

CYBERSECURITY & DATA PRIVACY

Class Action Defense



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Wilson Elser is the preeminent defense litigation firm in the United States. At any given time, our more than 1,000 attorneys are engaged in some 100,000 defense and coverage matters, with many defending clients in various local, state and federal courts. Indeed, over more than four decades, our litigation, coverage and trial lawyers have gained a reputation for taking on and prevailing in the most challenging and technical cases, frequently “parachuting in” to assume unresolved matters from other law firms. Our success also derives from winning on our clients’ terms and rigorously adhering to their guidelines. We are ranked 107 in the AMLaw 200 and 55th in the National Law Journal’s NJ 500.

OUR FIRM

Wilson Elser is the preeminent defense litigation firm in the United States.

At any given time, our more than 1,000 attorneys are engaged in some 100,000 defense and coverage matters, with many defending clients in various local, state and federal courts. Indeed, over more than four decades, our litigation, coverage and trial lawyers have gained a reputation for taking on and prevailing in the most challenging and technical cases, frequently “parachuting in” to assume unresolved matters from other law firms. From one-off premises liability matters to bad faith coverage claims to large-scale program management, we handle most every type of litigation.

Our enviable reputation and penchant for success derive from the acknowledgement that *winning lawsuits is defined in different ways by different clients*. What constitutes a “win” is informed by a calculus based on each client’s business model, legal objectives and risk appetite, as well as the distinct circumstances surrounding an individual matter. We carefully weigh these and other considerations and then aggressively pursue negotiated early settlements, dispositive motions, mediated agreements, defense verdicts or other appropriate resolution methods. In all cases and jurisdictions, we can be relied on to win *on our clients’ terms* and, rigorously adhere to their guidelines.

Since natural and manmade crises are not confined to normal business hours, we take particular pride in being “crisis-ready,” often arriving on-site or otherwise engaging within the first critical hours following an incident. With 44 offices in or near most major U.S. markets, our attorneys don’t have far to travel. We also help clients develop strong risk management protocols, thus avoiding liabilities and their financial and reputational repercussions.

More than a cadre of accomplished attorneys, many of us are well-known, highly regarded thought leaders in our respective practice areas. As such, we provide useful information and insights to our clients in advancing their businesses, and intensive mentoring and training to our next generation of attorneys in advancing their careers.

In this and all we do, Wilson Elser attorneys and staff champion a diversity of backgrounds, experiences and perspectives that mirrors our clients, makes us stronger, and enhances our contributions to the legal, business and broader communities.



NATIONAL FOOTPRINT

ATTORNEYS LICENSED

(States in bold)

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Alabama | North Carolina |
| Alaska | North Dakota |
| Arizona | Ohio |
| Arkansas | Oklahoma |
| California | Oregon |
| Colorado | Pennsylvania |
| Connecticut | Rhode Island |
| Delaware | South Carolina |
| Florida | South Dakota |
| Georgia | Tennessee |
| Hawaii | Texas |
| Illinois | Utah |
| Indiana | Vermont |
| Iowa | Virginia |
| Idaho | Washington, DC |
| Kansas | Washington |
| Kentucky | West Virginia |
| Louisiana | Wisconsin |
| Maine | Wyoming |
| Maryland | |
| Massachusetts | |
| Michigan | |
| Minnesota | |
| Mississippi | |
| Missouri | |
| Montana | |
| Nebraska | |
| Nevada | |
| New Hampshire | |
| New Jersey | |
| New Mexico | |
| New York | |

OFFICES/CITIES

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Los Angeles
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San Francisco
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212.490.3000

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984.268.2121

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Philadelphia
215.627.6900

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615.324.7840

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Austin
512.314.9653

Dallas
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Houston
713.353.2000

Tyler
214.698.8000

VIRGINIA
McLean
703.245.9300

WASHINGTON
Seattle
206.709.5900

WASHINGTON, DC
202.626.7660

WISCONSIN
Milwaukee
414.276.8816



Great Britain



US Virgin Islands

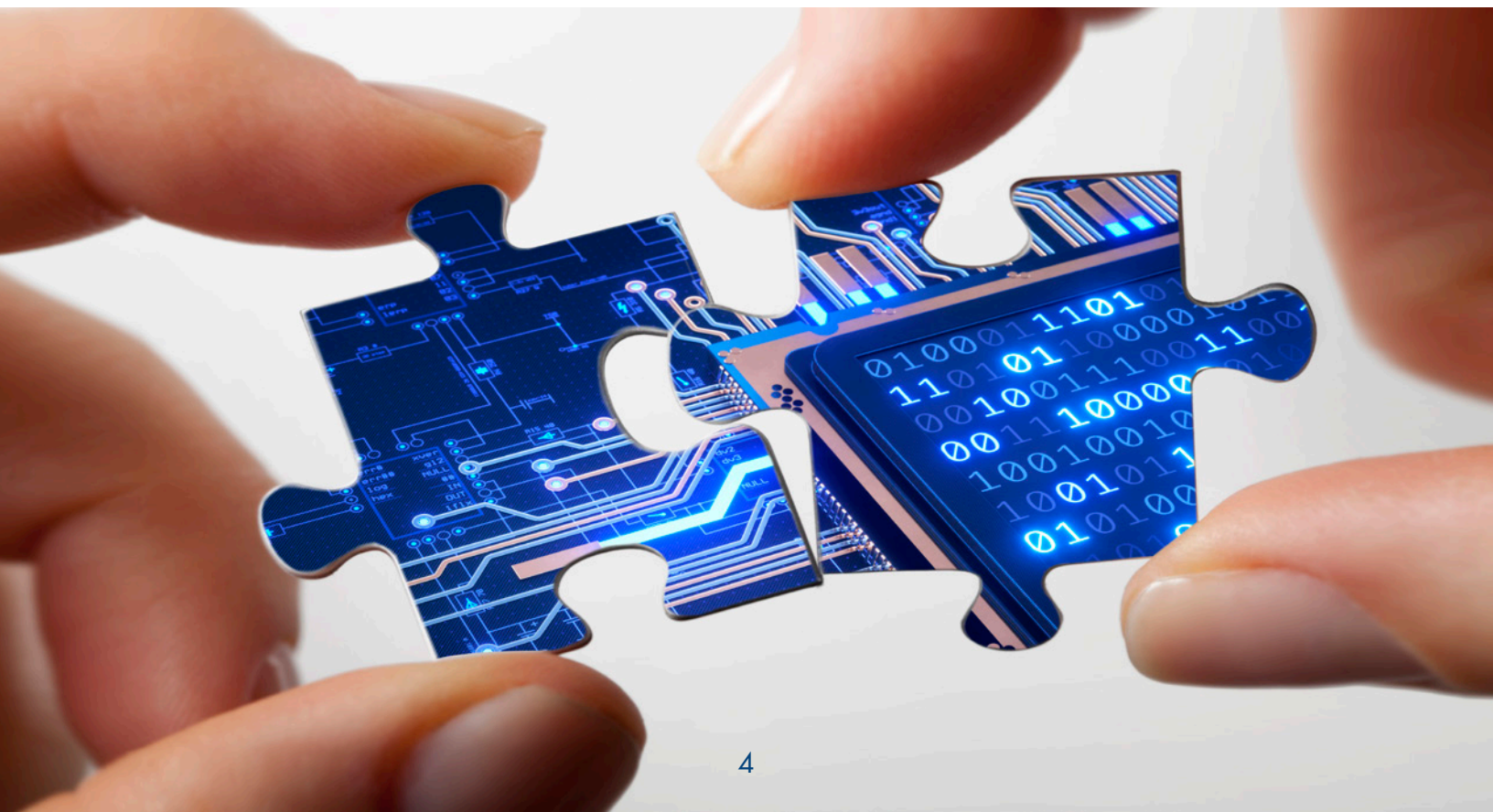
CYBERSECURITY & DATA PRIVACY OVERVIEW

Insurance carriers choose Wilson Elser because of the specialized experience, geographic footprint and breadth of services we offer relative to cyber breaches and related claims.

