1	Robert B. Carey (SBN 011186) John M. DeStefano (SBN 025440)			
2 3	HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL SHAPIRO 1 11 West Jefferson Street, Suite 1000 Phoenix, Arizona 85003	LLP		
	Telephone: (602) 840-5900			
4	Facsimile: (602) 840-3012 Email: rob@hbsslaw.com			
5	Email: johnd@hbsslaw.com			
6	Evan S. Goldstein (SBN 011866) GOLDSTEIN WOODS			
7	706 E Bell Rd., Ste. 200			
8	Phoenix, AZ 85022 Telephone: 602.569.8200			
9	Email: egoldstein@gwfirmaz.com			
0	Attorneys for Plaintiff			
	[Additional counsel on signature page]			
11				
12	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT			
13	DISTRICT OF ARIZONA			
14	Taylor Doyle, on behalf of herself and all	Case No. 2:22-cv-00638-JJT		
15	others similarly situated,	Case 110. 2.22-cv-00030-33 1		
16	Plaintiff,	DECLARATION OF ROBERT B. CAREY IN SUPPORT OF		
17	Transcrit,	PLAINTIFF'S MOTION FOR		
18	v.	ATTORNEYS' FEES, EXPENSES AND SERVICE AWARD		
19	Pekin Insurance Company,	/A ' 1/ II 11 I I I I I I I I I I I I I I I		
20	Defendant.	(Assigned to Honorable John J. Tuchi)		
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- I, Robert B. Carey, do hereby declare under penalty of perjury, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, that the following is true and correct:
- 1. I am an attorney admitted in this litigation, the Phoenix Managing Partner of the law firm Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP ("Hagens Berman"), and counsel of record for the Plaintiff in *Doyle v. Pekin Insurance Company*, 2:22-cv-00638-JJT. I could and would competently testify to the matters stated in this declaration based on my personal knowledge or discussions with counsel in my firm.<sup>1</sup>
- 2. On April 24, 2025 this Court appointed Robert Carey of Hagens Berman to serve as Class Counsel for the Settlement Class ("Class Counsel") (Dkt. 103).
- 3. I am a partner at Hagens Berman. I submit this declaration in support of Plaintiff's Motion for Attorneys' Fees, Expenses, and Service Award.
- 4. Hagens Berman is among the most experienced and skilled practitioners in the complex class-action litigation field and has a long and successful track record in such cases. Hagens Berman is a nationally recognized law firm, with offices in Seattle, Berkeley, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, Phoenix, San Diego, London, England, and Paris, France. We have been consistently rated by the National Law Journal as one of the top ten plaintiffs' firms in the country. The firm has extensive experience litigating complex class actions involving product liability, tort, antitrust, consumer fraud, insurance, securities, investment fraud, employment, environmental, and ERISA claims. Hagens Berman has been approved by courts to serve as class counsel in hundreds of class actions, including cases in this District. Hagens Berman's willingness and ability to prosecute complex cases such as this was undoubtedly a factor that encouraged Defendants to engage in settlement discussions, and added valuable leverage in the negotiations, ultimately resulting in the recovery for the Class. Hagens Berman Firm Resume (Exhibit 1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Local Rule 54.2(d)(1) requires a statement of consultation. Such a statement of consultation is not necessary here as the parties have already agreed that Plaintiffs may seek up to 30% of the common fund as part of the Settlement Agreement, and because it is the Court that determines what reasonable fee the Settlement Class should pay.

- 5. My firm and I have significant experience prosecuting consumer class actions against insurance companies. Besides this case, we are lead counsel by agreement on the following early cases filed in the District of Arizona which involve stacking of insurance claims similar to the claims made in this case:
  - Franklin v. CSAA Gen. Ins. Co, CV-22-00540-PHX-JJT
  - Hacker v. American Family Mut. Ins. Co., CV-22-01936-PHX-DLR
  - Loughran v. MIC General Ins. Corp., CV-23-00108-PHX-DJH
  - Nutt v. Nationwide Ins. Co. of Am., et al., CV-24-02228-PHX-ROS
  - Whitehead v. Amica Mut. Ins. Co., CV-22-01978-PHX-DJH
- 6. My firm was appointed interim lead class counsel for the following cases in the District of Arizona which involve stacking of insurance claims similar to the claims made in this case:
  - Dorazio v. Allstate Fire and Cas. Ins. Co., CV-23-00017-PHX-KML
  - Caballero v. Economy Preferred Ins. Co., et al, CV-22-02023-PHX-MTL
  - Miller v. Trumbull Ins. Co., CV-22-01545-PHX-JJT
  - Lopez v. Liberty Mut. Personal Ins. Co., CV-23-00629-PHX-DLR
  - Moshier v. Safeco, CV-23-00225-PHX-DLR
  - *Haenfler v. Safeco*, CV-23-00822-PHX-DLR (Consolidated with *Moshier*)
- 7. My firm and I are lead counsel or co-lead counsel, or appointed class counsel, on other putative class actions in other courts, for example:
  - Gunn v. CNA Financial Corp., No. 18-cv-03314 (N.D. III.)
  - Brown, et al. v. Continental Cas. Co., No. 21-cv-02349 (N.D. III.)
  - Cheslow v. Continental Cas. Co., No. 21cv-04010 (N. D. III.)
  - Boaden, et al. v. Continental Cas. Co., No. 23-cv-01477 (N.D. III.)
  - Koskan, et al. v. Continental Cas. Co., No. 23-cv-01941 (N.D. III.)
  - Sieving v. Continental Cas. Co., No. 20-cv-015127 (N.D. III.) (long-term care insurance)
  - Davidson v. United Services Automobile Assn., No. 20-cv-00527-JWH-MAA (C.D. Calif.) (homeowner insurance)
  - Sundquist v. Allstate Ins. Co., et al., No. 24-cv-00719-JLT-HBK (E.D. Calif.) (UM/UIM benefits)

- Lewis, et al. v. Gov't Employees Ins. Co., No. 18-cv-05111-RMB-JMS (D.N.J.) (collision insurance)
- Farmers Covid-19 Business Cases, No. JCCP5125 (Calif. Super. Ct., Los Angeles Cty.) (Business interruption insurance; appointed by the Court as lead class counsel for the California version of an MDL, called a JCCP.)
- *In Re: Kia Hyundai Vehicle Theft Litig.*, No. 8:22-ml-03052-JVS-KES (C.D. Calif.) (comprehensive/subrogation case; Hagens Berman appointed class counsel)
- Main Street America Protection Ins. Co. v. Stockdale, No. CV2023-012840 (Ariz. Super. Ct., Maricopa Cty.); Main Street America Protection Ins. Co. v. Barton, No. CV2023-014644 (Ariz. Super. Ct., Maricopa Cty.) (consolidated with Stockdale) (claims involving stacking issues similar to claims in Miller)
- 8. In addition, I have litigated throughout the United States dozens of class-based first-party claims of all types, including no-fault, comprehensive, collision, med-pay, UM/UIM, property damage for auto, homeowners, medical and disability, and long-term care, as well as over a hundred high-value individual claims of this type.
- 9. It is well known that private counsel entering into a contingent fee agreement for these types of breach of contract/ insurance bad faith cases, in the context of an automobile injury, routinely request and receive a fee of 40% of the gross recovery.
- 10. I recently argued a final fairness hearing in another stacking case, *Dale v*. *Travelers Property Casualty Insurance Co.*, Case No. CV-22-01659-PHX-SPL. There a class member attended the final fairness hearing and let me know how pleased he was with the settlement and the fee request, noting that he was assessed a fee of over 40% by his lawyer that handled the original case, who only obtained coverage for only one of five insured vehicles.
- 11. Defendants in the stacking cases have generally contended that individualized issues regarding the UM/UIM claims of the class would predominate over common issues and that damages cannot be modeled on a classwide basis. Defendants have also opposed certification of any declaration or injunction-only class on similar grounds.

- 12. My firm kept detailed records regarding the amount of time spent by attorneys and staff working on this matter, and the lodestar calculation is based on my firm's current billing rates. The information was prepared from contemporaneous, daily time records regularly prepared and maintained by my firm in the ordinary course of business.
- 13. Co-counsel has provided their detailed time records to me, tracking all tasks performed, hours billed, and fees charged.
- 14. Class Counsel has and will continue to devote substantial time to this litigation. To date it has spent 983.4 hours on cases against this defendant, for a lodestar of \$673,206.00.
- 15. In addition to its current lodestar on this case, I estimate Class Counsel will expend approximately \$370,000, or 600 hours, to finish this case, which includes: 150 hours of attorney time to deal with medical liens, totaling approximately \$112,500 in fees; 50 hours of paralegal time to deal with medical liens, totaling approximately \$17,500; 200 hours of attorney time to finalize all of the briefing (including the current briefing) and prepare for and attend the final fairness hearing, totaling \$150,000; 50 hours of attorney time to assist with client communications, totaling \$37,500; and 50 hours of paralegal time to deal with client communications, totaling \$17,500. This will bring the total lodestar for this case, including all work billed to date, to \$1,043,206.00. With the additional anticipated fees of \$370,000, the lodestar multiplier is 3.58.
- 16. Based on my experience in dealing with unclaimed funds and appeals after a class action settlement, I estimate Class Counsel would expend up to \$300,000 if such issues arise. If such work has to be done, it will increase the fees to \$1,343,206.00 and reduce the multiplier to 2.78. I do not know what the probability of such actions are, but the adjusted value should be considered.
- 17. Class Counsel has brought multiple related actions and billed 969 hours to their general stacking matter number, totaling \$627,455.50, which includes time spent researching and developing the legal theories for this case, developing a damages model,

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and responding to the multitude of amicus briefs filed in the Franklin matter at the Arizona Supreme Court—work which directly benefited this Settlement Class.

