies in the state and federal courts which resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars in recoveries to investors. She is also a member of a team that is in constant contact with clients who wish to become actively involved in the litigation of securities fraud. In addition, McCormick is active in all phases of the Firm's lead plaintiff motion practice.

### **Education**

B.A., University of Michigan, 1995; J.D., University of San Diego School of Law, 1998

### **Honors / Awards**

J.D., *Cum Laude*, University of San Diego School of Law, 1998

## R. Steven Aronica | Forensic Accountant

Steven Aronica is a Certified Public Accountant licensed in the States of New York and Georgia and is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Institute of Internal Auditors and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. Aronica has been instrumental in the prosecution of numerous financial and accounting fraud civil litigation claims against companies that include Lucent Technologies, Tyco, Oxford Health Plans, Computer Associates, Aetna, WorldCom, Vivendi, AOL Time Warner, Ikon, Doral Financial, First BanCorp, Acclaim Entertainment, Pall Corporation, iStar Financial, Hibernia Foods, NBTY, Tommy Hilfiger, Lockheed Martin, the Blackstone Group and Motorola. In addition, he assisted in the prosecution of numerous civil claims against the major United States public accounting firms.

Aronica has been employed in the practice of financial accounting for more than 30 years, including public accounting, where he was responsible for providing clients with a wide range of accounting and auditing services; the investment bank Drexel Burnham Lambert, Inc., where he held positions with accounting and financial reporting responsibilities; and at the SEC, where he held various positions in the divisions of Corporation Finance and Enforcement and participated in the prosecution of both criminal and civil fraud claims.

### Education

B.B.A., University of Georgia, 1979

## Andrew J. Rudolph | Forensic Accountant

Andrew Rudolph is the Director of the Firm's Forensic Accounting Department, which provides in-house forensic accounting expertise in connection with securities fraud litigation against national and foreign companies. He has directed hundreds of financial statement fraud investigations, which were instrumental in recovering billions of dollars for defrauded investors. Prominent cases include *Qwest*, *HealthSouth*, *WorldCom*, *Boeing*, *Honeywell*, *Vivendi*, *Aurora Foods*, *Informix*, *Platinum Software*, *AOL Time Warner*, and *UnitedHealth*.

Rudolph is a Certified Fraud Examiner and a Certified Public Accountant licensed to practice in California. He is an active member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, California's Society of Certified Public Accountants, and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. His 20 years of public accounting, consulting and forensic accounting experience includes financial fraud investigation, auditor malpractice, auditing of public and private companies, business litigation consulting, due diligence investigations and taxation.

### Education

B.A., Central Connecticut State University, 1985

## Christopher Yurcek | Forensic Accountant

Christopher Yurcek is the Assistant Director of the Firm's Forensic Accounting Department, which provides in-house forensic accounting and litigation expertise in connection with major securities fraud litigation. He has directed the Firm's forensic accounting efforts on numerous high-profile cases, including *In re Enron Corp. Sec. Litig.* and *Jaffe v. Household Int'l, Inc.*, which obtained a record-breaking \$1.575 billion settlement after 14 years of litigation, including a six-week jury trial in 2009 that resulted in a verdict for plaintiffs. Other prominent cases include *HealthSouth*, *UnitedHealth*, *Vesta*, *Informix*, *Mattel*, *Coca-Cola* and *Media Vision*.

Yurcek has over 20 years of accounting, auditing, and consulting experience in areas including financial statement audit, forensic accounting and fraud investigation, auditor malpractice, turn-around consulting, business litigation and business valuation. He is a Certified Public Accountant licensed in California, holds a Certified in Financial Forensics (CFF) Credential from the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and is a member of the California Society of CPAs and the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners.

## Education

B.A., University of California, Santa Barbara, 1985

# **EXHIBIT 7**

*Leonard Sokolow v. LJM Funds Management, Ltd., et al.,*  
No. 1:18-cv-01039 (N.D. Ill.)