Our Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Practice was recognized by Business Insurance as the “Best Legal Team of 2020” and spotlighted in U.S. News & World Report’s “Best Law Firms of 2021,” and our practice attorneys have extensive experience providing breach response services to businesses in various markets. Anjali Das, co-chair of Wilson Elser’s Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Practice, was recently named to the Cybersecurity Docket Incident Response 40 2021, the digital publication’s annual list of the 40 best data breach attorneys.

Importantly, our attorneys are equally adept at providing pre-breach risk management counsel as they are at supporting post-breach response. Our ability to support insurers and their insureds is enhanced by our broad litigation prowess, which touches many related areas of practice and enables the firm to provide a level of precision that is difficult to match.

We invite you to view a brief video that describes our cybersecurity capabilities:



Wilson Elser is pleased to offer a unique combination of benefits relative to its cyber programs:

- **Leading-edge breach response services.** Wilson Elser has handled thousands of breach responses and other incidents involving the unauthorized access of data. We count among our clients a broad spectrum of Fortune 500 companies, including those in the health care, professional services, municipal services and technology industries. Our teams know every breach has a distinctive set of characteristics and surrounding circumstances, and we develop response plans that are tailored appropriately. We likewise offer a full complement of pre-breach services that are designed to help organizations prevent and mitigate cyber-attacks.
- **Comprehensive cybersecurity offerings.** While breach response is a core competency of our national Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Practice, Wilson Elser is well versed in a variety of related offerings. This breadth of services, which includes government investigations, compliance counseling and privacy litigation, sets our attorneys apart from those that focus exclusively on breach response; this knowledge and experience informs our pre- and post-breach response efforts and positions us to assist seamlessly with cyber claims as they evolve. We invite you to view a brief video that describes our cybersecurity capabilities: https://digital.wilsonelser.com/cybersecurity_breach_response.
- **National footprint.** Wilson Elser maintains 43 offices across the United States – coverage that benefits many of our clients. With locations in or near most of the country’s major markets, there is no need to spend precious time and resources assembling a network of law firms. Instead, clients that choose Wilson Elser can focus on serving their clients and enjoy a minimum of administrative tasks related to their law firm partner.
- **International reach through Legalign Global.** Wilson Elser is one of four founding members of Legalign Global, a close alliance of “best-in-region” law firms representing multinational insurance and reinsurance companies. Each member firm has robust capabilities relative to cyber breach response, and we believe this integrated network – which features more than 60 offices worldwide – will be an asset in the event of cross-border breaches.
- **Deep multidisciplinary bench.** Our Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Practice attorneys can access the resources and experience of the firm’s various practice areas. Drawing attorneys with diverse experience into multidisciplinary teams enables us to address enterprise-wide privacy concerns and frequently spawns innovative resolutions to our clients’ most challenging issues. For example, we assist clients with risks involving statutory consumer protection defense (Telephone Consumer Protection Act, Fair Debt Collections Practice Act, etc.), biometrics, internet of things, complex product liability cases and more. Furthermore, given the litigation capabilities of our Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Practice attorneys – and the fact that they work with hundreds of other litigators firmwide – we have a distinct advantage in ransom negotiations and related cyber events.

CYBER CLASS ACTION DEFENSE

Class actions are increasing in complexity, especially in the cyber space. Cases are becoming more duplicative and overlapping, with motions filed in multiple jurisdictions during the same time period.

With its national network of offices, Wilson Elser is well positioned to launch a coordinated multi-front defense in these situations. Our attorneys are experienced in simplifying the most complicated cases by bringing motions either for federal multidistrict consolidation or state and federal coordination. Class actions can quickly move from distracting to unmanageable to crippling – or worse – so our attorneys work diligently across disciplines to counter these claims, in many cases obtaining early dismissals of the named plaintiffs or defeating motions for class certification.

Our strategies for defending class action litigation are varied and are developed to be individualized in keeping with our clients' objectives. Examples of these strategies include:

- Pursuit of early dismissals of the named plaintiffs' claims through motions to dismiss based on such defenses as the statute of limitations, lack of standing or injury, or failure to state a claim.
- Moving early for summary adjudication and/or proactively defeating class certification through effective, focused early discovery.
- Obtaining early stays of the proceedings under the doctrines of primary jurisdiction and federal preemption.
- Removing class actions from state to federal court.
- Moving to consolidate and transfer multiple class action filings to the U.S. Panel on Multidistrict Litigation when appropriate, rather than opposing a class action format.



We also have experience conducting class- and merit-based discovery, pursuing interlocutory appeals of certification rulings and administering class action settlements.

At all stages of class action or individual lawsuits, we place the highest premium on efficient case management, achieving results that align with mutually agreed objectives. We recognize that the effective management of litigation is a collaborative effort. From inception through ultimate disposition, we provide clients with prompt and accurate reporting and timely recommendations for matter resolution. We are committed to delivering reliable, accomplished and cost-efficient legal services.

Representative Matters

- **Achieved an early favorable settlement on behalf of a health care provider** in a data breach class action filed in the Southern District of New York by a nationwide class of 125,000 individuals. The complaint asserted a variety of claims including negligence, breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, and violation of the New York Deceptive Trade Practices Act.
- **Obtained dismissal of six of eight causes of action at the pleading stage for a health care provider** in a ransomware data breach class action filed in Minnesota State Court on behalf of 11,000 individuals. The case presented numerous issues of "first impression." Regarding the surviving claims, the court was "highly skeptical" of plaintiffs' breach of implied contract claim and noted that it would be difficult to establish a fiduciary relationship between the parties. Subsequently, we negotiated a favorable class-wide settlement prior to extensive discovery in the case.