- 18. Even if the Court only credits Class Counsel with 25% of their general fund, that would increase the total lodestar to \$830.069.00 (the current lodestar plus 25% of the general stacking time).
- 19. The total lodestar in this case could be as high as \$1,500,069.00, which includes the time billed to date, 25% of the general fund, projected time to finish the case, and projected time if there are unclaimed funds and/or an appeal, which would result in a multiplier of 2.49.
- 20. My firm's current hourly rates for the attorneys who worked on this matter range from \$800 to \$1,250 for partners, \$575 for associates, and \$300 to \$375 per hour for paralegals.
- 21. These rates are consistent with the hourly rates submitted by my firm to state and federal courts in other class action litigations across the country. The firm's hourly rates are set based on a periodic review of rates charged by firms performing comparable work and/or rates regularly submitted to other courts as the basis for the contingent fee awards in comparably complex class actions, including a review of both plaintiff and defense firm rates for complex litigation. Different Timekeepers within the same employment category (e.g., partners, associates, paralegals, etc.) may have different rates based on a variety of factors, including years of practice, years at the firm, years in their current position (e.g., years as a partner), relevant experience, and relative expertise.
- 22. I have practiced in Arizona since 1987, which includes service as a Maricopa County Superior Court Judge Pro Tem (handling both tort and contract trials), adjunct faculty at Arizona State University, Sandra Day O'Conner College of Law (teaching class actions), Chief Deputy Arizona Attorney General, and as chairman of the State Bar's Class Actions and Derivative Suits Committee. I am one of two Arizona attorneys recognized by inclusion among the Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America.

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- Arizona UM/UIM stacking class actions pending in this district, including litigation and settlement of the instant claims against Hartford entities. I was involved in all aspects of the parallel *Trent v. Hartford* case as well as the development of the *Franklin v. CSAA* matter itself, developing the claims, drafting and reviewing key pleadings, filing those actions, and litigating the certified questions before the Arizona Supreme Court. Within weeks of the Supreme Court's ruling in *Franklin*, it was agreed that I would also serve as lead counsel in this Dale proceeding as well. Since that time, I have worked with damages experts and on damages models, led mediations, led the negotiations on the settlement and its terms, and led the drafting and review of all settlement documents. I also have been leading the efforts to communicate with class members and resolve all medical lien issues. I am currently billed out at \$1,250 an hour.
- 24. John DeStefano is a partner in the Phoenix office of Hagens Berman. He has been involved with class litigation throughout his 17-year career, including class action proceedings occurring during his clerkships at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona. Upon entering private practice at Snell & Wilmer, Mr. DeStefano was extensively involved with the defense of several class actions arising out of the foreclosure crisis and consolidated by the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation in the District of Arizona. Over the course of his 11 years at Hagens Berman, Mr. DeStefano has developed a specialty in insurance class litigation and appellate representation across the country. He has served as an adjunct professor co-teaching the Class Actions class at Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor law school for two years and is listed among the Lawdragon 500 Leading Plaintiff Consumer Lawyers. He has worked intensively with me, Robert Carey, at every stage of this litigation including development of the claims, drafting of pleadings, coordination of parallel actions, development of damages models, preparation of mediation briefs, participating in mediation, and participating in the negotiation of the settlement terms now before the Court. Mr. DeStefano also argued the Franklin matter on

- behalf of injured insureds before the Arizona Supreme Court, leading to the determination of statutory questions central to this case. Mr. DeStefano is billed out at \$800 an hour.
- 25. Michella Kras is a partner who has been practicing for over twenty years and who has been with Hagens Berman for eleven years. She has significant experience in class actions, litigating nationwide class actions in multiple federal districts. She has experience in drafting and negotiating settlement and approval documents in class action cases, most recently in a \$95 million settlement with Apple. Ms. Kras handled a large part of the settlement process, including drafting and negotiating the settlement agreement, notice, motion for preliminary approval, proposed orders, and motion for attorneys' fees. She also worked closely with Epiq to coordinate notice and class member communications, including working with law clerks to assist with the efforts to contact class members and resolve lien issues. Ms. Kras is billed out at \$850 an hour.
- 26. Tory Beardsley is an associate with experience litigating class insurance cases across the nation. She assisted in drafting and refining the discovery requests served on Defendant. She also assisted in preparing Plaintiff's presentation for mediation. Ms. Beardsley also assisted in researching and reviewing the legislative history of A.R.S. § 20-259.01(H), the key statute at issue in this case. Ms. Beardsley is billed out at \$575 an hour.
- 27. Three Hagens Berman paralegals who worked on this matter. Two of whom, Cindy Johnson and Beth Gibson, are highly skilled senior paralegals, both with decades of experience are billed out at \$375 an hour. Additionally, junior paralegal Valentina Meth, who has worked at the Firm for approximately five years, assisted in this matter and is billed out at \$300 per hour.
- 28. Co-counsel at the Slavicek Law Firm are personal injury lawyers with extensive experience litigating UM/UIM claims.
- 29. Justin Henry has been practicing in this area for fifteen years and worked alongside Hagens Berman to develop and litigate these stacking cases at all stages,

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including researching the actions, drafting complaints, assisting with discovery, and assisting with mediation.

- 30. The Slavicek Law Firm bills its attorneys out at \$700 to \$900 an hour and bills its paralegals at \$150 per hour.
- 31. Goldstein Woods are among the most experienced and skilled practitioners in the complex insurance litigation field. Goldstein Woods is a preeminent firm litigating insurance claims in Arizona. Evan Goldstein was lead counsel in the seminal case *Heaton* v. Metro. Grp. Prop. & Cas. Ins. Co., No. CV-21-00442-PHX-SRB, 2021 WL 6805629, at \*5 (D. Ariz. Oct. 19, 2021), where Judge Susan Bolton first interpreted how UM/UIM claims should be paid under A.R.S.§20-259.01(H). *Heaton* was the precursor for the Arizona Supreme Court's ruling on stacking in *Franklin*. 255 Ariz. at 412-23.
- 32. Goldstein Woods bills its partners out at \$750 an hour and bills its paralegals out at \$250 an hour.
- 33. Guidant Law PLC represents clients across a broad spectrum of litigation including in consumer and personal injury issues. Guidant Law's Samuel Saks is a partner at the firm and has more than 20 years of experience in personal injury litigation and bills out at \$425 per hour. Meanwhile, JoAnn Falgout is a senior attorney with extensive experience serving a wide variety of clients and bills out at \$325 per hour. Finally, Guidant's paralegal bills out at \$185 per hour.
- 34. My firm's and co-counsel's detailed time records, describing the work performed, are available to the Court for in camera review if requested.
- 35. Plaintiff's counsel has funded \$18,886.74 in litigation expenses in the case, as summarized in the following tables, which are necessary and reasonable to prosecute this case and were made for the benefit of the Settlement Class:

EXPENSE CATEGORY	TOTAL
Court Fees/Filing Fees	415.00
In-House Copying/Printing	194.00
Expert Fees	2,000.00
Mediation	6,060.30
Online Research/Westlaw	1,903.28
ESI Storage	108.08
Hearing Transcripts	36.45
Service of Process	98.33
Depositions	8,041.30
Parking	30.00
TOTAL	\$18,886.74

- 36. Hagens Berman has forgone a significant amount of other work to litigate this case.
- Plaintiff spent significant time assisting Class Counsel in investigating and 37. prosecuting this action. Plaintiff assisted with drafting her factual allegations in the Complaint, and was involved in the settlement process, including an all-day mediation.
- 38. Plaintiff also gave up what she could have recovered in an individual action, which could have been higher had she proceeded to verdict, to litigate this case and reach a settlement that benefits others like her.
- 39. Hagens Berman's and my billing rates were recently approved as reasonable by the Honorable David G. Campbell, in *In re Theranos, Inc. Litigation*, Case No. 2:16-cv-2138-DGC (D. Ariz. Feb. 6, 2024). While a copy of that opinion is not available on Westlaw, a link to the Final Order and Judgment is available here: https://www.theranoslawsuit.com/admin/api/connectedapps.cms.extensions/asset?id=eca d7b5f-6b93-42c8-92c0-564912e2dc86&languageId=1033&inline=true.

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40. As required by Local Rule 54.2(d)(2), attached hereto are copies of the Rights and Responsibilities Agreements Hagens Berman entered into with Plaintiff Taylor Doyle (Exhibit 2). The Rights and Responsibilities Agreements do not set a fee but leave that determination to the Court.

I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the United States that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED: July 14, 2025

HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL SHAPIRO LLP

By: Robert B. Carey

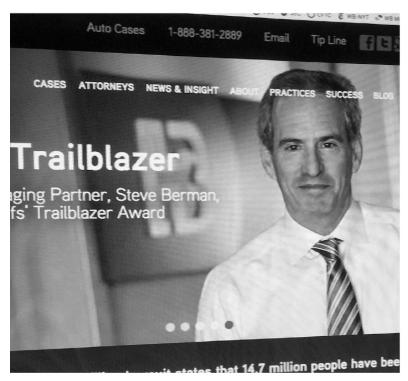
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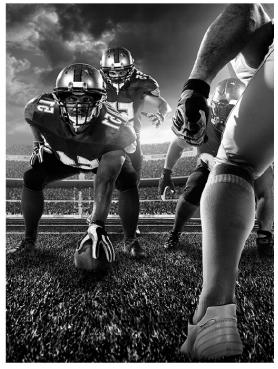
EXHIBIT 1





# HAGENS BERMAN









Hagens Berman is a national leader in class-action litigation driven by an international team of legal powerhouses. With a tenacious spirit, we are motivated to make a positive difference in people's lives.

