

Securities Litigation & Enforcement

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OUR PRACTICE

Stradley Ronon represents clients in all types of securities litigation and enforcement matters, including federal securities lawsuits, broker-dealer and investment adviser litigation, and regulatory and internal investigations. Our securities litigators combine a broad knowledge of and deep experience in, the industry and of the regulators with seasoned trial, investigative and negotiation skills. We provide high-quality, responsive and cost-effective representation in federal and state courts, regulatory tribunals and securities industry arbitrations. Most importantly, we help our clients avoid litigation whenever possible, and when it becomes unavoidable, we bring decades of experience to the table.

The group is co-chaired by a former SEC supervisory trial counsel with nearly two decades of experience litigating federal court regulatory matters and leading securities investigations and trials.

Our clients span the spectrum of entities involved in securities matters, including public and private companies, mutual funds, investment advisers, hedge funds, banks, broker-dealers and insurance companies, along with their directors, officers and employees. Our clients range from large, well-capitalized companies and their executives to regional businesses and their owners to modest local ventures and individuals. We invest in industry conferences and education programs – so we know and understand our clients' businesses as well as they do.

OUR EXPERIENCE

The group is co-chaired by a former SEC supervisory trial counsel with nearly two decades of experience litigating federal court regulatory matters and leading securities investigations and trials. Our attorneys have substantial experience in all aspects of securities litigation and enforcement. We handle the defense of SEC, DOJ, FINRA and state regulatory matters, examinations

and investigations; shareholder class actions; federal court litigation involving securities issues; state law claims of breach of fiduciary duty and shareholder disputes; and securities fraud claims in industry arbitrations.

Our attorneys successfully represent clients before judges, jurors, arbitrators and regulators on matters of current focus by litigants and regulators. We've helped clients through a multitude of issues, including securities and accounting fraud; director, officer and shareholder obligations in connection with corporate sales and mergers; broker-dealer, investment adviser and investment company regulation; registration; insider trading; disclosure; compliance policies and procedures; supervision; books and records requirements; audits; and fiduciary duties. We also vigorously defend our financial services clients in various types of claims, including employment matters, defamation and intraindustry disputes.

CLIENT SUCCESSES

Recovery of mutual fund losses caused by a public company's alleged fraud through a shareholder opt-out action. Defense of a shareholder class and derivative suit seeking to enjoin the sale of a snack food company. Trial of a securities fraud action brought against a public company in the environmental waste business.

An extended arbitration involving significant claims of selling away brought against a brokerage firm. Defense of a prime brokerage company in state court for its role in an alleged Ponzi scheme. An SEC appeal of NASDAQ's delisting of a Chinese company. Representing mutual funds in a derivative shareholder action involving the redemption of auction-rate preferred securities.

Representation of NASDAQ market makers and floor brokers in litigated enforcement claims.

YOUR ISSUES

Our attorneys pride themselves on having a comprehensive understanding of the sophisticated financial products that are frequently the subject of litigation. We stay ahead of the curve by educating ourselves and our clients about current regulatory enforcement priorities and new and complex instruments that may form the basis of future investigations or claims. We have a deep understanding of and have handled matters involving structured products, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, annuities, auction rate securities, municipal bond arbitrage, life settlements, initial private offerings, private placements and principal protected notes.

OUR SERVICES

We recognize that it is in our clients' best interest to avoid the cost and risk of litigation as a defendant and to pursue litigation as a plaintiff

only when doing so advances an important interest and the benefit will likely outweigh the cost. We take a comprehensive, team-oriented approach to evaluating each client's unique circumstances, including consulting our other practice group leaders when appropriate. Our corporate, regulatory compliance, mergers and acquisitions, investment management, structured finance and tax law attorneys include 12 former SEC lawyers and serve as strategic resources to ensure that our clients are best protected from litigation. When litigation is inevitable, our experienced trial team takes proactive steps to resolve problematic cases early in the process. We work with our clients to develop strategies to manage the electronic discovery process in a cost-efficient, defensible manner that minimizes business disruption. For cases that require adjudication, our securities litigators apply their deep

trial experience and knowledge of the regulators and the courts to each representation. Our trial team is wellknown and well-respected by federal, state and local courts.

Our Value-Added Services

We routinely visit our clients to provide ongoing educational seminars to management and employees. Topics from some of our recent offerings include:

- SEC Enforcement and Internal Investigations
- Asset Management Compliance and SEC Enforcement
- Insider Trading: New Theories and **Important Considerations**
- Cryptocurrency: Regulation, Enforcement and Litigation
- Fundamentals of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act
- Attorney-Client Privilege
- **Electronic Communications** and Discovery
- Best Practices in Responding to Regulatory Inquiries
- Fundamentals of FINRA Arbitration



Some of our recent client successes include:

Conducting internal investigations on behalf of public company audit committees, banks and other financial services companies regarding financial fraud, accounting issues, loan loss assessment, valuation procedures and numerous other alleged improprieties.

Representing investment advisers of individuals in SEC investigations involving collateralized debt obligations, private equity funds and compliance policies and procedures.

Representation and firms in SEC financial fraud and insider trading investigations.

Representing a broker-dealer in a FINRA investigation regarding Regulation S-P.

Representation of a compliance officer in a FINRA investigation concerning Regulation SHO.

Representing numerous brokerage firms in FINRA arbitrations involving claims of securities fraud.

Representation of a NYSE Arca marketmaking company in a disciplinary action.



For more information about our Securities Litigation & Enforcement practice, visit **www.stradley.com/securities.**



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ABOUT STRADLEY RONON

For more than 95 years, Stradley Ronon has helped private and public companies – from small businesses to Fortune 500 corporations – achieve their goals. With nine offices and more than 200 attorneys, Stradley Ronon is proud to help companies manage their legal challenges and grow their businesses.

www.stradley.com

LOCATIONS

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