- **Successfully mediated and negotiated early resolutions of data breach class actions** filed in state and federal courts, resulting in favorable outcomes for our clients and carriers.
- **Obtained a favorable ruling on a motion to dismiss a data breach class action** in a case of first impression in Minnesota state court. The court dismissed the vast majority of plaintiff's claims at the pleading stage for failure to state a cognizable claim under applicable law.
- **Retained by one of the largest U.S. commercial property and casualty insurance companies** to serve as associating counsel in several data breach class action cases in which the insured defendants are being represented in lawsuits by other law firms. We are working with the insureds and litigation counsel to assist in analyzing the lawsuits and negotiating potential resolutions of the class actions.
- **In a case of first impression in the Fifth Circuit, obtained dismissal of a cybersecurity putative class action** involving a hospital system data breach the plaintiffs alleged affected 405,000 patients and employees with claimed damages in excess of \$225 million. We argued the putative class had no standing as they alleged only a heightened risk of future identity theft/fraud. The court dismissed the action with leave to re-file in state court. We again obtained complete dismissal of the case. The plaintiff's subsequent appeal was dismissed.
- **Represented health care performance-improvement company in class action litigation** resulting from a stolen hard drive that contained "personally identifiable information." The plaintiff alleged our client was negligent and violated consumer fraud statutes. After obtaining the plaintiff's discovery, court granted our motion to stay further discovery and, ultimately, our motion for summary judgment.
- **Represented clients in numerous Telephone Consumer Protection Act class actions.** The potential damages in these cases can be stratospheric, as the TCPA provides for statutory damages of \$500 per blast fax, text or robo call to advertise products or services. We have negotiated attractive and innovative settlements in many cases.
- **Defeated nationwide class certification in an internet-based case in U.S. District Court for Massachusetts.** After we succeeded in early motions to dismiss, the plaintiff moved for class certification on the two surviving causes of action. The court agreed that ISP addresses were too indefinite to support class certification under Rule 23 after we successfully educated the court that ISP addresses were sometimes (1) for shared computers in libraries and (2) rotated often enough to no longer be attached to the real culprits.
- **Represented client as lead counsel in multistate class action litigation** regarding Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA) compliance. Defeated class certifications and won summary judgment.
- **Represented client as lead counsel in multistate class action litigation** regarding opt-in/opt-out provisions. Defeated class certifications and won summary judgment.
- **Represented a leading video game-maker in defense of putative class actions** involving allegations of privacy violations and data scraping. Dismissal was granted based on 12(b)(6) grounds.
- **Successfully defended a media network** that provides interactive online advertisements in high-profile flash cookie class action litigation. Our client used regenerating flash cookies and allegedly passed data to third parties. We convinced the plaintiffs' counsel that our client's use was benign, obtaining early settlement on terms that were 20 percent lower than those for similarly situated defendants.
- **Defended class action against medical doctor** who allegedly disclosed protected health information when he published video recordings of patients undergoing treatment for substance abuse issues on the internet, allegedly without consent, in violation of state and federal privacy statutes and regulations.
- **Obtained a data breach class action dismissal** in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York on behalf of a radiology facility and archival imaging system that contained protected health information.

CYBER CLASS ACTION DEFENSE *(Continued)*

- **Obtained dismissal of a data breach class action, creating favorable law in a case of first impression**, where court dismissed lawsuit based on plaintiff's lack of standing to sue.
- **Prevailed in a baseball arbitration in a cyber class action**. Representing a college in a New York-based class action after the college experienced a cyber incident, the team negotiated a claims-made class settlement following mediation and obtained preliminary and final approval for the settlement. Our fee proposal prevailed, resulting in a six-figure savings on attorneys' fees and an ultimate payout in the class settlement significantly less than the college's eroding coverage limits.
- **Convinced the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services not to bring a threatened enforcement action** or impose stiff fines and penalties against our client, a healthcare provider, after having four separate back to back breaches involving patient information over the course of a year.
- **Convinced a State Attorney General to drop a contentious regulatory investigation** arising out of a cyber breach against our client, a healthcare provider. Despite repeated push-back from the investigator handling the case, we successfully argued that our client had complied with all state privacy laws and HIPAA in responding to the incident.
- **Contained our client's potential exposure by limiting discovery against them** in a matter involving three separately filed class action lawsuits arising out of a ransomware attack. We streamlined the litigation by convincing plaintiffs to transfer their cases to the same court for purposes of consolidation and, ultimately, we negotiated a favorable settlement on a class-wide basis.
- **Successfully navigated a case involving three separately filed class actions lawsuits** arising out of a ransomware attack. We persuaded opposing counsel to transfer the pending cases to a more favorable jurisdiction for our client for purposes of effecting a settlement. We managed to limit our client's potential exposure, both monetarily and its reputation, by limiting discovery against them. We also ultimately negotiated a favorable settlement on a class-wide basis.
- **Defended a private orthopedic specialist facility against three separately filed class action lawsuits** filed by current and past patients arising out of a ransomware attack involving a class of approximately 83,705 individuals. After consolidating the cases we asserted case-specific legal defenses to plaintiffs' claims and raised individualized issues to defeat class certification, which ultimately led to a favorable settlement for our client on a class-wide basis.
- **Defended an organization that provides employment screening solutions** and comprehensive background checks for private companies and government agencies against eight separately filed class action lawsuits arising out of a cyberattack. We raised numerous defenses to plaintiffs' claims and argued fact specific issues particular to each claim to defeat class certification that led to a favorable settlement for our client on a class-wide basis.
- **Defended a healthcare facility against several class action lawsuits** filed by current and former patients arising out of a cyberattack and involving a class of approximately 228,000 individuals. We raised numerous defenses to plaintiffs' claims and argued fact specific issues particular to each claim to defeat class certification that led to a favorable settlement for our client on a class-wide basis.
- **Defended a disabilities care company in a class action after it experienced a cyber incident** that impacted over 600,000 patients. After a mediation and months of negotiation, we convinced plaintiffs' counsel to agree to a unique hybrid claims-made class settlement structure that included common fund elements. The resulting settlement payout saved hundreds of thousands in otherwise expended coverage limits and avoided coverage exhaustion.

KEY CYBER CLASS ACTION DEFENSE ATTORNEYS





David M. Ross | Partner

Washington, DC

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David Ross has worked with clients to prepare and implement a comprehensive defense strategy in response to state and nationwide class actions and mass actions, commercial litigation, or other complex litigation or demands. He represents clients in all aspects of complex civil litigation before federal and state courts and in alternative dispute forums.

David has advised clients in advance of and while defending individual and class actions involving cybersecurity, product liability issues such as defective vehicles, improperly labeled food products, medical testing and improper packaging, and class actions involving privacy, consumer protection and improper care. He also has worked on recall procedures and served as the NHTSA-approved auditor for a manufacturer as part of a resolution with the government.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION, CLASS AND MASS ACTIONS

David co-chairs the firm's Commercial Litigation and Class Action Defense practice teams. In his class and mass action practice, David works with clients in early resolution planning, dispositive motion and discovery strategies, and administration of the litigation throughout the entire case process. Representative cases involve data breaches, consumer protection structures, product liability, internet conduct, fraud, employment discrimination, and other labor offenses, statutory claims and common law claims. David works across disciplines to counter the complex claims that increasingly characterize class and mass actions, in many cases obtaining early dismissals of the named plaintiffs or defeating motions for class certification. In addition, David conducts alternative dispute resolution advocacy for clients, and advises clients throughout any class settlement and claims processes. David also conducts continuing education and informational presentations on class actions for the law firm, clients and other groups. In addition, David's practice has included white collar defense, compliance and insurance coverage litigation.

CYBERSECURITY & DATA BREACH CLASS ACTIONS

David works with businesses, individuals and insurers to provide early privacy and data breach litigation planning, individual and class settlement or defense strategies, and comprehensive litigation management. David has represented defendants in data breach class actions in state and federal courts in jurisdictions throughout the nation, teaming with colleagues in Wilson Elser's regional offices to provide a timely and effective response to these actions. David and his team have pursued dispositive motion practice in numerous cases, resulting in beneficial precedent, including in issues of first impression. David has steered cases throughout the data breach class action process, and, when appropriate, successfully negotiated the resolution of class actions in the best interests of the client.