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#### INTRODUCTION

## The Firm

Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP was founded in 1993 with one purpose: to help victims with claims of fraud and negligence that adversely impact a broad group. Through the firm's focus on class-action litigation and other complex, multi-party cases, it fights for those seeking representation against wrongdoing and fraud. As the firm grew, it expanded its scope while staying true to its mission of taking on important cases that implicate the public interest and the greater good. We represent plaintiffs including consumers, inventors, investors, workers, the environment, governments, whistleblowers and others.

We are one of the nation's leading class-action law firms and have earned an international reputation for excellence and innovation in ground-breaking litigation against large corporations.

#### **OUR FOCUS**

Our focus is to represent plaintiffs in antitrust, consumer fraud, employment, environmental, intellectual property, product liability, securities and investment fraud, sexual harassment, tort and whistleblower law cases. Our firm is particularly skilled at managing multistate and nationwide class actions through an organized, coordinated approach. Our skilled team implements an efficient and aggressive prosecutorial strategy to place maximum pressure on defendants.

#### **WE WIN**

We believe excellence stems from a commitment to try each case, vigorously represent the best interests of our clients and obtain maximum recovery. Our opponents know we are determined and tenacious. They respect our skills and recognize our track record of achieving top results for those who need it most.

#### WHAT MAKES US DIFFERENT

We are driven to return to the class every possible portion of its damages — our track record proves it. While many class action or individual plaintiff cases result in large legal fees and no meaningful outcome for the client or class, Hagens Berman finds ways to return real value to the victims of corporate fraud and malfeasance through damages and real change.

#### AN INTERNATIONAL REACH

Our firm offers clients an international scope of practice. We have flourished through our core network of U.S. offices, and with a global expansion, Hagens Berman has grown geographically to where our eyes have always been: trends of fraud, negligence and wrongdoing taking form anywhere in the world. The firm now does business through endeavors in London and Amsterdam. Our reach is not limited to the cities where we maintain offices. We have cases pending in several countries and have a vested interest in fighting global instances of oppression and injustice.

## INTRODUCTION

## Locations

## **SEATTLE**

1301 Second Avenue, Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98101 T 206-623-7292 F 206-623-0594

## **BERKELEY**

715 Hearst Avenue, Suite 300 Berkeley, CA 94710 T 510-725-3000 F 510-725-3001

### **BOSTON**

1 Faneuil Hall Square, 5th Floor Boston, MA 02109 T 617-482-3700 F 617-482-3003

## LONDON

Hagens Berman UK LLP 125 Old Broad Street London, EC2N 1AR T 0203 150 1445

## CHICAGO

455 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive, Suite 2410 Chicago, IL 60611 T 708-628-4949 F 708-628-4950

## **LOS ANGELES**

301 North Lake Avenue, Suite 920 Pasadena, CA 91101 T 213-330-7150 F 213-330-7152

### **NEW YORK**

594 Dean Street, Suite 24 Brooklyn, NY 11238 T 212-752-5455 F 917-210-3980

## **PHOENIX**

11 West Jefferson Street, Suite 1000 Phoenix, AZ 85003 T 602-840-5900 F 602-840-3012

#### **SAN DIEGO**

533 F Street Suite 207 San Diego, CA 92101 T 619-929-3340

#### INTRODUCTION

## Quotes

- "[A] clear choice emerges. That choice is the Hagens Berman firm."
  - U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, In re Optical Disk Drive Products Antitrust Litigation (Appointing the firm lead counsel in the case which would later usher in \$205 million in settlements.)
- "Landmark consumer cases are business as usual for Steve Berman."
  - The National Law Journal, naming Steve Berman one of the 100 most influential attorneys in the nation for the third time in a row
- "Berman is considered one of the nation's top class action lawyers."
  - Associated Press
- "unprecedented success in the antitrust field"
  - California Magistrate Judge Nathanael M. Cousins
     A July 2015 order awarding attorneys' fees in student-athlete name and likeness litigation
- "All right, I think I can conclude on the basis with my five years with you all, watching this litigation progress and seeing it wind to a conclusion, that the results are exceptional...You did an exceptionally good job at organizing and managing the case..."
  - U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, In re Dynamic Random Access Memory Antitrust Litigation (Hagens Berman was co-lead counsel and helped achieve the \$406 million class settlement.)
- "aggressive and independent advocacy"
  - Hon. Thomas M. Durkin in an order appointing Hagens Berman as interim class counsel in In re Broiler Chicken Antitrust Litigation
- "Class counsel has consistently demonstrated extraordinary skill and effort."
  - Hon. James Selna, Central District of California, In re Toyota Motor Corp. Unintended Acceleration Marketing, Sales Practices and Products Liability Litigation, (The firm was appointed co-lead counsel without submitting to lead the case, and later achieved what was then the largest settlement in history brought against an automaker – \$1.6 billion.)
- "...I have never worked with such professional, decent counsel."
  - Hon. Dennis M. Cavanaugh, United States District Judge (Retired), Transcript Of Proceedings Fairness Hearing for In re Mercedes-Benz Emissions Litigation, (Hagens Berman helped secure a \$700 million settlement for class members and served as interim class counsel.)
- "...the track record of Hagens Berman['s] Steve Berman is...impressive, having racked... a \$1.6 billion settlement in the Toyota Unintended

Acceleration Litigation and a substantial number of really outstanding bigticket results."

- Hon. Milton I. Shadur, Senior U.S. District Judge, naming Hagens Berman interim class counsel in Stericycle Pricing MDL (Hagens Berman served as lead counsel and secured a \$295 million settlement.)
- "...when you get good lawyers this is what happens; you get these cases resolved."
  - Hon. Dennis M. Cavanaugh, United States District Judge (Retired), Proceedings Fairness Hearing for In re Mercedes-Benz Emissions
    Litiaation
- "...Class counsel have devoted considerable time and resources to this litigation..."
  - Hon. Dennis M. Cavanaugh, United States District Judge (Retired), Proceedings Fairness Hearing for In re Mercedes-Benz Emissions
     Litigation
- "...This result...puts significant money into the pockets of all of the class members, is an excellent result. ...I've also looked at the skill and quality of counsel and the quality of the work... and find that to have been at a high level."
  - Hon. Beth Labson Freeman, United States District Judge, Final Approval of Settlement Hearing for Dean Sheikh et al v. Tesla, Inc.
- "...respective clients certainly got their money's worth with these attorneys and the work that they did on their behalf. ...Plaintiffs did an excellent job on behalf of their clients in this case."
  - Hon. Dennis M. Cavanaugh, United States District Judge (Retired)
     Proceedings Fairness Hearing for In re Mercedes-Benz Emissions Litigation
- "Class Member reaction to the Mercedes Settlement is overwhelmingly positive."
  - Hon. Dennis M. Cavanaugh (Ret.) Special Master, In re Mercedes-Benz Emissions Litigation
- "I will reiterate that class counsel has demonstrated over many years, superior experience and capability in handling class actions of this sort."
  - Hon. Beth Labson Freeman, United States District Judge, Final Approval of Settlement Hearing for Dean Sheikh et al v. Tesla, Inc.
- "Not only did they work hard and do what was appropriate under the circumstances; their behavior was exemplary throughout. They were fair and firm. There were no pushovers involved here."
  - Hon. Dennis M. Cavanaugh, United States District Judge (Retired), Proceedings Fairness Hearing for In re Mercedes-Benz Emissions
     Litigation

INTRODUCTION

## Victories & Settlements

Since its founding, the firm has secured settlements valued at more than \$320 billion on behalf of class members in large-scale complex litigation.

## \$260 BILLION

#### STATE TOBACCO LITIGATION

Hagens Berman represented 13 states prosecuting major actions against Big Tobacco. The settlement led to a multistate settlement requiring the tobacco companies to pay the states and submit to advertising and marketing restrictions. It was the largest civil settlement in history.

## \$25 BILLION

#### VISA CHECK/MASTERMONEY ANTITRUST LITIGATION

The firm served as co-lead counsel in what was then the largest antitrust settlement in history. The class-action lawsuit alleged that Visa and MasterCard engaged in an anticompetitive scheme to monopolize the debit card services market and charge merchants artificially inflated interchange fees by tying merchant acceptance of their debit card services, Visa Check and MasterMoney, to merchant acceptance of their credit card services. Settlements secured categories of relief that court decisions valued at as much as \$25-87 billion.

## **\$14.7 BILLION**

## **VOLKSWAGEN EMISSIONS LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman was named a member of the plaintiffs' steering committee and part of the settlement negotiating team in this monumental case that culminated in the largest automotive settlement in history. The firm was the first law firm to file against Volkswagen regarding its Dieselgate emissions-cheating scandal.

## \$1.6 BILLION

## TOYOTA UNINTENDED ACCELERATION LITIGATION

Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel and secured what was then the largest automotive settlement in history in this class action that recovered \$1.6 billion for vehicle owners.

## \$1.6 BILLION

#### **VOLKSWAGEN FRANCHISE DEALERS LITIGATION**

The firm served as lead counsel representing VW franchise dealers in this lawsuit related to VW's Dieselgate scandal. The settlement recovered nearly full damages for the class.