**SUMMARY OF TIME AND EXPENSES**

<b>FIRM</b>	<b>HOURS</b>	<b>LODESTAR</b>	<b>EXPENSES</b>
Labaton Sucharow LLP	1,350.70	\$881,650.00	\$17,972.45
Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP	1,330.80	\$864,167.00	\$7,897.48
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2,681.50</b>	<b>\$1,745,817.00</b>	<b>\$25,869.93</b>

**EXHIBIT 8**



UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

LEONARD SOKOLOW, Individually and on ) No. 1:18-cv-01039  
Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, )  
 ) CLASS ACTION  
Plaintiff, )  
 ) Judge Robert M. Dow, Jr.  
vs. )  
 )  
LJM FUNDS MANAGEMENT, LTD., et al., )  
 )  
Defendants. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

APPENDIX OF UNREPORTED AUTHORITIES CITED IN SUPPORT OF MEMORANDUM  
OF POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT OF LEAD COUNSEL'S MOTION FOR AN  
AWARD OF ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES AND AN AWARD TO LEAD  
PLAINTIFFS PURSUANT TO 15 U.S.C. §77z-1(a)(4)

**Appendix of Unreported Authorities Cited in Support of Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Support of Lead Counsel’s Motion for an Award of Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses and an Award to Lead Plaintiffs Pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §77z-1(a)(4)**

<b>CASE</b>	<b>TAB</b>
<i>Bristol Cnty. Ret. Sys. v. Allscripts Healthcare Solutions, Inc.</i> , No. 1:12-cv-03297, slip op. (N.D. Ill. July 22, 2015)	1
<i>Gupta v. Power Solutions Int’l, Inc.</i> , No. 16-cv-08253, slip op. (N.D. Ill. May 13, 2019)	2
<i>Rubinstein v. Gonzalez</i> , No. 14-cv-9465, slip op. (N.D. Ill. Oct. 22, 2019)	3
<i>Van Noppen v. InnerWorkings, Inc.</i> , No. 14-cv-01416, slip op. (N.D. Ill. Nov. 2, 2016)	4

DATED: November 13, 2019

ROBBINS GELLER RUDMAN  
& DOWD LLP  
JAMES E. BARZ (IL Bar # 6255605)  
BRIAN E. COCHRAN (IL Bar # 6329016)  
FRANK A. RICHTER (IL Bar # 6310011)

/s/ James E. Barz

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JAMES E. BARZ

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Co-Lead Counsel for Plaintiffs

**TAB 1**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

BRISTOL COUNTY RETIREMENT ) No. 1:12-cv-03297  
SYSTEM, Individually and on Behalf of All )  
Others Similarly Situated, ) CLASS ACTION  
 )  
Plaintiff, ) Judge Jorge L. Alonso  
 ) Magistrate Judge Young B. Kim  
vs. )  
 )  
ALLSCRIPTS HEALTHCARE SOLUTIONS, )  
INC., et al., )  
 )  
Defendants. )  
 )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

ORDER AWARDING ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES

THIS MATTER having come before the Court on the motion of Lead Plaintiffs for an award of attorneys' fees and expenses; the Court, having considered all papers filed and proceedings conducted herein, having found the Settlement of the Action to be fair, reasonable and adequate, and otherwise being fully informed in the premises and good cause appearing therefore;

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that:

1. All of the capitalized terms used herein shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Settlement Agreement dated April 1, 2015 (the "Settlement Agreement").

2. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this application and all matters relating thereto, including all members of the Class who have not timely and validly requested exclusion.

3. Pursuant to and in full compliance with Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Court finds and concludes that due and adequate notice of Lead Plaintiffs' motion for an award of attorneys' fees and expenses was directed to all Persons and entities who are Class Members, including individual notice to those who could be identified with reasonable effort, advising them of the application for fees and expenses and of their right to object thereto, and a full and fair opportunity was accorded to all Persons and entities who are members of the Class to be heard with respect to the motion for fees and expenses.