INVESTIGATIONS & E-DISCOVERY

David has propounded and responded to many discovery- and other litigation-related efforts, including third-party subpoenas and Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act requests. Keeping abreast of the proliferation of electronic documents and the accompanying laws and requirements surrounding them, David has overseen numerous electronic and paper document collection projects and productions, privilege logs, personnel interviews and depositions, and online and paper document reviews.

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHY

David M. Ross | *Continued*

BAR ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia
Maryland
Virginia

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit
U.S. District Court, District of Colorado
U.S. District Court, District of Columbia
U.S. District Court, District of Maryland
U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia
U.S. District Court, Western District of Virginia

EDUCATION

George Washington University, J.D., 1997, *High Honors*;
Order of the Coif, Moot Court Board, *Journal of
International Law and Economics*
McDaniel College, B.A., 1990, *cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa
Honors Society, Phi Alpha Theta Honors Society, Pi
Gamma Mu Honors Society, Academic All-American



Anjali C. Das | Partner

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Anjali Das has been instrumental in the unprecedented growth of Wilson Elser's cybersecurity & data privacy capabilities in terms of both the number of dedicated cyber attorneys and areas of cyber expertise. She is a recognized authority on the key factors of cyber-defense, including incident response, privacy compliance and risk management, regulatory investigations and enforcement actions, and the defense of nationwide Data Breach Class Actions. Co-chair of Wilson Elser's national Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Practice and a respected member of the firm since 1999, Anjali is in high demand to provide oversight of cyber crisis management and incident response by clients victimized by a data breach, and those that struggle with high-stakes risk.

Under Anjali's leadership, the Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Practice was recognized by *Business Insurance* as "Legal Team of the Year" in 2020. In 2021, Anjali was recognized globally as one of the top 25 "Most Inspiring Women in Cyber" by *IT Security Guru* and named one of the "Top 40" data breach attorneys in the country by *Cybersecurity Docket*. She also was recognized by the Professional Liability Underwriting Society (PLUS) for her 22 years of achievement and dedicated service to the insurance industry.

Anjali developed her passion for the interplay of law and business when she earned a master's degree in business administration at one of the nation's top business schools while maintaining a full-time legal practice at the firm. Clients benefit from her ability to view legal issues from a business perspective as well as her understanding of how shareholder obligations impact the corporate decision-making process. Anjali's focused insurance and business background is further enhanced by her experience as in-house claims counsel for a domestic insurance carrier.

BITCOIN, BLOCKCHAIN & DIGITAL ASSETS

In 2022, Anjali received a Certificate in Blockchain and Digital Assets presented by the Digital Assets Council of Financial Professionals (DACFP). Anjali is a member of DACFP, which is a group of financial professionals dedicated to serving clients and investors who are curious about bitcoin, blockchain and digital assets. While practicing law full time at the Wilson Elser, Anjali received her MBA from Northwestern University's Kellogg Graduate School of Management, concentrating on E-commerce, technology and entrepreneurship. Anjali's background in business, finance, technology, law and insurance provide the foundation for her interest in the world of crypto and digital assets.

INCIDENT RESPONSE

Anjali is responsible for oversight of cyber crisis management and incident response. She routinely represents clients that have been the victim of an actual or suspected cybersecurity incident or data breach ranging from a business email compromise to sophisticated ransomware attacks by cybercriminals. She has handled more than 1,000 incidents and manages a team of attorneys around the country who provide 24/7 incident response services for private and public companies, spanning all industry sectors including health care, insurance, professional and financial services, retail and manufacturing. Anjali regularly advises clients on their legal obligations under U.S. and international data privacy and breach notification laws. She also assists clients in devising crisis communication strategies, cooperating with law enforcement and the FBI in criminal investigations, and representing clients in investigations by state and federal regulators.

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHY

Anjali C. Das | *Continued*

VIRTUAL PRIVACY OFFICER SERVICES

In 2020, Anjali launched Wilson Elser's dedicated Virtual Privacy Officer Services (VPOS) to provide pre-breach cybersecurity and data privacy risk management and compliance services to small and large organizations across all industry sectors. She has assisted organizations in developing their cybersecurity and privacy compliance programs, policies and procedures pursuant to various laws, including HIPAA, GLBA, GDPR, the New York Department of Financial Services (NY DFS) Cybersecurity Regulations, the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), the California Privacy Rights Act, the Virginia Consumer Data Protection Act, and the Colorado Privacy Act. She also has assisted clients in managing their third-party vendor and supply chain cyber risk.

DATA BREACH CLASS ACTIONS

Anjali has zealously represented and defended organizations in privacy litigation and data breach class actions filed in state and federal courts around the country from coast to coast, including New York and California. She has created favorable law in data breach cases involving legal issues of first impression. For instance, in a data breach class action filed in Minnesota state court, the court granted defendant's motion to dismiss six of the eight causes of action. With respect to the two remaining claims, the court indicated it was "highly skeptical" and that plaintiffs would have an "arduous task" to prove their claims. On multiple occasions, Anjali has successfully mediated and settled nationwide class actions on favorable terms for her clients.

REGULATORY INVESTIGATIONS & ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Anjali routinely represents clients in regulatory investigations stemming from cybersecurity incidents, including investigations by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, the U.S. Department of Education and the New York Department of Financial Services, in addition to various state attorneys general and insurance commissioners. Anjali also has represented clients in negotiating Consent Orders with regulators to avoid enforcement actions, including monetary terms, fines and penalties, and injunctive relief.

INSURANCE INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Anjali has more than 20 years of insurance industry experience. Prior to joining the firm, Anjali served as in-house claims counsel for a domestic insurance carrier, where she was responsible for claims arising under public and private Directors and Officers liability, Employment Practices liability and Lawyers' professional liability insurance policies. She assisted in drafting policy wording and endorsements, established a network of approved defense panel counsel, analyzed potential liability exposure and coverage defenses to claims, set claims reserves and interacted with the company's reinsurers during claims audits. Through this experience, Anjali gained valuable insight into the insurance company claims reporting structure; the management of outside counsel; the dynamic interplay among adjusters, underwriters and brokers; the importance of setting accurate claims reserves in a timely fashion; the role of reinsurers; and the value of tracking claims trends and costs, which impact an insurance company's long-term business objectives and profitability.

D&O AND PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY INSURANCE CLAIMS & COVERAGE

Anjali has extensive professional liability coverage and claims-handling experience across various product lines, including Directors and Officers, Employment Practices, Lawyers, Financial Institutions, ERISA, Fiduciary, Cyber, and other professional liability and errors and omissions insurance policies. She has represented insurance companies in coverage litigation in state and federal courts around the country, including high-profile cases involving big banks during the financial crisis and the Madoff Ponzi scheme. Anjali also has drafted policy wording and endorsements for many insurance carriers.

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHY

Anjali C. Das | *Continued*

Anjali has successfully mediated, arbitrated and litigated D&O and other insurance coverage disputes in state and federal courts nationwide. She regularly represents D&O insurers as coverage and monitoring counsel in complex shareholder class actions against public companies and their directors and officers for violations of federal securities laws; shareholder derivative suits against directors and officers for breach of fiduciary duty and mismanagement in the context of mergers and acquisitions and other business transactions; and ERISA stock-drop lawsuits. These matters specifically have involved late trading, market timing, stock options backdating, contingent commissions, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, China reverse merger companies, the Bernard L. Madoff international Ponzi scheme and the mortgage subprime crisis. In addition, Anjali has counseled clients in connection with lawsuits brought by the government and regulators, including the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the Department of Justice and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Anjali's representation in such matters has resulted in tens of millions of dollars in savings for insurance companies.