## **\$1.45 BILLION**

#### **MERACORD**

The firm secured a default judgment on behalf of consumers for a useless debt-settlement conspiracy, following years of plaintiff victories in the case. Hagens Berman filed its lawsuit in 2011, on behalf of consumers nationwide, claiming the company violated Washington law and the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act.

## \$1.3 BILLION

## HYUNDAI KIA THETA II GDI FIRE HAZARD LITIGATION I

Hagens Berman is co-lead counsel in this case accusing automakers of selling vehicles with failure-prone engines that could sometimes catch fire. The case is still pending litigation pertaining to other affected models.

## \$700 MILLION

## MERCEDES BLUETEC EMISSIONS LITIGATION

A monumental settlement was reached on behalf of owners of Mercedes vehicles affected by Daimler's emissions cheating. The case was initially filed and researched by Hagens Berman, based on the firm's independent vehicle testing, and the firm served as colead counsel. The consumer settlement followed a \$1.5 billion settlement between Mercedes and the U.S. Justice Department and California Air Resources Board. The settlement includes an \$875 million civil penalty for violating the Clean Air Act.

## \$700 MILLION

# WASHINGTON PUBLIC POWER SUPPLY SYSTEM (WPPSS) SECURITIES LITIGATION

Hagens Berman represented bondholders and the trustee in a class action stemming from the failure of two nuclear projects. Plaintiffs were awarded a \$700 million settlement.

## \$568 MILLION

## APPLE E-BOOKS ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel against Apple and five of the nation's largest publishing companies and secured a combined \$568 million settlement, returning class members nearly twice their losses in recovery, following the firm's victory over Apple after it appealed the case to the U.S. Supreme Court.

## \$535 MILLION

# CHINA MEDIAEXPRESS HOLDINGS, INC. SECURITIES LITIGATION

Hagens Berman, which served as lead counsel in the case, alleged on behalf of a class of investors that China MediaExpress Holdings made false and misleading statements, including misrepresentations about its revenues, the number of buses in its network and the nature of its business relationships. The lawsuit resulted in relief for investors valued at \$535 million.

## \$470 MILLION

## LCD ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman served as a member of the Executive Committee representing consumers in multi-district litigation. Total settlements exceeded \$470 million.

## \$453 MILLION

#### **GLUMETZA ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

The court denied summary judgment and paved the way for trial in this litigation against brand and generic manufacturers of the diabetes drug Glumetza. Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel for the direct purchaser class. U.S. District Judge William Alsup approved \$453.85 million in settlements resolving direct purchasers' allegations. The result was the largest antitrust recovery to receive final approval in 2022.

## \$406 MILLION

#### DRAM ANTITRUST LITIGATION

The firm was co-lead counsel in this antitrust case which settled for \$406 million in favor of purchasers of dynamic random access memory chips.

## \$385 MILLION

## SUBOXONE ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman was co-lead counsel in this pharmaceutical antitrust class action alleging defendants violated federal antitrust laws by delaying generic competition for its blockbuster opioid addiction medicine, Suboxone.

## **\$383.5 MILLION**

## DAVITA HEALTHCARE PERSONAL INJURY LITIGATION

A Denver jury awarded a monumental \$383.5 million verdict to families of three patients who died after receiving dialysis treatments at DaVita clinics.

## \$340 MILLION

## RANBAXY INC.

Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel representing Meijer Inc. and Meijer Distribution Inc. in a class-action lawsuit against drugmaker Ranbaxy. The lawsuit alleged it recklessly stuffed the generic drug approval queues with grossly inadequate applications and deceiving the FDA into granting tentative approvals to lock in statutory exclusivities to which Ranbaxy was not entitled. Ranbaxy then excluded competition at the expense of U.S. drug purchasers. The settlement was part of a \$485 million settlement for all plaintiffs. The result was the second largest antitrust recovery to receive final approval in 2022.

## \$338 MILLION

## **AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICE DRUG LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman was lead counsel in this ground-breaking drug pricing case against the world's largest pharmaceutical companies, resulting in a victory at trial. The court approved a total of \$338 million in settlements.

## \$325 MILLION

## **NEURONTIN PFIZER LITIGATION**

The firm brought suit against Pfizer and its subsidiary, Parke-Davis, accusing the companies of a fraudulent scheme to market and sell the drug Neurontin for a variety of "off-label" uses for which it is not approved or medically efficacious.

## \$307 MILLION

## **ECODIESEL EMISSIONS CHEATING LITIGATION**

The firm achieved a settlement on behalf of owners of EcoDiesel Dodge 1500 and Jeep Grand Cherokee vehicles in response to Fiat Chrysler's emissions-cheating. Under the settlement, class members who repair their vehicles and submit a claim will receive \$3,075. The total value of the deal is estimated at \$307 million, granted all owners submit a valid claim.

## \$300 MILLION

# HYUNDAI/KIA HYDRAULIC ELECTRONIC CONTROL UNIT (HECU) FIRE HAZARD

Approximately three million Hyundai and Kia vehicles nationwide were affected by a dangerous defect in the hydraulic and electronic control units (HECU), also known as anti-lock brake (ABS) modules which posed a risk of non-collision engine fires. Conservatively, plaintiffs' experts valued the settlement achieved by Hagens Berman as co-class counsel in the range of \$326 million to \$652 million.

## \$295 MILLION

#### STERICYCLE, STERI-SAFE LITIGATION

Hagens Berman served as lead counsel representing small businesses including veterinary clinics, medical clinics and labs in a class-action lawsuit alleging Stericycle's billing practices and accounting software violated consumer laws and constituted breach of contract.

## \$255 MILLION

#### **HYUNDAI & KIA FUEL ECONOMY LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman filed a class-action lawsuit on behalf of consumers alleging Hyundai and Kia overstated fuel economy for many vehicles they sold in the United States.

## \$250 MILLION

### **ENRON ERISA LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman was co-lead counsel in this ERISA litigation, which recovered in excess of \$250 million, the largest ERISA settlement in history.

## \$250 MILLION

## **BOFA COUNTRYWIDE APPRAISAL RICO**

Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel in a nationwide class-action lawsuit against Bank of America, Countrywide Financial and appraisal firm LandSafe Inc. on behalf of a class of home buyers accusing the suit's defendants of carrying out a series of phony appraisals in an attempt to secure more loans.

## \$235 MILLION

## CHARLES SCHWAB SECURITIES LITIGATION

The firm was lead counsel in this action alleging fraud in the management of the Schwab YieldPlus mutual fund. A \$235 million class settlement was approved by the court.

## \$234 MILLION

## **AEQUITAS CAPITAL MANAGEMENT**

The firm settled this case on behalf of 1,600 investors of the now-defunct Aequitas companies. It is believed to be the largest securities settlement in Oregon history.

## \$218 MILLION

## JP MORGAN MADOFF

Hagens Berman settled this case on behalf of Bernard L. Madoff investors in a suit filed against JPMorgan Chase Bank, its parents, subsidiaries and affiliates. The settlement against JPMorgan involved three simultaneous, separately negotiated settlements totaling more than \$2.2 billion.

## \$215 MILLION

# USC, DR. GEORGE TYNDALL SEXUAL ABUSE AND HARASSMENT

The firm served as co-lead counsel and secured a \$215 million settlement on behalf of a class of thousands of survivors of sexual assault against the University of Southern California and its Dr. George Tyndall, the full-time gynecologist at USC's student health clinic.

## \$212 MILLION

## TOYOTA, LEXUS DENSO FUEL PUMP DEFECT

Hagens Berman represented consumers in a lawsuit alleging that Toyota Motor Corp. sold vehicles with faulty engines made by Denso International America Inc. The defect left vehicle owners at risk of spontaneous vehicle shutdown, engine stall and other safety risks that increased the likelihood of a crash or injury. The settlement brought relief to more than 3.3 million vehicle owners.

## \$208 MILLION

#### NCAA SCHOLARSHIP CAP ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman was co-lead counsel in the damages portion of this historic antitrust class action claiming the NCAA unlawfully capped the value of athletic scholarships. In a historic ruling, the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously upheld a trial victory regarding the injunctive portion of the case securing monumental improvements for college athletes, and forever changing college sports. Steve Berman served as trial counsel.

## \$205 MILLION

## OPTICAL DISC DRIVES (ODD) ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman served as lead counsel on behalf of consumers in a lawsuit filed against Philips, Pioneer and others for artificially inflating the price of ODDs.

## \$200 MILLION

# NEW ENGLAND COMPOUNDING PHARMACY MENINGITIS OUTBREAK LITIGATION

Hagens Berman attorneys served as lead counsel for the plaintiffs' steering committee on behalf of plaintiff-victims of the 2012 fungal meningitis outbreak that led to more than 64 deaths and hundreds of joint infection cases.

## **\$181 MILLION**

## **BROILER CHICKEN ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman serves as interim class counsel in a case against Tyson, Purdue and 16 other chicken producers for allegedly conspiring to stabilize chicken prices by reducing production. The firm continues to litigate the case against remaining defendants.

## \$169 MILLION

#### **ANIMATION WORKERS**

Hagens Berman was co-lead counsel for a class of approximately 10,000 animators and other artistic workers in an antitrust class action against Pixar, DreamWorks, The Walt Disney Company, Sony and others for allegedly conspiring to restrain competition and suppress industry wages. A \$169 million settlement resulted in a payment of more than \$13,000 per class member.

## \$150 MILLION

## FLONASE ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman was co-lead counsel representing purchasers in this case alleging GlaxoSmithKline filed petitions to prevent the emergence of generic competitors to its drug Flonase to overcharge consumers and purchasers of the drug, which would have been priced lower had a generic competitor been allowed to come to market.