4. The Court hereby awards Lead Counsel attorneys' fees of 33% of the Settlement Amount and expenses of \$119,060.10, together with the interest earned thereon for the same time period and at the same rate as that earned on the Settlement Fund until paid. Said fees shall be allocated among other Plaintiffs' Counsel by Lead Counsel in a manner which, in their good-faith judgment, reflects each counsel's contribution to the institution, prosecution, and resolution of the Action. The Court finds that the amount of fees awarded is fair and reasonable under the "percentage-of recovery" method considering, among other things that:

- (a) the requested fee is consistent with percentage fees negotiated *ex ante* in the private market for legal services;
- (b) the contingent nature of the Action favors a fee award of 33%;
- (c) the Settlement Fund of \$9.75 million was not likely at the outset of the Action;
- (d) the awarded fee is in accord with Seventh Circuit authority and consistent with empirical data regarding fee awards in cases of this size;
- (e) the quality legal services provided by Lead Counsel produced the Settlement;
- (f) the Lead Plaintiffs appointed by the Court to represent the Class reviewed and approved the requested fee;
- (g) the stakes of the litigation favor the fee awarded; and
- (h) the reaction of the Class to the fee request supports the fee awarded.

5. The awarded attorneys' fees and expenses, and interest earned thereon, shall be paid to Lead Counsel from the Settlement Fund immediately after the date this Order is executed subject to the terms, conditions, and obligations of the Settlement Agreement, which terms, conditions, and obligations are incorporated herein.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

7/22/15



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JORGE L. ALONSO  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

**TAB 2**



**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION**

SUMIT GUPTA, Individually and on Behalf  
of All Others Similarly Situated,

Plaintiffs,

v.

POWER SOLUTIONS INTERNATIONAL,  
INC., DANIEL P. GOREY, JAY J.  
HANSEN, ELLEN R. HOFFING,  
KENNETH LANDINI, MICHAEL P.  
LEWIS, MARY E. VOGT, and GARY S.  
WINEMASTER,

Defendants.

Case No. 1:16-cv-08253

Consolidated with:

Case No. 1:16-cv-9599

Judge: Honorable Virginia M. Kendall

**May 13, 2019 Final Approval Hearing**

**~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER AWARDING ATTORNEYS' FEES  
AND REIMBURSEMENT OF LITIGATION EXPENSES**

This matter came on for hearing on May 13, 2019 (the "Final Approval Hearing") on Lead Counsel's motion for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses. The Court having considered all matters submitted to it at the Final Approval Hearing and otherwise; and it appearing that notice of the Final Approval Hearing substantially in the form approved by the Court was mailed to all Settlement Class Members who or which could be identified with reasonable effort, and that a summary notice of the hearing substantially in the form approved by the Court was published in *Investor's Business Daily* and was transmitted over the *PR Newswire* pursuant to the specifications of the Court; and the Court having considered and determined the fairness and reasonableness of the award of attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses requested,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. This Order incorporates by reference the definitions in the Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement dated January 22, 2019 (ECF No. 135-1) (the "Stipulation") and all capitalized terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the same meanings as set forth in the Stipulation.

2. The Court has jurisdiction to enter this Order and over the subject matter of the Action and all parties to the Action, including all Settlement Class Members.

3. Notice of Lead Counsel's motion for an award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses was given to all Settlement Class Members who could be identified with reasonable effort. The form and method of notifying the Settlement Class of the motion for an award of attorneys' fees and expenses satisfied the requirements of Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (15 U.S.C. §§ 77z-1(a)(7), 78u-4(a)(7)), due process, and all other applicable law and rules, constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and constituted due and sufficient notice to all persons and entities entitled thereto.

4. Plaintiffs' Counsel are hereby awarded attorneys' fees in the amount of 33 1/3 % of the Settlement Fund and \$81,867.58 in reimbursement of Plaintiffs' Counsel's litigation expenses (which fees and expenses shall be paid from the Settlement Fund), which sums the Court finds to be fair and reasonable. Lead Counsel shall allocate the attorneys' fees awarded amongst Plaintiffs' Counsel in a manner which they, in good faith, believe reflects the contributions of such counsel to the institution, prosecution and settlement of the consolidated Action.