BAR ADMISSIONS

Illinois

EDUCATION

Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management,
M.B.A., 2001

Notre Dame Law School, J.D., 1993

University of Chicago, B.A., 1990

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

U.S. District Court, District of Colorado

U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit

CERTIFICATIONS/LICENSES

Certified Information Privacy Professional/Canada
(CIPP/C)

U.S. Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP/US)
from the International Association of Privacy Professionals
(IAPP).

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

American Bar Association: Tort & Insurance Practice Section, Professionals, Directors and Officers Liability Committee

Chicago Bar Association: former Co-chairperson of the Securities Law Committee

Professional Liability Underwriting Society (PLUS): former member of the Board of Trustees



Ian A. Stewart | Partner

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Ian Stewart is the regional managing partner of Wilson Elser's Los Angeles office. He has defended complex litigation in state and federal courts for 25 years with a diverse practice that includes product and professional liability, cannabis law, data privacy and cybersecurity, complex general casualty and intellectual property litigation.

Ian has achieved a national reputation as a distinguished cannabis attorney and has been named to the prestigious Chambers USA 2020, 2021 and 2022 Guides in Cannabis Law. As co-chair of the firm's national Cannabis Law Practice, Ian leads a national multidisciplinary team of lawyers who serve all aspects of the cannabis and hemp industries, as well as financial institutions and insurance companies that service those industries.

Ian also is co-chair of the national Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Practice. He regularly defends data privacy class-action litigation and matters involving invasion of privacy, right of publicity and statutory consumer claims that impact privacy rights.

COMPLEX TORT & GENERAL CASUALTY, TRANSPORTATION AND PRODUCT LIABILITY

Ian has broad experience defending product liability matters involving products manufactured in the United States and abroad. These include recreational vehicles, industrial machinery, drugs and medical devices, nutritional supplements, cannabis products, sporting goods and consumer products. Ian regularly defends consumer class actions that involve product liability, warranty and unfair competition issues. He is founder and chair emeritus of the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance's Product Liability Committee.

Ian's general casualty practice focuses on the defense of catastrophic claims and litigation that pertain to security, premises, and transportation risks, including for national retailers, restaurant chains, hotels and fleet owners. He also regularly defends maritime/marine claims and matters involving sports and school-related risks.

CANNABIS & HEMP LAW

As co-chair of the firm's Cannabis Law Practice, Ian leads a national multidisciplinary team of lawyers who serve all aspects of the cannabis and hemp industries, as well as financial institutions and insurance companies that service those industries. Ian works with licensed cannabis operators throughout the country to comply with their obligations under the law and to develop risk management best practices. He advises Fortune 500 companies on risk management involving hemp-derived cannabinoids and the interplay with U.S. food and drug laws. Ian assists insurance companies on cannabis-related underwriting practices and the development of new policy forms. He also works with financial institutions and professional services firms on best practices for operating in a challenging regulatory environment.

Ian has been named to the prestigious Chambers USA 2020 and 2021 guides in Cannabis Law. He is a member of the Advisory Board of the International Cannabis Bar Association and has been named to the Policy Council of the National Cannabis Industry Association (NCIA). Ian sits on the Executive Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Cannabis Section and is chair emeritus of NCIA's Risk Management and Insurance Committee. He is one of *MG Magazine's* "30 Powerful Cannabis Attorneys You Should Know," and is named in the *Cannabis Reports* list of "10 Powerful Marijuana Lawyers in California." Ian received a 2019 Readers' Choice Award by JD Supra for his publication on cannabis consumer class actions, and was selected by *National Law Review* as "Go-To Thought Leader" in 2018 and 2021 for his reporting on cannabis law.

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHY

Ian A. Stewart | *Continued*

CYBER SECURITY & DATA PRIVACY

Ian is co-chair of the national Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Practice and a Certified Information Privacy Professional (CIPP/US). He defends data privacy class-action litigation and litigated matters involving invasion of privacy, right of publicity and statutory consumer claims that impact privacy rights. Ian has responded to numerous data breaches for companies including retailers, medical providers and professional firms. Ian counsels clients on evolving privacy threats, including the collection, use, retention and destruction of data.

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY

In the professional liability area, Ian focuses on directors and officers (D&O) liability, as well as the defense of architects/engineers, agents/brokers and miscellaneous specialty risks. He performs contract reviews for design professionals and has been designated as the point of contact by several insurance companies for their design contract review programs.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Ian's intellectual property practice focuses on litigation involving trademark, trade dress and copyright infringement claims, trade libel, trade secret, unfair competition claims, internet domain disputes and license agreements.

BAR ADMISSIONS

California
Illinois

EDUCATION

Saint Louis University School of Law, J.D., 1996, editor, *Saint Louis Transatlantic Law Journal*
Washington University in St. Louis, B.A., 1993, Order of Omega

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. District Court, Central, Northern and Southern Districts of California
U.S. District Court, Central and Northern Districts of Illinois

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

Selected for inclusion in The Legal 500 – Cannabis Tier 4, 2023
Selected for inclusion in Global Top 200 Cannabis Lawyers, Third Edition 2022–2023
Ranked in the Chambers USA 2022 Guide, Nationwide – Cannabis Law
Cannabis Law Report's Global Top 200 Lawyers, 2021–2022
Ranked by Chambers USA as a leading lawyer in the Cannabis Law: Western United States category, 2020–2021

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

National Cannabis Industry Association (NCIA): Policy Council member; outgoing chair of Insurance and Finance Committee
California Cannabis Industry Association (CCIA): former vice chair, Insurance Committee
International Cannabis Bar Association (INCBA), Advisory Board member
National Cannabis Bar Association (NCBA), Advisory Board
Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (CLM): former national chair, Product Liability Committee
Professional Liability Underwriters Society (PLUS)
California Bar Association
Los Angeles County Bar Association

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHY



Richard W. Boone Jr. | Partner

New York, NY

212.915.5972 | richard.boone@wilsonelser.com

Rich Boone focuses his practice on a wide range of corporate, executive and professional liability matters as both coverage and defense counsel. Rich has appeared on behalf of insurers, entities and individuals before federal and state courts throughout the United States at both the trial and appellate levels. Rich also has extensive experience in resolving legal issues prior to litigation, which includes everything from monitoring sensitive and complex insurance coverage matters to representing clients in a variety of federal, state and internal investigations. Rich also has advised numerous established and startup companies regarding corporate governance matters and currently serves as a director or adviser on several corporate boards.

INSURANCE COVERAGE

Rich represents leading insurers nationwide in complex coverage matters, with a focus on professional lines insurance, including directors and officers, errors and omissions, employment practices, fiduciary liability, representations and warranties, media, technology and cyber policies. Rich has been involved in coverage disputes in all 50 states, and has litigated insurance coverage and bad faith claims in a vast number of federal and state courts at the trial and appellate levels. Rich also has extensive experience in monitoring complex insurance matters and in resolving coverage disputes through mediation and other means short of litigation, including settlements resolving the underlying liability where coverage remains in dispute.

CIVIL LITIGATION

Rich represents numerous large and small entities, as well as their directors, officers and employees, in a broad range of civil matters and class actions, including securities and shareholder litigation, antitrust matters, contract claims and other commercial disputes, statutory claims (ADA, TCPA, FCRA, etc.), employment matters, product liability litigation and real estate matters, among others. In connection with these matters, Rich has appeared at the trial and appellate levels in federal and state courts across the country.

PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY

Rich represents lawyers and firms in legal malpractice actions stemming from underlying matters involving a variety of subjects, including personal injury, real estate transactions, corporate and professional liability, securities litigation and employment matters. In addition to representing lawyers, Rich's professional liability experience includes the defense of accountants, consultants, insurance brokers, securities professionals, engineers, architects and other professionals.

GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS

Rich represents entities and individuals in a wide array of federal, state and internal investigations, including those related to alleged securities violations, international price-fixing cartels, violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, tax fraud, and other financial crimes. Rich also has advised foreign clients in connection with these matters, and has traveled abroad extensively to assist such clients in complying with U.S. subpoenas and discovery.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Rich advises boards of directors, board committees, senior management and founders on various corporate governance matters at all stages of corporate development from inception through dissolution. Rich also has advised on a large number of corporate transactions, including mergers, acquisitions, restructurings and changes of control. Rich currently serves as a director on the boards of two technology-driven roll-up companies and as an adviser to the board of a software startup.

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHY

Richard W. Boone Jr. | *Continued*

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York
District of Columbia
Virginia

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York
U.S. District Court, Western District of New York
U.S. District Court, District of Columbia
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia
U.S. District Court, Western District of Virginia
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Professional Liability Underwriting Society (PLUS)

EDUCATION

University of Virginia School of Law, J.D., 2001; editor in chief, *Virginia Journal of Law and Technology*
College of William and Mary, B.A., 1996, High Honors in Economics

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHY



Jennifer S. Stegmaier | Partner

Chicago, IL

312.821.6167 | jennifer.stegmaier@wilsonelser.com

Jennifer Stegmaier is a litigator and counselor with more than 20 years of experience in litigation, trial and appellate matters in state and federal courts throughout the county. Jennifer represents clients in a variety of commercial litigation matters in the financial services industry, including conversion of negotiable instruments; financial institution bonds; life, health and disability insurance; ERISA; fraud, negligence and bad faith claims; and a host of contract disputes. She represents clients in arbitrations, mediation proceedings and settlement conferences, and counsels clients in various regulatory matters in the life, health and disability insurance industry.

Jennifer's practice is focused on a diverse array of complex commercial disputes involving hospitals, provider networks, managed care organizations, managing general underwriters, and insurance producers and agents. Jennifer has extensive experience defending insurance companies and financial institutions in claims for in-network and out-of-network hospital reimbursements in excess of \$40 million, fidelity bond claims seeking coverage in excess of \$100 million, and antitrust subpoenas and civil investigative demands from the federal Trade Commission pertaining to hospital mergers. Jennifer counsels and assists health insurance clients in responding to regulatory complaints, market conduct studies and issues arising from the impact of agency bulletins issued by departments of insurance. Jennifer also guides insurance clients in managing internal investigations, conducting employee interviews, and coordinating internal searches for documents and electronically stored information in anticipation of and during the litigation process, and developing best practices regarding the same.

Jennifer also is experienced at representing clients in data privacy class-action litigation and regulatory investigations. She has defended third-party claims brought by individuals throughout the country whose personally identifiable information (PII) or protected health information (PHI) has been compromised in a data security incident. In addition, she has handled numerous investigations by law enforcement and state and federal regulators, including state attorneys general and HHS/OCR for HIPAA violations. Jennifer advises clients on cybersecurity and data privacy breach response following a cybersecurity incident, assesses overall risk and compliance, and helps to remediate cybersecurity issues.

Outside the practice of law, Jennifer is the past president and a former 10-year member of the Board of Directors of the FBI Chicago Citizens Academy Alumni Association, a nonprofit organization separate and distinct from the FBI that supports the mission of the FBI and is designed to promote safe communities through community service and educating community members about law enforcement, with an emphasis on the mission, resources and priorities of the FBI. Jennifer is passionate about combatting sex trafficking and helping victims of this horrific crime. She volunteers with Reclaim13 and Selah Freedom, and was the team leader for the FBI National Citizens Academy Alumni Association's national campaign to raise awareness and help victims of human trafficking across the county. Jennifer also is a member of a certified therapy dog team and volunteers with children with disabilities and special needs at Ann & Robert Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago and Misericordia to help improve their health, activities of daily living and quality of life.

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHY

Jennifer S. Stegmaier | *Continued*

BAR ADMISSIONS

Illinois

EDUCATION

Chicago-Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology, J.D., 1998, 1998; Moot Court Honors Society; CALI Award for International Business Contracts; production editor, *Employee Rights and Employment Policy Journal*

University of Illinois at Chicago, B.S. in Finance and Economics, 1992, *Honors College*

COURT ADMISSIONS

Supreme Court of the United States
U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Indiana
U.S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan
U.S. District Court, Western District of Michigan
U.S. District Court, Western District of Oklahoma
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Wisconsin
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Pennsylvania

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

FBI Chicago Citizens Academy Alumni Association, Board of Directors 2010–2019; President, 2017–2019; Corporate Secretary 2011–2017

FBI National Citizens Academy Alumni Association, National Human Trafficking Awareness, Team Leader, 2018–2019
InfraGard Partnership for Protection, 2017–present

American Bar Association

Chicago Bar Association

DRI: The Voice of the Defense Bar

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHY



Karen Bridges | Of Counsel

Chicago, IL

312.706.3023 | karen.bridges@wilsonelser.com

Karen Bridges handles breach response and other situations arising from the misuse of computers and related technology. She advises her clients on how to immediately contain exposure, including conducting forensic analysis, and deploys experts specially chosen to enhance protection of privileged and confidential communications. Karen also guides clients through the process of implementing measures designed to comply with legal obligations and prevent additional data intrusion.

Karen is part of a team of attorneys who advise on a variety of complex privacy frameworks, including those created under HIPAA/HITECH, FERPA, GLBA, BSA, GDPR and state privacy laws.

Prior to joining Wilson Elser, Karen gained extensive e-Discovery experience handling a wide range of litigation matters.

BAR ADMISSIONS

Illinois

EDUCATION

John Marshall Law School, J.D., 2010

DePaul University, B.S., 2007

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

Selected for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*®:

Ones to Watch, 2024

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Chicago Bar Association

Illinois State Bar Association

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHY



Valeria Granata | Of Counsel

Los Angeles, CA

213.330.8927 | valeria.granata@wilsonelser.com

Valeria Granata represents established businesses and individuals in state, federal and appellate courts. Her practice focuses on the defense of claims related to general liability, business litigation, real estate litigation and cyber-security matters. Valeria has achieved certification in the firm's rigorous National Mock Trial Program, through which our most successful trial lawyers impart their knowledge to those destined to join their ranks.

Valeria successfully defends clients in all stages of litigation. She negotiates early resolution of cases, and often obtains dismissals through dispositive law and motion work. Valeria further represents clients in connection with state and federal government investigations, as well as third-party claims arising out of cybersecurity incidents. She also advises clients on their legal rights and responsibilities under cybersecurity state and federal laws.