## \$150 MILLION

#### **LUPRON CONSUMER LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel on behalf of consumers and third-party payors who purchased the drug Lupron. Under the terms of the settlement, TAP Pharmaceuticals paid \$150 million on behalf of all defendants.

## \$125 MILLION

## PHARMACEUTICAL AWP LITIGATION

Hagens Berman was lead counsel against 11 pharmaceutical companies, including Abbott Laboratories and Watson Pharmaceuticals, resulting in multiple settlements between 2006 and 2012. Defendants agreed to pay \$125 million in a nationwide settlement for intentionally inflating reports of the average wholesale prices (AWP) on certain prescription medications.

## **\$123.4 MILLION**

## EXPEDIA LITIGATION

Hagens Berman led this class action arising from bundled "taxes and service fees" that Expedia collects when its consumers book hotel reservations. Plaintiffs alleged that by collecting exorbitant fees as a flat percentage of the room rates, Expedia violated both the Washington Consumer Protection Act and its contractual commitment to charge as service fees only "costs incurred in servicing" a given reservation.

## \$120 MILLION

#### **GENERAL MOTORS**

Hagens Berman represented owners of GM-branded vehicles as co-lead counsel in a national class-action lawsuit seeking compensation, statutory penalties and punitive damages against GM on behalf of owners of millions of vehicles affected by alleged safety defects and recalls. The court granted final approval to a \$120 million settlement on behalf of affected GM vehicle owners on Dec. 18, 2020. Under the settlement, a trust controlled by creditors in GM's 2009 bankruptcy contributed up to \$50 million.

## \$120 MILLION

## LOESTRIN ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman served as interim co-lead counsel for the certified class of direct purchasers. The parties reached a proposed settlement shortly before trial.

## \$113 MILLION

#### **BATTERIES ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel and secured a settlement in this class-action lawsuit against some of the largest electronics manufacturers for allegedly illegally fixing the price of lithium-ion batteries, pushing costs higher for consumers.

## **\$108 MILLION**

### FIAT CHRYSLER LOW OIL PRESSURE

As co-lead counsel, Hagens Berman represented a class of owners of Fiat Chrysler vehicles allegedly prone to spontaneous shut off when oil pressure is low. A federal judge approved a settlement valued at \$108 million comprised of comprehensive relief including extended warranties, software upgrades, free testing and repairs and repair reimbursements.

## \$100 MILLION

## APPLE IOS APP STORE LITIGATION

In this lawsuit against Apple, the firm served as interim lead counsel in this matter and represented U.S. iOS developers against the tech giant. The suit accused Apple of monopolizing distribution services for iOS apps and inapp digital products, allegedly resulting in commission overcharges. Apple agreed to pay \$100 million and make developer-friendly changes to its App Store policy.

## \$100 MILLION

# OPPENHEIMER CORE BOND AND CHAMPION INCOME FUNDS LITIGATION

Hagens Berman obtained settlements in two cases alleging that various Oppenheimer entities and certain individual defendants made materially false or misleading statements and omissions to the investing public regarding the investment profile and objectives of the two funds.

## \$100 MILLION

#### **TENET HEALTHCARE**

Hagens Berman achieved a settlement on behalf of uninsured patients who received care at Tenet facilities nationwide, alleging that the patients were charged excessive prices at 114 hospitals owned and operated by Tenet Healthcare. The suit claimed that Tenet took advantage of the uninsured and working poor who did not have the economic leverage to negotiate lower rates, while giving discounts to HMO's and other large payers.

## \$100 MILLION

## TREMONT LITIGATION

The firm filed a class action on behalf of investors alleging the company and others grossly neglected fiduciary duties by turning capital over to Bernard Madoff Investment Securities.

## \$98 MILLION

## PROGRAF ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman served as court-appointed co-lead class counsel representing a class of direct purchasers of Prograf. The antitrust lawsuit alleges that Astellas violated antitrust laws by filing a petition with the FDA as a means of delaying entry of a generic version of Prograf, a drug used to prevent organ rejection by kidney, liver, heart and lung transplant patients.

## \$95 MILLION

## APPLECARE

This class action secured compensation for iPhone and iPad owners who bought AppleCare or AppleCare+ coverage. The suit accused Apple of using inferior, refurbished or used parts in device replacements, despite promising to provide consumers with a device "equivalent to new in performance and reliability," and Hagens Berman reached a settlement with the tech giant in April 2022, resolving these claims.

## \$94 MILLION

## **CELEBREX ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman litigated claims on behalf of a certified class of direct purchasers alleging Pfizer obtained reissuance of a follow-on patent by defrauding the Patent and Trademark Office. The case settled just weeks before trial.

## **\$92.5 MILLION**

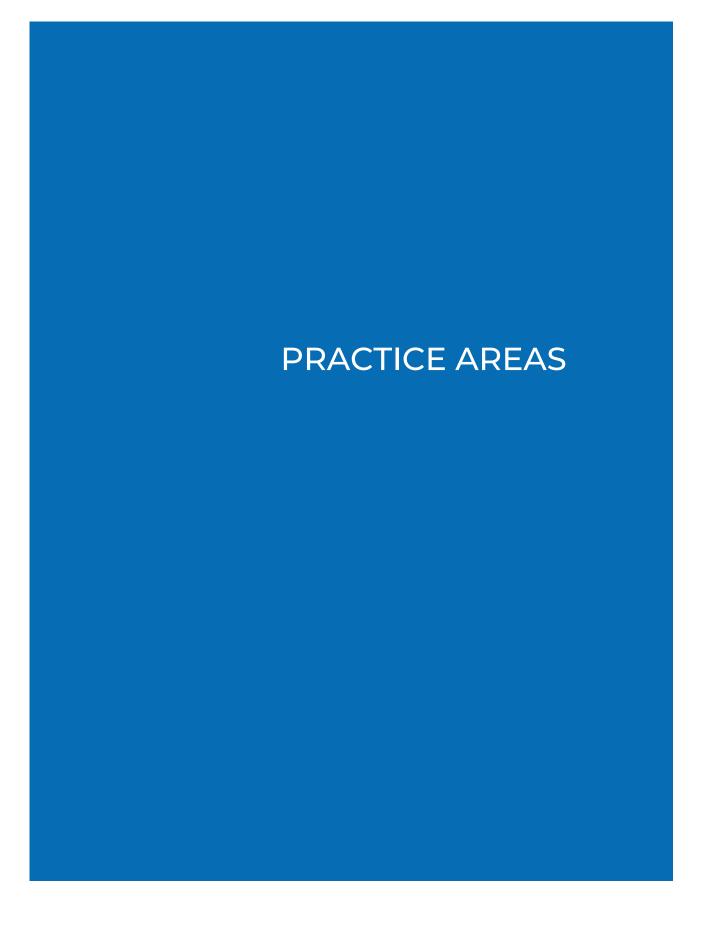
#### **BOEING SECURITIES LITIGATION**

Boeing and Hagens Berman agreed to a settlement to this shareholder suit filed in November 1997 by Hagens Berman. The settlement, the then second largest awarded in the Northwest, affected tens of thousands of Boeing common stock shareholders.

## \$90 MILLION

## GOOGLE PLAY STORE APP DEVELOPERS

The firm filed a class action on behalf of Android app developers for violating antitrust laws by allegedly illegally monopolizing markets for Android app distribution and inapp payment processing. A \$90 million settlement has been preliminarily approved.



## PRACTICE AREAS

## **Antitrust**

Hagens Berman works to preserve fair trade and healthy marketplace competition by protecting consumers and businesses from price-fixing, market allocation agreements, monopolistic schemes and other trade restraints. The firm's lawyers have earned an enviable reputation as experts in this often confusing and combative area of commercial litigation in which we have recovered nearly \$30 billion in settlements for our clients. Our attorneys have a deep understanding of legal and economic issues within the marketplace, allowing us to employ groundbreaking market theories that shed light on restrictive anti-competitive practices. Our cases have returned more than \$320 billion across all practice areas.

Hagens Berman represents millions of class members in high-profile class-action lawsuits and takes on major antitrust litigation to improve market conditions for consumers, businesses and investors. We have represented plaintiffs in markets as diverse as college sports, app development, debit and credit card services, personal computer components, electric and gas power, airlines and internet services, and we have prevailed against some of the world's largest corporations. The firm has also taken on wage-fixing antitrust agreements in various industries including animation, food production and aerospace engineering.

The firm's antitrust cases span the reaches of anticompetitive behavior, impacting even the realm of college sports. In the Keller and O'Bannon cases, the firm represented college athletes against the NCAA and Electronic Arts Inc. claiming the companies illegally use college football and basketball players' names and likenesses in video games without permission or consent from the player. In those matters, the firm secured a total \$60 million in settlements, and checks went out to about 15,000 players, some up to \$7,600, with a median around \$1,100.

Hagens Berman has also brought about significant changes already to the NCAA's policies and procedures regulating payments. In NCAA Grants-in-Aid Scholarships Litigation, the firm brought an antitrust class action against the NCAA on behalf of college athletes, claiming that the NCAA had violated the law when it kept the class from being able to receive compensation provided by schools or conferences for athletic services other than cash. Following a \$208 million settlement in the damages portion of the case — an almost 100% recovery of single damages — the Supreme Court upheld the favorable opinion of the Ninth Circuit in a 9-0 ruling regarding injunctive relief. Justice Kavanaugh's opinion further underscored the massive win for plaintiffs and the ruling's ongoing effects: "The NCAA couches its arguments for not paying student athletes in innocuous labels. But the labels cannot disguise the reality: The NCAA's business model would be flatly illegal in almost any other industry in America," pushing for further scrutiny of the NCAA's regulations. After the ruling, the NCAA relaxed some of the name, image and likeness (NIL) restrictions and the market for NIL revenues exploded reaching almost \$5 billion this year. Few antitrust decisions have been so transformative.

