



Anthony J. Laura

Of Counsel

Newark

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ANTHONY J. LAURA is Of Counsel to the Litigation and Employment, Labor & Workforce Management practices, in the Newark office of Epstein Becker Green.

Mr. Laura's experience includes:

- Representing financial services industry clients (such as banks, mortgage lenders, and servicers) in the defense of both individual and putative class action lender liability suits, with a particular emphasis on consumer class action litigation and the defense of claims for predatory lending, deceptive practices, statutory consumer lending violations, and data privacy issues
- Counseling and litigating for employers across the spectrum of employee relations matters, particularly on the enforcement of restrictive covenants, non-competes, and non-solicitation agreements
- Handling the defense of discrimination and wrongful discharge claims in state and federal courts
- Defending manufacturers, pharmaceutical companies, and medical device makers in product liability and complex commercial matters, including class actions, multidistrict litigation (MDL), mass torts, and claims for unfair business practices
- Representing clients in litigation regarding securities fraud, shareholder disputes, and challenges to mergers and acquisitions
- Defending companies in putative class actions and individual actions brought under the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA)

Mr. Laura has received an "AV Preeminent" Peer Review Rating by Martindale-Hubbell, signifying the highest level of professional excellence. He was selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® (2018, 2019) in the field of Litigation – Labor and Employment and has also been selected for inclusion in *New York Area's Top Rated Lawyers* (2012 to 2014).

Prior to working with Epstein Becker Green, Mr. Laura was a Partner in the New Jersey office of a large international law firm, where he focused on financial services and commercial litigation, employment law, government response and investigations, litigation and dispute resolution, toxic torts, and products liability matters. Before that position, Mr. Laura was a Partner at a top-15 international law firm and served as head of the firm's New Jersey Trial Practice Group.

Representative Matters

- Represented a Fortune 500 chemical manufacturer in its nationwide defense of asbestos personal injury suits, and represented the manufacturer's wholly-owned medical device subsidiary in its defense of breast implant personal injury suits
- Served as regional counsel for a medical device maker and its subsidiary in personal injury suits and complex commercial litigation
- Was the lead attorney supervising team of more than 30 lawyers handling all aspects of the legal review of a major U.S. financial institution's foreclosure and servicing practices in a governmental investigation initiated by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency
- Defended New York City and its contractors against toxic tort claims arising from the response actions at the World Trade Center site after 9/11
- Served as Eastern U.S. counsel for major business-to-business office products company in its restrictive covenant and other employment litigation matters
- Represented a major U.S. bank in obtaining the dismissal—later affirmed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit—of consumer financial services class action RICO, antitrust, and consumer fraud claims arising from purported manipulation of the Prime Rate; this is a seminal Third Circuit case imposing FRCP 9(b)'s particularity requirements to antitrust claims based on allegations of fraud
- Obtained a forum non conveniens dismissal of contract and tort claims against an Italian pharmaceutical company
- Prosecuted to a successful settlement a Rule 10(b)(5) securities litigation against a company and its board over the forced redemption of a special class of the company's shares acquired through the sale of plaintiffs' interests in one of the world's largest known nickel deposits
- Obtained the dismissal of a \$500 million claim against a Swiss bank based on the alleged aiding and abetting of securities fraud
- Obtained the dismissal of putative class action claims of consumer fraud arising out of a client's mortgage lending practices
- Obtained a jury verdict for a defendant-hospital on the plaintiff's \$8 million contract claim regarding critical care ambulance services
- Obtained summary judgment on claims of fraud and breach of contract arising from the defendant-client's acquisition of an office products business

- Obtained the dismissal of a putative class action alleging fraud and misrepresentation in connection with the billing practices of a major U.S. health care provider
- Obtained the dismissal (and an award of sanctions against the plaintiff) on breach of contract and misrepresentation claims in connection with a partnership dispute

Education

- Fordham University School of Law (J.D., 1986)
- Yale University (B.A., 1983)

Court Admissions

- Supreme Court of the United States
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Michigan

Bar Admissions

- New Jersey
- New York

Practice Areas

- Banking Litigation
- Business Litigation
- Class Actions
- Corporate and Securities Litigation
- Data Breach/Cybersecurity Litigation
- Employment Litigation
- Labor & Employment Litigation
- Trade Secrets & Employee Mobility
- Products Liability

- Toxic Tort

Industries

- Technology, Media & Telecommunications
- Financial Services

Memberships

- American Bar Association
- Hispanic National Bar Association
- New Jersey State Bar Association, Product Liability and Toxic Tort Section (Chair, 1999-2001)
- New Jersey Supreme Court Appointment to District Ethics Committee
- Runnells Specialized Hospital Foundation, Former Trustee
- United Way of Summit/New Providence/Berkeley Heights, Budget Review Committee (Chair, 2004-2007)