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York
California

EDUCATION

Loyola Law School, LL.M., 2014
Catholic University, Italy, J.D., 2012

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. District Court, Central District of California
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California
U.S. District Court, Northern District of California
U.S. District Court, Southern District of California
U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
New York Appellate Division, Third Department

AWARDS & DISTINCTIONS

Selected for inclusion in Super Lawyers® Southern California Rising Stars™, 2017, 2018, 2023

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

International Law Section of State Bar of California
Italian American Lawyers Association, past vice president
California Lawyers Association, International Law and Immigration Section Executive Committee

ATTORNEY BIOGRAPHY



Melissa A. Murphy-Petros | Of Counsel

Chicago, IL

312.821.6154 | melissa.murphy-petros@wilsonelser.com

Melissa Murphy-Petros is chair of Wilson Elser's Appellate practice. She has concentrated in post-trial and appellate litigation throughout her career, and has handled more than 300 appeals in state and federal reviewing courts across the country. The national scope of Melissa's practice and her depth of experience benefit the firm's existing engagements and are frequently leveraged in appeals of cases tried by other firms. Her work spans a variety of Wilson Elser's practice areas, with particular emphasis on complex tort and casualty defense, liability and property insurance coverage, and commercial litigation.

Melissa also acts as trial monitoring counsel in high-exposure cases or those involving issues of recurring importance to the client. In this practice, she partners with Wilson Elser and outside trial counsel to prepare and argue dispositive pre-trial motions, motions *in limine*, motions for directed verdict, jury instructions, verdict forms and post-trial motions. She also monitors trials and assists in developing overall trial strategy to help ensure that error is preserved and that issues are properly postured for appeal.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Melissa is a member of the Illinois Appellate Lawyers Association and DRI's Appellate Advocacy Committee. She is a former member by appointment of the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Courts of Appellate Jurisdiction and is a frequent author and CLE lecturer on appellate practice and other litigation topics.

BAR ADMISSIONS

Illinois
New York

EDUCATION

Loyola University Chicago School of Law, J.D., 1995
University of Notre Dame, M.A., 1989
Indiana University, B.A., 1987

COURT ADMISSIONS

Supreme Court of the United States
U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Tenth Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
U.S. Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan

MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS

Federation of Defense & Corporate Counsel (FDCC)
Illinois Appellate Lawyers Association
New York State Bar Association
DRI: The Voice of the Defense Bar, Appellate Advocacy Committee
Claims and Litigation Management (CLM) Alliance
Illinois Defense Counsel (IDC)

SERVICES

DEFENSE LITIGATION

Accountants
Admiralty & Marine
Alternative Dispute Resolution
Appellate
Art Law
Asbestos
Aviation & Aerospace
Bankruptcy
Cannabis Law
Class Action
Commercial Litigation
Complex Tort & General Casualty
Construction
Contractual/Extra-Contractual
Liability Litigation
Crisis Management

Cybersecurity & Data Privacy
Design Professionals
Directors & Officers Liability
Employment & Labor
Environmental
Fair Housing & Discrimination Claims
Fidelity/Surety
Government Investigations
Hospitality
Insurance & Reinsurance Defense
Insurance Agents & Brokers
Intellectual Property & Technology
Lawyers' Liability
Life Sciences
Life, Health, Disability & ERISA
Long-Term Care

Managed Care Litigation & Compliance
Medical Malpractice & Health Care
Municipal/Local Government
National Trial Team
Product Liability, Prevention &
Government Compliance
Program Management
Railroad
Real Estate Professionals
Securities Industry Professionals
Specialty Professional Risks
Toxic Tort
Transportation
Workers' Compensation

INSURANCE COVERAGE

Cyber Liability
Directors & Officers
Employment Practices Liability
Environmental
Extra-Contractual Liability Litigation
Fidelity/Surety

First-Party Property
General Liability
Insurance & Reinsurance Coverage
Monitoring & Supervisory Counsel
Opinions & Analysis
Policy Drafting

Professional Liability
Reinsurance
Specialty Surplus Lines
Third-Party Property
Transportation

BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

Art Law
Collections
Commercial Contracts & Agreements
e-Discovery
Financial Services
Government Contracts

Health Care Law
Immigration
Insurance & Reinsurance Transactions
Insurance Regulatory & Compliance
Intellectual Property & Technology
Matrimonial

Mergers & Acquisitions
Risk Analysis & Mitigation
Securities
Tax Planning & Controversies
Trusts & Estates
Wealth Preservation

INDUSTRIES

Automotive & Motorized Vehicles
Aviation & Aerospace
Cannabis
Chemicals
Construction
Energy
Environmental
Finance
Health Care
Hospitality, Tourism & Leisure

Insurance & Reinsurance
Life Health Disability & ERISA
Life Sciences
Manufacturing
Professional Services
Railroad
Retail
Sports
Technology
Transportation

GLOBAL PRACTICES

Asia
Bermuda
Canada
France
Germany
Israel
Italy
Latin America

DIVERSITY EQUITY & INCLUSION

Wilson Elser places the highest premium on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI). These are firm foundational values, critical to our success and in keeping with the enlightened perspectives of our clients.

With the steadfast support of firm leadership, Wilson Elser's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee develops programs and informs policies designed to recruit, empower and promote diverse attorneys and professional staff.

The Committee has made great strides in these regards. Indeed, Wilson Elser is Mansfield Rule 5.0 Certified Plus, the standards by which law firms measure their progress toward recruiting and retaining women lawyers, lawyers from underrepresented racial and ethnic groups, lawyers with disabilities and LGBTQIA+ lawyers. Wilson Elser also fares favorably in other DEI surveys and benchmarks.

Our commitment is not simple rhetoric; we "walk the talk." Beyond the firm's adherence to aspirational criteria such as those established through the Mansfield initiative, we offer the following related programs:

- "Diversity Day," the Committee's marquis event and the firm's best-attended meeting each year, is held annually via simulcast. Led by a speaker or roundtable panelists, attorneys and staff from all offices explore issues relevant to diversity and inclusion and alternative means of advancing those objectives. The firm recently conducted its ninth annual Diversity Day with more than 700 participants.
 - The "Diversity Dialogue Series" honors history and heritage months throughout the year. Respected leaders in the legal and broader business communities, are invited to engage in a dialogue and share their perspectives on diversity-related issues.
 - An extensive Diversity & Inclusion training program comprising substantive education for new employees regarding related terms and principles as well as more-advanced programming for present attorneys and professional staff, managers and leadership.
 - Diversity & Inclusion mentorship programs that enable associates and of counsel – especially those of diverse backgrounds – to obtain valuable insights and knowledge from senior colleagues so they may optimize their effectiveness as attorneys and advance their professional development. Mentoring is conducted both one-on-one and in group clusters.
- Sponsorship of a broad range of community and outreach organizations, including the Hispanic National Bar Association, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, Diversity & Flexibility Alliance, Minority Corporate Counsel Association, Corporate Counsel Women of Color and National LGBT Bar Association, among others.

EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GROUPS

There are currently five active Employee Resource Groups (ERGs) operating as part of the firm's broader Diversity & Inclusion initiative.

Women Attorneys Valued & Empowered (WAVE) attracts, develops and retains women attorneys at Wilson Elser, enhancing and strengthening their skills and providing career-advancing opportunities in client service, business development and leadership. WAVE implements and oversees national and local programs that are mutually reinforcing and combine to serve the single purpose of advancing WAVE's mission. Read more about WAVE.