The firm continues its work litigating against the NCAA regarding name, image and likeness (NIL) rights. Currently Hagens Berman is co-lead counsel in *House v. NCAA*, which challenges current restrictions on athletes NIL rights and seeks damages for lost NIL opportunities. In House, plaintiffs seek a share of the golden goose, namely, NCAA and conference

broadcast and licensing revenues. So far, the firm has cleared two monumental hurdles in the lawsuit receiving class certification status for both the injunctive and damages portions of the case, for classes representing more than 184,000 college athletes.

The firm has also generated substantial recoveries on behalf of health plans and consumers in antitrust cases involving pharmaceutical companies abusing patent rights to block generic drugs from coming to market. Hagens Berman's settlements accounted for 35% of total U.S. antitrust settlements that reached final approval in 2022, including the two largest antitrust recoveries to receive final approval, In re Glumetza Antitrust Litigation (\$453.85 million settlement) and In re Ranbaxy Generic Drug Application Antitrust Litigation (\$340 million settlement). Hagens Berman has served as lead or co-lead counsel in landmark antitrust litigation in many matters, including Paxil Direct Purchaser Litigation (\$100 million), Relafen Antitrust Litigation (\$75 million), Tricor Indirect Purchaser Antitrust Litigation (\$65.7 million), and Augmentin Antitrust Litigation (\$29 million).

Representative antitrust successes include:

#### VISA CHECK/MASTERMONEY ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman was co-lead counsel in this landmark antitrust case involving Visa and Mastercard. The case alleged the credit card giants engaged in anticompetitive practices to monopolize the debit card services market and impose artificially inflated interchange fees on merchants. The court valued the settlement between \$25 billion and \$87 billion, making it the largest antitrust settlement in U.S. history at the time.

**RESULT:** \$3.05 billion settlement and injunctive relief valued at more than \$23 billion

#### **APPLE E-BOOKS LITIGATION**

With state attorneys general, the firm served as lead counsel to secure a settlement with publishing companies that conspired with Apple to fix e-book prices. The firm then took on Apple for its part in the price-fixing conspiracy. In the final stage, the U.S. Supreme Court denied appeal from Apple, bringing the consumer payback amount to more than twice the amount of losses suffered by the class of e-book purchasers. This represents one of the most successful recoveries in any antitrust lawsuit in the country.

**RESULT:** \$568 million in total settlements

## LG PHILIPS AND TOSHIBA LCD ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman filed a class action against more than 20 manufacturers of TFT LCD products, including LG Philips and Toshiba, claiming the companies engaged in a conspiracy to fix, raise, maintain and stabilize the price of electronic products and devices. After years of representing consumers in multi-district litigation, the case against Toshiba went to trial. In 2012, Toshiba was found guilty of price-fixing and settled.

**RESULT:** \$470 million in total settlements

### DYNAMIC RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY (DRAM) ANTITRUST LITIGATION

The suit claimed DRAM (Dynamic Random Access Memory) manufacturers secretly agreed to reduce the supply of DRAM, a necessary component in a wide variety of electronics, which artificially raised prices. The class included equipment manufacturers, franchise distributors and purchasers.

**RESULT:** \$406 million settlement

#### OPTICAL DISK DRIVES ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman fought on behalf of consumers in a lawsuit filed against Philips, Pioneer and others for artificially inflating the price of ODDs for consumers.

**RESULT:** \$205 million in total settlements

#### **BROILER CHICKEN ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman serves as co-lead counsel in this massive antitrust class action asserting that the nation's largest broiler chicken producers – Tyson, Pilgrim's Pride, Perdue and a host of others – conspired to fix the price of chicken for consumers by up to 50 percent since 2009. Settlements will offer compensation to millions of American consumers who have unknowingly overpaid for chicken products for years.

RESULT: \$181 million in total settlements. The firm continues to litigate against remaining defendants

#### **ANIMATION WORKERS ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel for a nationwide class of approximately 10,000 animators and other artistic workers in an antitrust class-action case filed against Pixar, DreamWorks, The Walt Disney Company, Sony, Blue Sky Studios and others for allegedly conspiring to restrain competition to suppress compensation. The settlement resulted in a payment of more than \$13,000 per class member.

**RESULT:** \$169 million settlement

#### LITHIUM-ION BATTERIES ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman filed a class-action lawsuit against some of the largest electronics manufacturers for illegally fixing the price of lithium-ion batteries, pushing costs higher for consumers.

**RESULT:** \$113 million in total settlements

#### **APPLE IOS APP DEVELOPERS**

The firm achieved a \$100 million settlement with Apple on behalf of US iOS app developers and developers of in-app products sold on Apple's App Store following the filing of an antitrust class-action lawsuit. The suit accused Apple monopolized U.S. distribution for iOS apps and in-app digital products, resulting in commission overcharges to developers. The settlement brings important changes to App Store policies and practices, and U.S. iOS developers with less than \$1 million in annual proceeds from App Store sales can receive hundreds to tens of thousands of dollars in compensation.

**RESULT:** \$100 million settlement

#### **GOOGLE PLAY STORE APP DEVELOPERS**

The firm achieved a \$90 million settlement with Google on behalf of roughly 43,000 US Android app developers and developers of in-app products sold on Google's Play Store following the filing of an antitrust class-action lawsuit. The firm filed the class action against Google for violations of antitrust laws by illegally monopolizing markets for Android app distribution and in-app payment processing.

**RESULT:** \$90 million settlement

#### PORK ANTITRUST LITIGATION

In this antitrust class action, the firm's investigation revealed that since 2014, pork producers such as Tyson, Hormel and others colluded to knowingly reduce pork production to artificially inflate prices. The pork producers engaged in a conspiracy that has cost American consumers millions of dollars over the years, and so far Hagens Berman's antitrust team have achieved multiple settlements with defendants and continues to litigate claims against those remaining.

**RESULT:** \$95 million in settlements

#### GENERIC PHARMACEUTICAL PRICING ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman filed multiple lawsuits against numerous generic pharmaceutical companies for conspiring to increase and set prices on inexpensive, commonly used generic drugs. In 2022, U.S. District Judge Cynthia M. Rufe preliminarily approved \$86 million in settlements with Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Inc., Taro Pharmaceuticals USA Inc. and

Breckenridge Pharmaceutical Inc. for direct purchasers and indirect resellers to settle price-fixing allegations. The U.S. Department of Justice has since opened a criminal probe into the matter following Hagens Berman's case.

**RESULT:** \$86 million settlement

## **RELAFEN ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

In 2006, Judge William Young issued preliminary approval of a proposed settlement between GlaxoSmithKline and a class of consumers and third-party payors who purchased the drug Relafen or its generic alternatives. Under the terms of the settlement, the defendants paid damages of \$75 million to class members. Of the total settlement amount, \$25 million was allocated to consumers and \$50 million was used to pay the claims of insurers and other third-party payors.

**RESULT:** \$75 million settlement

#### **DAIRY PRICE-FIXING LITIGATION**

The firm filed a class-action suit against several large players in the dairy industry, including the National Milk Producers Federation, Dairy Farmers of America, Land O'Lakes, Inc., Agri-Mark, Inc. and Cooperatives Working Together that together produce nearly 70 percent of milk consumed in the U.S. The suit alleged the groups conspired to fix U.S. milk prices through an organized scheme to limit production, involving the needless, premature slaughtering of 500,000 cows.

**RESULT:** \$52 million settlement

#### PANASONIC RESISTORS ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman was co-lead counsel, representing direct purchasers of linear resistors, a device in electronics used to limit electric current, against an alleged cartel of manufacturers who conspired to limit linear resistor price competition for nearly a decade.

**RESULT:** \$50.25 million settlement

#### TOYS "R" US BABY PRODUCTS ANTITRUST LITIGATION

The complaint claimed Toys "R" Us and several baby product manufacturers violated provisions of the Sherman Antitrust Act by conspiring to inflate prices of high-end baby products, including car seats, strollers, high chairs, crib bedding, breast pumps and infant carriers. The lawsuit asked the court to end what it claims are anti-competitive activities and sought damages caused by the company's actions.

**RESULT:** \$35.5 million settlement

### **EA MADDEN NFL ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

The firm represented a class of consumers against Electronic Arts (EA) alleging it violated antitrust and consumer laws by inflating the price of EA-published videogames. The lawsuit alleged EA established agreements with the National Football League, The NFL Players Union, Arena Football League and the National Collegiate Athletic Association that drove competition out of the market and prevented new competitors from entering.

**RESULT:** \$27 million settlement

### **HOTEL ROOM OVERPRICING**

The nation's largest hotel chains settled a class-action lawsuit brought by consumers of hotel room reservations booked online. Consumers represented by Hagens Berman alleged hotel chains agreed to restrain competition for paid search advertising for hotel rooms associated with defendants' brand names, depriving consumers free, competitive information, and raising the price of hotel rooms booked online.