5. In making this award of attorneys' fees and reimbursement of expenses to be paid from the Settlement Fund, the Court has considered and found that:

(a) The Settlement has created a fund consisting of \$8,500,000 in cash that has been funded into escrow pursuant to the terms of the Stipulation, and that numerous Settlement Class Members who submit acceptable Claim Forms will benefit from the Settlement that occurred because of the efforts of Plaintiffs' Counsel;

(b) Copies of the Postcard Notice were mailed to 12,577 potential Settlement Class Members and nominees stating that Lead Counsel would apply for attorneys' fees in an amount not exceed 33.3% of the Settlement Fund and reimbursement of Litigation Expenses in an amount not to exceed \$175,000. There were no objections to the requested attorneys' fees and Litigation Expenses;

(c) Lead Counsel has conducted the litigation and achieved the Settlement with skill, perseverance and diligent advocacy;

(d) The Action raised a number of complex issues;

(e) Had Lead Counsel not achieved the Settlement there would remain a significant risk that Plaintiffs and the other members of the Settlement Class may have recovered less or nothing from Defendants;

(f) Plaintiffs' Counsel devoted over 3,554 hours, with a lodestar value of approximately \$1,822,491 to achieve the Settlement; and

(g) The amount of attorneys' fees awarded and expenses to be reimbursed from the Settlement Fund are fair and reasonable and consistent with awards in similar cases.

6. Lead Plaintiff Richard Giunta is hereby awarded \$5,000, and Plaintiff David Leibowitz is awarded \$5,000 from the Settlement Fund as reimbursement for their reasonable costs and expenses directly related to their representation of the Settlement Class.

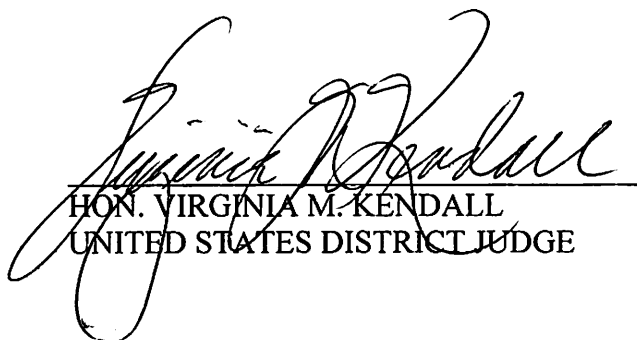
7. Any appeal or any challenge affecting this Court's approval regarding any attorneys' fees and expense application shall in no way disturb or affect the finality of the Judgment.

8. Exclusive jurisdiction is hereby retained over the parties and Settlement Class Members for all matters relating to this Action, including the administration, interpretation, effectuation or enforcement of the Stipulation and this Order.

9. In the event that the Settlement is terminated or the Effective Date of the Settlement otherwise fails to occur, this Order shall be rendered null and void to the extent provided by the Stipulation.

10. There is no just reason for delay in the entry of this Order, and immediate entry by the Clerk of the Court is expressly directed.

Dated: May 13, 2019

  
HON. VIRGINIA M. KENDALL  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

**TAB 3**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION

MURRAY RUBINSTEIN, et al., Individually	)	No. 14-cv-9465
and On Behalf of All Others Similarly	)	
Situated,	)	
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	Honorable Robert M. Dow, Jr.
	)	
v.	)	
	)	
RICHARD GONZALEZ and ABBVIE INC.,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

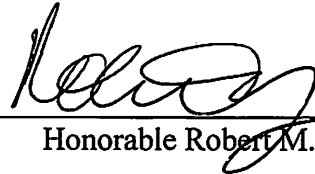
**ORDER GRANTING APPROVAL OF LEAD COUNSEL’S FEES, AND EXPENSES,  
COSTS TO LEAD PLAINTIFF AND PLAN OF ALLOCATION**

On October 22, 2019, this Court heard Lead Plaintiff’s Motion for an Award of Attorney’s Fees, Reimbursement of Expenses and approval of Plan of Allocation (the “Motion”). This Court has considered the Motion and other related materials submitted by Lead Plaintiff, as well as Lead Plaintiff’s presentation at the Final Approval Hearing, and otherwise being fully informed on the premises, hereby finds and orders as follows:

1. Lead Counsel are awarded \$5,025,000 in attorneys’ fees.
2. Lead Counsel are awarded \$530,133.17 as reimbursement of litigation expenses.
3. This Court finds that Lead Plaintiff Dawn Bradley, in prosecuting the case on behalf of the Class, made a substantial contribution to its outcome, and is therefore awarded \$9,937.20 in costs, in addition to any share of the Settlement Fund to which she is entitled.
4. The foregoing awards shall be paid from the Settlement Fund in accordance with the Stipulation of Settlement.

5. This Court approves the proposed Plan of Allocation and finds it is fair, reasonable and adequate.

DATED: October 22, 2019



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Honorable Robert M. Dow, Jr.

**TAB 4**



**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS  
EASTERN DIVISION**

PETER IKAI VAN NOPPEN, Individually and On Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated,  <p style="text-align: right;">Plaintiff,</p>	)	
	)	
	)	Case No. 14 CV 1416
	)	
	)	Judge John Robert Blakey
	)	
vs.	)	
	)	CLASS ACTION
INNERWORKINGS, INC., ERIC D. BELCHER, and JOSEPH M. BUSKY,  <p style="text-align: right;">Defendants.</p>	)	
	)	

**ORDER AWARDING ATTORNEYS' FEES AND PAYMENT OF EXPENSES**

WHEREAS:

A. As of May 11, 2016, Lead Plaintiff Plymouth County Retirement System (“Plymouth” or “Lead Plaintiff”), on behalf of itself and the Settlement Class, on the one hand, and InnerWorkings, Inc. (“InnerWorkings” or the “Company”), Eric D. Belcher and Joseph M. Busky (the “Individual Defendants” and, collectively with InnerWorkings, the “Defendants”), on the other, entered into a Stipulation and Agreement of Settlement (the “Stipulation”) in the above-titled litigation (the “Action”);

B. Pursuant to the Order Granting Preliminary Approval of Class Action Settlement, Approving Form and Manner of Notice, and Setting Date for Hearing on Final Approval of Settlement, entered May 25, 2016 (the “Preliminary Approval

Order”), the Court scheduled a hearing for October 13, 2016, at 9:45 a.m. (the “Settlement Hearing”) to, among other things: (i) determine whether the proposed Settlement of the Action on the terms and conditions provided for in the Stipulation is fair, reasonable, and adequate, and should be approved by the Court; (ii) determine whether a judgment as provided for in the Stipulation should be entered; and (iii) rule on Lead Counsel’s Fee and Expense Application;

C. The Court ordered that the Notice of Pendency of Class Action, Proposed Settlement, and Motion for Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses (the “Notice”) and a Proof of Claim and Release form (“Proof of Claim”), substantially in the forms attached to the Preliminary Approval Order as Exhibits 1 and 2, respectively, be mailed by first-class mail, postage prepaid, on or before ten (10) business days after the date of entry of the Preliminary Approval Order (“Notice Date”) to all potential Settlement Class Members who could be identified through reasonable effort, and that a Summary Notice of Pendency of Class Action, Proposed Settlement, and Motion for Attorneys’ Fees and Expenses (the “Summary Notice”), substantially in the form attached to the Preliminary Approval Order as Exhibit 3, be published in *Investor’s Business Daily* and transmitted over *PR Newswire* within fourteen (14) calendar days of the Notice Date;

D. The Notice and the Summary Notice advised potential Settlement Class Members of the date, time, place, and purpose of the Settlement Hearing. The Notice further advised that any objections to the Fee and Expense Application,

among other things, were required to be filed with the Court and served on counsel for the Parties such that they were received by September 21, 2016;

E. The provisions of the Preliminary Approval Order as to notice were complied with;

F. On September 6, 2016, Lead Plaintiff moved for final approval of the Settlement and Lead Counsel moved for an award of fees and expenses, as set forth in the Preliminary Approval Order. The Settlement Hearing was duly held before this Court on October 13, 2016, at which time all interested Persons were afforded the opportunity to be heard; and

G. This Court has duly considered Lead Counsel's motion for an award of attorneys' fees and expenses, the affidavits, declarations, memoranda of law submitted in support thereof, the Stipulation, and all of the submissions and arguments presented with respect to the proposed Settlement;

NOW, THEREFORE, after due deliberation, IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED that:

1. The Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Action and over all parties to the Action, including all Settlement Class Members, counsel, and the Claims Administrator.