LGBTQIA+ Employee Resource Group is committed to creating an inclusive work environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender attorneys and staff of Wilson Elser where these individuals are able to succeed professionally while providing an important resource for clients seeking diverse perspectives. The Subcommittee reserves a "plus" designation for allies who have been and remain some of the most effective voices in advancing the interests of LGBTQIA individuals.

There are additional ERGs for Wilson Elser's **Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI), Black** and **Hispanic** communities. They convene monthly, are guided by ERG-specific objectives and are responsible for a wide range of related programs.

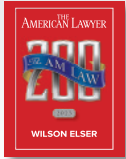
RECOGNITION & ACHIEVEMENTS

Beyond those established by Diversity Lab relative to Mansfield certification, Wilson Elser outperforms most other law firms on many, if not most, related metrics. The firm is ranked #153 on *The American Lawyer* Diversity Scorecard; #32 on the *National Law Journal* 500 Women's Scorecard; and #14 on the Law360 Glass Ceiling Report that tracks the number of women equity partners among law firms with more than 600 attorneys.



AWARDS & HONORS

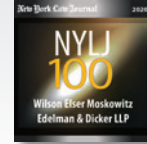
Wilson Elser consistently ranks among the nation's leading law firms and our practices and practice attorneys are frequently honored by respected third-parties. A partial listing of our awards and recognitions follows:



The Am Law 200
#107



The National Law Journal's NLJ 500 **#55**
Women's Scorecard **#32**



NYLJ Top 100 Law Firms
#23

CHAMBERS USA

Cannabis Law (Nationwide - Western) Insurance (Texas), and six individual attorneys are Chambers-ranked

BTI Mad Clientist Blog

Named among

- 21 Firms Most Feared in Litigation
- 22 Best Laws Firms in Product Liability Litigation
- 40 Best Law Firms in Class Actions
- 2022 BTI Midsize Client Service Master

BUSINESS INSURANCE

Named Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Practice
"Legal Team of the Year"



Law360 Glass Ceiling Report
#9



Wilson Elser is Mansfield Rule Certified Plus 2022-2023



Wilson Elser is a WILEF 2023 US Gold Standard Law Firm



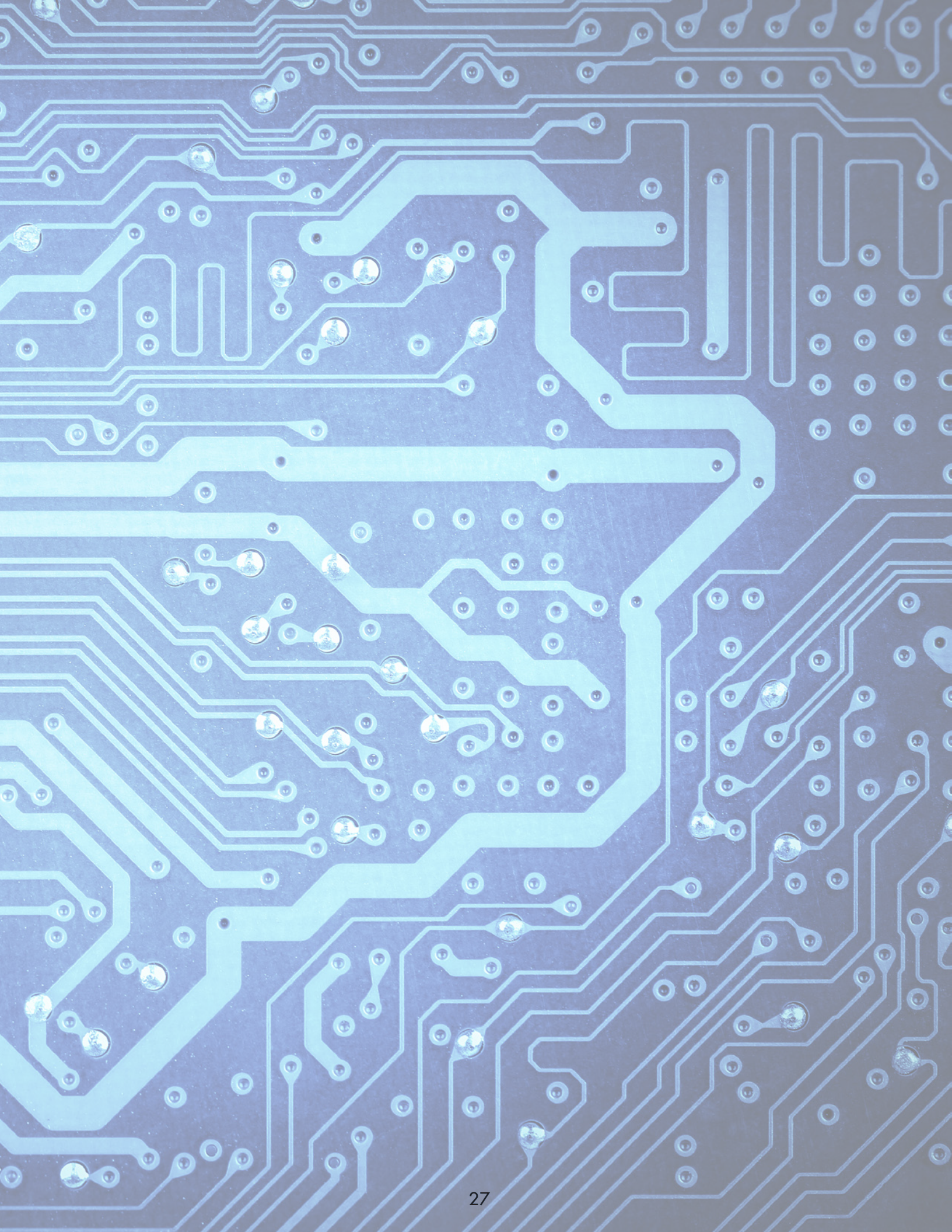
- **Insurance:** Advice to Insurers
- **Transport:** Shipping - Litigation and Regulation
- **Industry:** Cannabis



2023 US News & World Report:

- 69 attorneys recognized in The Best Lawyers in America 2023®
- 81 attorneys named as "Ones to Watch" by The Best Lawyers in America 2023®
- Ranked in Tier 1 of U.S. News & World Report's and Best Lawyers® 2022 "Best Law Firms" list, in the following categories:

Admiralty & Maritime Law | Banking and Finance Law | Insurance Law | Litigation – Insurance
Legal Malpractice Law | Medical Malpractice Law | Professional Malpractice Law | Railroad Law



wilsonelser.com

OFFICES

Albany, NY
Atlanta, GA
Austin, TX
Baltimore, MD
Birmingham, AL
Boston, MA
Charlotte, NC
Chicago, IL
Dallas, TX
Denver, CO
Detroit, MI
Edwardsville, IL

Garden City, NY
Hartford, CT
Houston, TX
Indianapolis, IN
Jackson, MS
Las Vegas, NV
London, England
Los Angeles, CA
Louisville, KY
Madison, NJ
McLean, VA
Merrillville, IN

Miami, FL
Milwaukee, WI
Nashville, TN
New Orleans, LA
New York, NY
Orange County, CA
Orlando, FL
Philadelphia, PA
Phoenix, AZ
Portland, OR
Raleigh, NC
San Diego, CA

San Francisco, CA
Sarasota, FL
Seattle, WA
Stamford, CT
St. Louis, MO
Tyler, TX
Washington, DC
West Palm Beach, FL
White Plains, NY