**RESULT:** The parties reached a confidential settlement.

#### REAL ESTATE COMMISSIONS ANTITRUST LITIGATION

The firm represents home sellers accusing the National Association of Realtors (NAR) and the largest real estate brokerage firms in the United States of conspiring to artificially inflate commissions associated with home sales – in part by implementing rules that require home sellers to pay commission to the agent representing the buyer. As of May 2024, the firm has reached \$980.9 million in settlements with all defendants in *Moehrl v NAR* and *Burnett v NAR*, and with some of the defendants in *Gibson v NAR*. The litigation is pending against remaining defendants in *Gibson v NAR*. The courts in *Moehrl* and *Burnett* certified damages and injunctive relief classes of sellers who sold their home through a Multiple Listing Service (MLS) during the relevant time periods, as well as current and future owners of residential real estate in affected jurisdictions who are currently listing or will list homes on an MLS. Class settlements encompass sellers who listed their homes on an MLS anywhere in the United States. In an order related to expert discovery, the court said that the buyer-broker policies challenged in the lawsuit facilitate "keeping buyers in the dark and severely restricting negotiations over buyer-broker commissions."

**RESULT:** The firm has reached settlements totaling over \$980.9 million. The court has granted final approval of the settlements with Anywhere Real Estate (\$83.5 mil lion), Keller Williams Realty Inc. (\$70 million), and RE/MAX (\$55 million). The Court has further granted preliminary approval of settlements with NAR (\$418 million), Compass (\$57.5 million), The Real Brokerage Inc. (\$9.25 million), Douglas Elliman (\$7.75 million), @properties (\$6.5 million), and Realty ONE (\$5 million). The case is pending against remaining defendants. The New York Times reported that Steve Brobeck, Ph.D., who served as the executive director of Consumer Federation of America for nearly four decades, estimates that the \$100 billion spent per year on residential real estate commissions will probably decline by between \$20 billion and \$50 billion, if the settlement with NAR is approved by the court.

PRACTICE AREAS

## Automotive – Defect, Fraud & Products Liability

In litigating cases, we strive to make an impact for large classes of consumers, especially those who fall victim to the gross negligence and lack of oversight of one of the nation's largest industries: auto manufacturing. Hagens Berman's automotive litigation team has repeatedly been named a Practice Group of the Year by Law360, highlighting its "eye toward landmark matters and general excellence" in this area of law.

The federal court overseeing the massive multi-district litigation against Toyota appointed the firm to co-lead one of the largest consolidations of class-action cases in U.S. history. The litigation combined more than 300 state and federal suits concerning acceleration defects tainting Toyota vehicles. Hagens Berman was selected from more than 70 law firms applying for the role. Since then, the firm's automotive practice area has grown at an unrivaled pace, pioneering new investigations into emissions-cheating, defects, false marketing and safety hazards affecting the wellbeing of millions of drivers.

Hagens Berman's work fighting corporate wrongdoing in the automotive industry has repeatedly earned it a spot in the National Law Journal's list of Elite Trial Lawyers, and the firm's auto team who worked on *Toyota* were also named finalists for Public Justice's Trial Lawyer of the Year award.

Our firm has been a leader in this area of law for nearly a decade, and our settled cases include the following matters related to public safety, defect mitigation and more.

## TOYOTA SUDDEN, UNINTENDED ACCELERATION LITIGATION

Steve Berman served as co-lead counsel for the economic loss class in this lawsuit filed on behalf of Toyota owners alleging a defect caused vehicles to undergo sudden, unintended acceleration. In addition to safety risks, consumers suffered economic loss from decreased value of Toyota vehicles following media coverage of the alleged defect.

**RESULT:** \$1.6 billion settlement, which was the largest automotive settlement in history at the time, surpassed only by the firm's future settlements

### HYUNDAI/KIA THETA II GDI ENGINE FIRE HAZARD LITIGATION I

As co-lead counsel against Hyundai and Kia, Hagens Berman helped secure a \$1.3 billion settlement on behalf of owners of cars affected by an engine defect causing spontaneous fires. The compensation includes lifetime warranty protection, software installation aimed to detect and prevent the engine defect, reimbursements for repair-related costs and lost value due to engine failures or fires, and payment for repair delays.

**RESULT:** \$1.3 billion settlement

## HYUNDAI/KIA ENGINE FIRE HAZARD LITIGATION II

Following the firm's \$1.3 billion settlement on behalf of owners of cars affected by an engine defect causing spontaneous fires in millions of Hyundai and Kia cars, Hagens Berman, which served as co-lead counsel in this case, also secured an additional settlement concerning engines not included in the first settlement. The newest settlement brings relief to owners of about 2.1 million vehicles with Gamma GDI and Nu GDI engines as well as Theta II MPI engines. "The

settlement is comprehensive in compensating class members for the harms suffered and providing protection against future harms," Judge Staton said, noting that the deal is substantially similar to the one finalized in May 2021 in In re Hyundai and Kia Engine Litigation, which was valued at up to \$1.3 billion.

RESULT: Settlement comparable to prior \$1.3 billion in In re Hyundai and Kia Engine Litigation

## HYUNDAI/KIA HYDRAULIC ELECTRONIC CONTROL UNIT (HECU) FIRE HAZARD LITIGATION

Hagens Berman filed this class-action lawsuit against automakers Hyundai and Kia on behalf of owners and lessees of approximately three million U.S. vehicles regarding a defect affecting the vehicles' hydraulic and electronic control units. The defect, which the lawsuit alleges Hyundai and Kia were aware of upon selling the affected vehicles, can cause electrical short-circuits and engine fires. Conservatively, plaintiffs' expert values the settlement in the range of \$326 million to \$652 million, depending on relief claimed by affected owners and lessors.

**RESULT:** Settlement valued at more than \$300 million

## **HYUNDAI KIA FUEL ECONOMY LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman sued Hyundai and Kia on behalf of owners after the car manufacturers overstated the MPG fuel economy ratings on 900,000 of their cars. The suit seeks to give owners the ability to recover a lump-sum award for the lifetime extra fuel costs, rather than applying every year for that year's losses.

RESULT: \$255 million settlement. Lump-sum payment plan worth \$400 million on a cash basis, and worth even more if owners opt for store credit (150 percent of cash award) or new car discount (200 percent of cash award) options.

#### TOYOTA, LEXUS DENSO FUEL PUMP LITIGATION

The firm filed this class action regarding a defect in the DENSO fuel pump installed in the affected Toyota and Lexus vehicles which can leave vehicle owners at risk of spontaneous vehicle shutdown, engine stall and other safety risks that increase the likelihood of a crash or injury.

RESULT: Settlement valued between \$212 million and \$288 million

## **HYUNDAI KIA CAR THEFT DEFECT LITIGATION**

Serving as co-lead counsel, the firm achieved swift relief in this class action stemming from Hyundai and Kia's failure to equip nearly nine million 2011-2022 models with an immobilizer, a common antitheft device in modern cars which prevents most vehicles from being started unless a code is transmitted from the vehicle's smart key. The lack of immobilizer in affected vehicles spawned viral "Kia Challenge" TikTok videos demonstrating simple measures "Kia Boys" take to steal affected Hyundai and Kia vehicles using only a common USB charging cord or similar metal object to start the engine, allowing thieves to steal them in less than 90 seconds.

**RESULT:** Settlement-in-principle valued at more than \$200 million

## **GENERAL MOTORS IGNITION SWITCH LITIGATION**

The firm served as co-lead counsel in a high-profile case on behalf of millions of owners of recalled GM vehicles affected by a safety defect linked to more than 120 fatalities. The lawsuit alleged GM did not take appropriate remedial measures, despite having prior knowledge of the defect.

**RESULT:** \$120 million settlement

## FIAT CHRYSLER (FCA) LOW OIL PRESSURE SHUT OFF LITIGATION

Hagens Berman represented owners of Chrysler, Dodge, Fiat, Jeep and Ram vehicles affected by a defect causing overconsumption of oil and spontaneous vehicle shut off during low oil pressure. In 2022 a federal judge approved a settlement for owners of vehicles with 2.4L TigerShark MultiAir II engines.

**RESULT:** \$108 million settlement

#### HONDA INFOTAINMENT SYSTEM LITIGATION

In 2019, owners of Honda vehicles filed a class-action lawsuit against the automaker for a defect affecting the vehicles' infotainment system which was prone to failing to boot, freezing during use and suffering general malfunctions and glitches. Owners reported the issues on vehicles with as few as 580 miles. The U.S. district judge called the settlement for vehicle owners a "significant effort" in light of the difficulties and complexities of the case.

**RESULT:** \$33 million settlement

#### FORD MYFORD TOUCH LITIGATION

Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel on behalf of owners of Ford vehicles equipped with MyFord Touch, an in-car communication and entertainment package, who claim that the flawed system put drivers at risk of an accident while causing economic hardship for owners. The complaint cites internal Ford documents that show that 500 of every 1,000 vehicles have issues involving MyFord Touch due to software bugs, and failures of the software process and architecture. Owners report that Ford has been unable to fix the problem, even after repeated visits.

**RESULT:** \$17 million settlement

#### **ACURA RDX INFOTAINMENT SYSTEM LITIGATION**

In this class-action lawsuit filed against American Honda Motor Co. Inc., owners of 2019 and 2020 Acura RDX vehicles accused the automaker of knowingly selling the vehicles with defective infotainment systems, posing a serious safety risk to drivers. The alleged defect causes many of the vehicles' features associated with the infotainment system to malfunction, including the navigation system, audio system, as well as safety features like the backup camera.

**RESULT:** \$10.5 million settlement

#### **TESLA AUTOPILOT AP2 ROLLOUT DELAY LITIGATION**

The firm filed a lawsuit against Tesla for knowingly selling nearly 50,000 cars with nonfunctional Enhanced Autopilot AP2.0 software that did not meet Tesla's promises, including inoperative Standard Safety Features on affected models sold in Q4 2016 and Q1 2017.