2. All capitalized terms used herein have the meanings set forth and defined in the Stipulation.

3. Notice of Lead Counsel's application for attorneys' fees and payment of expenses was given to all Settlement Class Members who could be identified with

reasonable effort. The form and method of notifying the Settlement Class of the application for attorneys' fees and expenses met the requirements of Rules 23 and 54 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Section 21D(a)(7) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. § 78u-4(a)(7), as amended by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 (the "PSLRA"), due process, and any other applicable law, constituted the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and constituted due and sufficient notice to all persons and entities entitled thereto.

4. The Court hereby awards Lead Counsel attorneys' fees in the amount of \$1,807,500, plus interest at the same rate earned by the Settlement Fund, which is 30% of the Settlement Fund, and payment of litigation expenses in the amount of \$124,535.43, plus interest at the same rate earned by the Settlement Fund, which sums the Court finds to be fair and reasonable.

5. The award of attorneys' fees and litigation expenses may be paid to Lead Counsel from the Settlement Fund subject to the terms, conditions, and obligations of the Stipulation, which terms, conditions, and obligations are incorporated herein.

6. In making this award of attorneys' fees and payment of litigation expenses to be paid from the Settlement Fund, the Court has analyzed the factors considered within the Seventh Circuit and found that:

(a) The Settlement has created a common fund of \$6,025,000 in cash and that numerous Settlement Class Members who submit acceptable Claim Forms will benefit from the Settlement created by the efforts of Lead Counsel;

(b) The requested attorneys' fees and payment of litigation expenses have been reviewed and approved as fair and reasonable by Lead Plaintiff, a sophisticated institutional investor that was directly involved in the prosecution and resolution of the Action and which has a substantial interest in ensuring that any fees paid are duly earned and not excessive;

(c) The amount of attorneys' fees awarded are fair and reasonable and consistent with market-rates and fee awards approved in cases within the Seventh Circuit and other Circuits with similar recoveries;

(d) Lead Counsel is highly experienced in the field of securities class actions and conducted the Action and achieved the Settlement with skillful and diligent advocacy;

(e) Lead Counsel undertook the Action on a contingent basis, and has borne all the ensuing risk, including the risk of no recovery, given, among other things, the risks of succeeding in a case governed by the PSLRA and those presented by Defendants' defenses concerning scienter, loss causation, and damages;

(f) The Action involves difficult factual and legal issues and, in the absence of settlement, would involve lengthy proceedings whose resolution would be uncertain;

(g) Lead and Liaison Counsel have devoted more than 2,400 hours, with a lodestar value of \$1,542,726.00, to achieve the Settlement; and

(h) Notice was disseminated to Settlement Class Members stating that Lead Counsel would be submitting an application for attorneys' fees in an amount not to exceed 30% of the Settlement Fund, plus interest, and payment of litigation expenses incurred in connection with the prosecution of this Action in an amount not to exceed \$225,000, plus interest. No Settlement Class Members have filed an objection to the application for fees and expenses submitted by Lead Counsel.

7. Any appeal or challenge affecting this Court's approval of any attorneys' fee or expense application in the Action shall in no way disturb or affect the finality of the Judgment entered with respect to the Settlement.

8. In the event that the Settlement is terminated or does not become Final or the Effective Date does not occur in accordance with the terms of the Stipulation, this order shall be rendered null and void to the extent provided by the Stipulation and shall be vacated in accordance with the Stipulation.

Date: November 2, 2016

ENTERED:



John Robert Blakey  
United States District Judge