

New York Law Journal

LITIGATION DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR: CLASS ACTION WINNER: WEIL, GOTSHAL & MANGES



Read a Q&A prepared by David Lender, co-head of Weil's global litigation department, below.

What are some of the department's most satisfying successes of the past year and why?

Weil has continued to set the standard for class action defense, delivering an exceptional slate of results in the highest-stakes disputes, and shaping the law in emerging and heavily contested areas.

At the appellate level, we delivered a series of precedent-setting wins. For TripAdvisor, we secured a rare, unanimous Delaware Supreme Court reversal that provides critical guidance on fiduciary duty claims arising from corporate re-domestications.

In the Second Circuit, Weil secured a unanimous victory for Saks dismissing antitrust claims despite coordinated opposition from federal and state regulators,

significantly narrowing the path for similar employment-based class actions in an important circuit for employers.

For Paramount Global, we achieved a complete Sixth Circuit victory under the VPPA, creating a circuit split on a statute driving a wave of high-exposure class actions; we'll argue that case before SCOTUS this coming Term.

Equally impactful are Weil's early-stage dismissals of next-generation class claims, where plaintiffs are advancing aggressive and untested theories. For Chobani, Weil defeated a nationwide false-labeling class action raising novel issues at the intersection of food science, regulation, and consumer protection. For lululemon, we

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won big in a nationwide greenwashing class action in Florida federal court attacking a core marketing campaign.

The firm secured dismissal of a novel class action against PlayOn! Sports that sought to extend NIL theories into high school athletics. We also achieved key wins for the MLB Players Association in the FTX MDL, defeating efforts to extend liability based on novel endorsement theories in a high-profile, rapidly evolving space.

What traits do you respect most in opposing firms and lawyers?

Preparation. Collegiality. Efficiency.

What is the firm doing to ensure that future generations of litigators are ready to take the helm?

We construct every litigation team with a view towards providing the best client service, achieving the best possible outcome for our clients, and positioning our next-generation

talent to contribute meaningfully to the overall strategy and tactics integral to successfully resolving the case—goals we share and advance in tandem with our clients.

Our exemplary victories over the last year showcase this philosophy in action, with younger partners, counsel, and associates writing and arguing case-dispositive motions and appeals, developing novel legal arguments that convinced judges to overturn multi-hundred million dollar verdicts and deny emergency relief, and protecting corporate transactions worth collectively more than a hundred-billion dollars.

Importantly, our future leaders play important roles in pitching and winning new business, drawing on their collective experience to shape proposed litigation strategy that features prominently in every new litigation opportunity we undertake. Their efforts are key to the firm's continued success and ensure that we remain ahead of the class.