OVERVIEW

Wilson Sonsini has built a formidable, renowned class action practice through the firm’s legacy of successfully representing corporate clients in significant antitrust, consumer, and securities litigation matters.

Wilson Sonsini attorneys have litigated several of the most significant antitrust class action cases involving claims under the Sherman Act, Clayton Act, and Robinson-Patman Act. With respect to consumer class actions, the firm’s litigators have been involved in landmark decisions involving privacy, false advertising, and other consumer fraud claims, particularly those involving technology. And finally, Wilson Sonsini has been defending securities class actions since 1984, securing favorable outcomes in high-profile lawsuits and setting legal precedent along the way.

Distinguishing Features of Wilson Sonsini’s Class Action Practice

Most large corporate law firms claim to have a class action practice. Yet, few if any can match our track record for resolving class action matters:

Quantity – Wilson Sonsini has resolved a disproportionately large number of class actions.

Wilson Sonsini has handled hundreds of class actions to date. In the securities litigation area alone, the firm has defended more than 400 shareholder class action cases during the past 18 years—more than any other law firm in the U.S. The firm has also successfully handled dozens of antitrust-related class actions. For example, the firm represented a single client (Live Nation) in 22 regional class

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having an enviable list of wins in high-profile class actions, our attorneys have played a significant role in forging securities law in the

Our securities litigation team includes some of the most experienced and respected securities attorneys in the nation. In addition to

1999, the firm has represented more issuers, and has completely prevailed in more cases, than any other law firm in the country.

many of the major, precedent-setting securities cases involving insider trading, the bespeaks caution doctrine, and materiality. Since

Wilson Sonsini has been defending securities class actions since 1984. In the 30 years since then, our attorneys have participated in

of law and legal disciplines, from antitrust and appellate matters to privacy and securities law. Although the firm

Attorneys in Wilson Sonsini

agriculture, apparel, construction, entertainment, and financial industries.

business sectors. For example, the firm

technology, life sciences, and growth enterprises. At the same time, our attorneys have successfully litigated matters for clients in other

and products. This is one of the reasons Wilson Sonsini has earned its reputation as the premier provider of legal services to

Because the firm

connect them to attorneys who are closely familiar with the relevant products, services, and markets.

meeting our clients

With respect to substantive legal issues, the firm

demonstrated their mastery of relevant regulatory and legal issues, as well as the core technologies at issue. We have been successful

in defending companies in class actions because our attorneys have applied the subject matter expertise needed to provide strategic,

efficient, and effective representation in such litigation.

Wilson Sonsini’s attorneys are subject-matter experts.

When it comes to having the right expertise to handle sophisticated subject matter, Wilson Sonsini’s class action attorneys have

demonstrated their mastery of relevant regulatory and legal issues, as well as the core technologies at issue. We have been successful

in defending companies in class actions because our attorneys have applied the subject matter expertise needed to provide strategic,

efficient, and effective representation in such litigation.

With respect to substantive legal issues, the firm’s class action attorneys have defended virtually every conceivable type of case, from
governance and securities law to financial fraud. However, legal acumen alone is insufficient when it comes to class actions and

meeting our clients’ urgent, crisis-level needs. Our success defending clients in complex disputes can be attributed to our ability to

connect them to attorneys who are closely familiar with the relevant products, services, and markets.

Because the firm’s client base is heavily invested in the technology industry, our expertise has necessarily included innovative services

and products. This is one of the reasons Wilson Sonsini has earned its reputation as the premier provider of legal services to

technology, life sciences, and growth enterprises. At the same time, our attorneys have successfully litigated matters for clients in other

business sectors. For example, the firm’s class action attorneys have successfully defended class actions for clients in the aviation,

agriculture, apparel, construction, entertainment, and financial industries.

Scope of Class Action Experience

Attorneys in Wilson Sonsini’s class action practice have been directly or indirectly involved in cases that fall into the largest categories

of law and legal disciplines, from antitrust and appellate matters to privacy and securities law. Although the firm’s litigators have

represented clients in class action controversies across a broad range of legal topics, the firm has achieved its most significant wins on

behalf of clients in three areas:

Securities Class Actions

Wilson Sonsini has been defending securities class actions since 1984. In the 30 years since then, our attorneys have participated in

many of the major, precedent-setting securities cases involving insider trading, the bespeaks caution doctrine, and materiality. Since

1999, the firm has represented more issuers, and has completely prevailed in more cases, than any other law firm in the country.

Our securities litigation team includes some of the most experienced and respected securities attorneys in the nation. In addition to

having an enviable list of wins in high-profile class actions, our attorneys have played a significant role in forging securities law in the
United States. For example, we participated in the enactment of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which heightened the standards for pleading a securities fraud claim in federal courts. Since then, we have been instrumental in developing the Reform Act’s interpretation in the First and Ninth Circuits, and numerous U.S. district courts.

For more information, please see our securities litigation practice page.

**Antitrust Class Actions**

Wilson Sonsini attorneys have litigated several of the most significant class action cases involving claims under the Sherman Act, Clayton Act, and Robinson-Patman Act. We have successfully represented clients in defense of antitrust class actions where plaintiffs have sought large treble damages awards that threatened the viability of our clients’ businesses.

**Consumer Class Actions**

During the past decade, as consumer protection statutes and resulting litigation have become more prevalent, Wilson Sonsini has established a growing consumer class action practice, representing corporate clients in large-scale and high-profile disputes in state and federal jurisdictions. At the federal level, the firm’s class action defense includes MDL and parallel proceedings, as well as claims based on the federal Class Action Fairness Act. More recently, federal class action cases have concerned the Consumer Fraud and Abuse Acts, as well as food labeling laws, such as the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act, and the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act.

The firm’s federal class action experience also includes a growing and impressive list of disputes spawned by privacy-related laws, including the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, the Federal Wiretap Act, the Stored Communications Act, and the Video Privacy Protection Act, among others.

At the state level, Wilson Sonsini has been equally successful in litigation involving state consumer protection statutes and the state equivalents of the above-mentioned federal laws. With a significant percentage of our class action experience coming from California state jurisdictions, we have also represented clients at the center of high-profile disputes in the state, particularly those based on California’s consumer protection statutes, including: California’s Unfair Competition Law (Business & Professions Code Section 17200); California’s False Advertising Act (Business & Professions Code Section 17500); and the California Consumer Legal Remedies Act (Civil Code Sections 1750-1784).