



Stephanie Teplin

Partner

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Stephanie Teplin is a Partner in Patterson Belknap's Litigation department and Co-General Counsel to the firm. Her practice focuses on defending law firms and lawyers from claims of legal malpractice, fraud, and breach of fiduciary duty, as well as other complex commercial litigation.

Stephanie is a member of Patterson's well-regarded law firm defense practice, representing law firms and individual lawyers facing legal malpractice and related claims. Stephanie's experience includes defending against legal malpractice claims arising out of a multi-million-dollar commercial real estate transaction; high-net worth estate planning; and bankruptcy proceedings. Other past representations include defending a firm against fraud in a suit brought by a former litigation adversary, and representing a firm facing malpractice claims related to legal advice to a biotech startup. Stephanie has also represented law firms opposing disqualification motions and in responding to non-party subpoenas. Stephanie's role as Patterson's Co-General Counsel provides her with daily insight into the challenging ethical and legal issues that law firms address on a daily basis.

In her complex litigation practice, Stephanie has represented financial guarantors, hedge funds, and other institutional investors in high-stakes litigation and negotiations involving asset-backed securities and other financial instruments. Stephanie was a key member of the trial team representing the plaintiff in one of the few representation and warranty cases to reach trial. In 2022 and 2023, Stephanie was ranked by *Chambers USA* in the area of Securities: Institutional Plaintiffs: Mainly RMBS Litigation. Clients told *Chambers*: "*She has an encyclopedic knowledge of the space. She can estimate the amount of time something will take and be absolutely on the mark with it.*" "*She is a very talented and client-friendly attorney. She's wonderful to work with.*" Stephanie was named to 2022 and 2023 *Benchmark Litigation's* "40 & Under" list. Stephanie was also named as a "Future Star" in *Benchmark Litigation's* 2024 Guide.

From 2011 to 2012, Ms. Teplin served as a law clerk to the Hon. John M. Walker, Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Representative Matters

Financial Litigation

Represented a financial guarantee insurer in claims for breach of contract against a mortgage-backed securitization sponsor. The decade-long representation culminated in a two-week bench trial in 2019, resulting in a ruling that over 50% of the loans in the securitization breached representations and warranties.

Represents financial guarantee insurers and institutional investors in claims against trustees of securitization trusts and in trust instructional proceedings.

Advises financial institutions and hedge funds on rights and remedies under transaction documents and assessment and resolution of “putback” claims seeking repurchase of collateral.

Law Firm Defense

Defended a firm sued for malpractice after a large commercial real estate project foundered.

Defended AmLaw 100 firm against malpractice and breach of fiduciary duty claims brought by a bankruptcy trustee arising out of securities advice to a start-up.

Defended AmLaw 100 firm against claims of fraud asserted by a former adversary in a prior litigation.

Defended firm against malpractice claims associated with a trusts and estates matter.

Commercial Litigation

Represents a pharmaceutical manufacturer in antitrust claims related to biologic drug contracts.

Represented a financial and business information provider in connection with allegations by a competitor of claims of fraud, unfair competition, false advertising, and corporate espionage.

Represented a Fortune 100 company in connection with a whistleblower action alleging age discrimination, securities fraud, and violation of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

Pro Bono

Represented civil liberties organizations in successful First Amendment challenge to donor disclosure laws targeting 501(c)(3)s and 501(c)(4)s.

Obtained asylum following an individual merits hearing for an artist who fled Haiti on account of threats and political persecution.

Obtained asylum on behalf of an applicant who was mistreated in his home country on account of sexual orientation.

Won dismissal of indictment on appeal for violation of New York’s speedy trial statute.

Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Southern and Eastern Districts of New York
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- New York

Professional Activities

- City Bar Professional Responsibility Committee, Member (2022-present)
- City Bar Professional Ethics Committee, Member (2019-2022)
- City Bar New Lawyers Council Public Service Committee, Chair (2015-2017)

Education

- Georgetown University Law Center (J.D., 2010)
 - Senior Administrative Editor, *Georgetown Law Journal*

- Order of the Coif
- New York University (B.A., *magna cum laude*, 2004)
 - Phi Beta Kappa

Publications

November 30, 2018

Canada's New Breach Notification Law—A Global Reach?

Bloomberg Law

September 27, 2018

INSIGHT: Second Circuit Limits Reach of FCPA

August 13, 2018

INSIGHT: Second Circuit Affirms \$10 Million Fine in Tax Evasion Case

May 2, 2018

Second Circuit Addresses Victims' Rights, Restitution, and Asset Forfeiture in Insurance Context