



## Alejandro H. Cruz

Partner

[acruz@pbwt.com](mailto:acruz@pbwt.com)

Tel: 212-336-7613

Alejandro Cruz is a Partner in the Firm's Litigation department. Mr. Cruz represents clients in complex commercial litigation in trial and appellate courts, as well as in arbitrations and mediations. His practice includes disputes arising from structured finance transactions, alleged accounting malpractice, antitrust actions, and claims of commodities manipulation. He also conducts internal investigations and represents clients in investigations by government agencies, including the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the Department of Justice, and the Securities Exchange Commission. In addition, as a member of the firm's Privacy and Data Security group, Mr. Cruz advises clients on a wide array of cybersecurity issues, including breach response and regulatory compliance. Mr. Cruz also maintains an active *pro bono* practice, including federal civil rights actions, housing disputes, disability discrimination, and claims related to religious land use and the First Amendment. In 2016, Mr. Cruz received the Brooklyn Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project's Champion of Justice Award for his commitment to *pro bono* service.

Prior to joining the Firm, Mr. Cruz was an associate at a large New York law firm and served as a law clerk to the Hon. Eric N. Vitaliano of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York from 2011 to 2012.

### **Representative matters**

Representing a European bank in connection with an industry-wide investigation into alleged manipulation of the London Interbank Offered Rate (Libor) and the Euro Interbank Offered Rate (Euribor).

Representing financial guarantors in complex contract and fraud actions against sponsors and underwriters of mortgage-backed securities.

Representing a European bank in connection with an industry-wide investigation into alleged manipulation of ISDAFIX, a benchmark rate for interest-rate swaps and options.

Representing a European bank in connection with a consolidated class action alleging violations of the Sherman Act and the Commodity Exchange Act based on alleged collusion and manipulation of ISDAFIX.

Secured summary judgment for a chocolate maker in an antitrust price fixing case, and successfully defended that judgment on appeal.

Secured pre-trial and appellate victories for a Big Four accounting firm in multiple actions alleging securities fraud, malpractice, and unfair business practices.

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Represented an individual in an investigation by the SEC regarding auditor independence under the federal securities laws.

## ***Pro Bono***

Represented a Muslim organization subject to religious discrimination when it was denied a land use permit to establish a house of worship in New Jersey.

Represented a prisoner in a civil rights and medical malpractice action against a private prison medical provider for denial of medical care.

Represented putative class of children with disabilities in civil rights litigation seeking relief under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

Represented individual in Bronx County Family Court in proceeding for an order of protection arising from domestic violence.

## **Education**

- University of Virginia School of Law (J.D., 2009)
  - Editorial Board, *Virginia Law Review*
  - Order of the Coif
- Dartmouth College (A.B., *cum laude*, 2004)

## **Admissions**

- U.S. District Court, Southern and Eastern Districts of New York
- New York

## **Publications**

- Co-author, "[New York's Cybersecurity Regulation for Financial Institutions, A New Age of Cybersecurity Regulation: Raising the Bar and Demanding Leadership Accountability,](#)" *Bloomberg Law* (April 17, 2017)

## **Publications**

March 4, 2019

### **Hardening Cyber Protection Programs: Will 2019 Be the Year of the SAFETY Act for Data Security Programs?**

*The New York Law Journal*

January 1, 2019

### **MGM's Fight for SAFETY Act Protection Paused**

*The National Law Journal*

July 11, 2018

### **California's New Digital Privacy Law: Impact on Business Operations**

April 17, 2017

**New York's Cybersecurity Regulations for Financial Institutions & Health Care**

February 21, 2017

**The New York Department of Financial Services Issues Its Final Cybersecurity Regulation**