**RESULT:** \$5.4 million settlement

## **NISSAN QUEST ACCELERATOR LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman represented Nissan Quest minivan owners alleging their vehicles developed deposits in a part of the engine, causing drivers to apply increased pressure to push the accelerator down.

RESULT: Settlement providing reimbursement for cleanings or replacements and applicable warranty coverage

## PENDING LITIGATION AGAINST AUTOMAKERS

The firm has filed several pending cases against major automakers, including the following class actions promoting consumers' rights:

#### FCA CHRYSLER PACIFICA HYBRID MINIVAN ENGINE SHUTDOWN LITIGATION

Over 67,000 Chrysler plug-in hybrid electric vehicles are at risk for spontaneous power loss while the vehicle is in motion due to a serious wiring defect in the transmission of the gasoline-driven portion of the powertrain. The automaker's response to this potentially life-threatening issue falls short, leaving Chrysler customers with little recourse. According to a recall report filed with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in January 2023, 100% of 2017-2023 Chrysler Pacifica PHEVs are at risk for sudden engine shutoff due to this defect. Loss of motive power is total and comes without warning, giving drivers little or no opportunity to maneuver vehicles to safety, and can occur while moving at highway speeds.

### FCA CHRYSLER PACIFICA HYBRID MINIVAN FIRE HAZARD LITIGATION

In this automotive class-action lawsuit, the firm serves as co-lead counsel representing owners of 2017 and 2018 Chrysler Pacifica plug-in hybrid electric minivans. Twelve fires have been reported in Chrysler Pacifica hybrid minivans. All of the vehicles that caught fire were parked and turned off; eight of the 12 vehicles were plugged in and charging. In the recall report filed with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Chrysler said the "root cause is unknown." Hagens Berman filed a consolidated master complaint Nov. 4, 2022. The complaint highlights Fiat Chrysler's proposed "fix" as a "Hobson's choice foisted on consumers" that fails to solve the issue. Even after having the recall performed, at least two Hybrid Pacifica vehicles have exploded into flames in owners' garages and driveways. In December 2023, the federal judge overseeing the consolidated lawsuit denied Fiat Chrysler's motion to dismiss plaintiffs' claims.

#### FCA DODGE RAM 1500 & 1500 CLASSIC ECODIESEL TRUCKS EGR COOLER FIRE HAZARD LITIGATION

Hagens Berman represents owners of certain Dodge Ram 1500 trucks at risk for vehicle fire. Affected trucks have been built with defective EGR coolers that can crack due to thermal fatigue. This can allow coolant to leak into the running engine, which can result in combustion and a vehicle fire.

#### FCA MONOSTABLE GEARSHIFT LITIGATION

Over 811,000 Dodge Chargers, Chrysler 300s and Jeep Grand Cherokees were equipped with defective gear shifters that could cause the vehicles to roll away after the driver attempted to place the vehicle in park. The case went to trial, resulting in a mixed verdict in which the jury found the vehicles had a design defect under Utah law. Hagens Berman continues to pursue claims for damages on behalf of a class of owners/lessees from California and New York.

## FORD, GM, FCA, NISSAN CP4 HIGH-INJECTION FUEL PUMP DEFECT LITIGATION

Hagens Berman has filed multiple class-action lawsuits against the "Big Three" — Ford, GM, and FCA — in addition to Nissan on behalf of diesel truck owners due to a defective high-pressure fuel injection pump in affected vehicles. The defective part generates metallic shavings and can lead to catastrophic failure of the engine. The complaints allege defendants routinely denied repair under warranty, even though the repair costs at least \$7,000, and in some cases exceeds \$10,000. After Hagens Berman filed suit against FCA with respect to the 3.0-liter engine cars and trucks, FCA issued a safety recall for those vehicles. In March 2023, Hon. Bernard A. Friedman allowed the majority of claims against Ford to continue, and in that same month, Hon. Terrence Berg certified seven state-specific classes on behalf of GM truck owners. In June 2024, the firm filed a motion for preliminary approval of a settlement reached with GM.

### FORD ESCAPE, MAVERICK AND LINCOLN CORSAIR HYBRID FIRES LITIGATION

Ford has recalled more than 100,000 of its Escape, Maverick and Lincoln Corsair hybrid models manufactured since 2020 for a risk of spontaneously catching fire due to a safety defect. The issue has been traced to leaking fluid from the vehicles' engine block or oil pan. In response, rather than fix the faulty engine blocks and oil pans, Ford has issued "fix" instructions to its dealers that ask them to remove blinds from the grill shutter and drill holes in the floor of the engine compartment, potentially causing flammable fluids to drip into the roadway and owners' garages and driveways. The firm's class-action lawsuit against Ford was filed in August of 2022.

#### FORD MUSTANG MACH-E SHUTDOWN DEFECT LITIGATION

Owners of 2021-2022 Ford Mustang Mach-E vehicles filed a class-action lawsuit against the automaker in relation to a defective high voltage main battery contactor that can reportedly suddenly and unexpectedly cause the vehicle to lose power, disabling the engine and key safety features. The defect presents a high risk of crash, injury and death. Ford's remedies have so far been unsuccessful and may be increasing charging times and decreasing the engine power for owners.

#### HONDA CIVIC ELECTRONIC POWER STEERING DEFECT LITIGATION

The firm filed a class-action lawsuit accusing American Honda Motor Company of selling 2022-2023 Civics which it knew were equipped with dangerously faulty electronic power steering (EPS) systems. The EPS system failure occurs without warning and under various driving conditions, causing the vehicles to lose steering control at high speeds. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration opened a preliminary investigation after receiving 145 reports of "momentary increase in steering effort," described as "sticky steering," which could result in the inability to avoid a road hazard.

#### **HYUNDAI, KIA & GENESIS EV BATTERY CHARGE DEFECT**

According to the suit, owners of Hyundai Ioniq 5s, Hyundai Ioniq 6s, Genesis GV60s and Kia EV6s experience vehicle charging ports overheating in as little as 30 minutes, causing charging sessions to repeatedly fail. The plaintiffs say this can leave them with unexpectedly empty vehicle batteries, and Hyundai's proposed fix for the problem is inadequate. The proposed class brings claims that the automakers violated the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act and various state consumer protection laws.

#### **TESLA MODEL S & MODEL X SOFTWARE BATTERY DRAIN DEFECT LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman has filed a lawsuit on behalf of owners and lessors of Tesla Model S and Model X vehicles, alleging that Tesla's automatic software updates are responsible for a drastic drop in battery performance and driving range in affected vehicles. In some cases, attorneys allege, the software update renders batteries fully inoperable, and drivers are told they must purchase a new \$15,000 battery.

#### **VW ATLAS WIRING HARNESS DEFECT LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman represents owners and lessors of more than 222,000 defective Volkswagen Atlas vehicles affected by a dangerous manufacturing defect in the door wiring harness. The defect can cause vehicles' systems to malfunction, affecting the functionality of airbags, brakes and more. This defect can place drivers, passengers and other traffic or pedestrians in immediate safety risk and danger of crashes.

PRACTICE AREAS

## Automotive – Emissions Cheating

Having filed the first Dieselgate case in the country, Hagens Berman played a lead role in the record-breaking Volkswagen diesel emissions litigation. But Hagens Berman knew the story didn't end there. Since the Dieselgate scandal, the firm has uniquely dedicated resources to uncovering cheating devices used by other automakers. We have become a trailblazer in this highly specialized realm, outpacing federal agencies in unmasking fraud in emissions reporting.

When news broke in 2015 of Volkswagen's massive diesel emissions-cheating scandal, Hagens Berman was the first law firm in the nation to file suit against the automaker for its egregious fraud, going on to represent thousands of owners in litigation and take a leading role on the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee that would finalize a \$14.7 billion, record-breaking settlement for affected owners. Since this case emerged, Hagens Berman has remained on the forefront of emissions litigation, relying on our legal team's steadfast and intensive investigative skills to unearth many other emissions-cheating schemes perpetrated by BMW, General Motors, Fiat Chrysler, Mercedes and other automakers, staying one step ahead of government regulators in our pursuit of car manufacturers that have violated emissions standards and regulations, as well as consumer confidence.

Hagens Berman's managing partner, Steve Berman, has dedicated the firm's resources to upholding the rights of consumers and the environment. The firm is uniquely dedicated to this cause and is the only firm that has purchased an emissions testing machine to determine if other diesel car manufacturers install cheating devices. The firm brings new cases based on its own research, time and testing.

## **VOLKSWAGEN DIESEL EMISSIONS LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman was the first law firm in the nation to file a lawsuit against Volkswagen for its emissions fraud, seeking swift remedies for consumers affected by its fraud and violation of state regulations. The firm was named to the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee leading the national fight against VW, Porsche and Audi on behalf of owners and lessors of affected vehicles and also served as part of the Settlement Negotiating team in this record-breaking achievement.

**RESULT:** \$14.7 billion settlement, the largest automotive settlement in history

## **VOLKSWAGEN FRANCHISE DEALERS EMISSIONS LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman served as lead counsel in a first-of-its-kind lawsuit brought by a franchise dealer. Three family-owned Volkswagen dealers filed a class action against VW for intentionally defrauding dealers by installing so-called "defeat devices" in its diesel cars that cause them direct harm. The suit states VW separately carried out a systematic, illegal pricing and allocation scheme that favored some dealers over others and illegally channeled financing business to VW affiliate, Volkswagen Credit Inc. The settlement received nearly unanimous approval, with 99 percent participation in the settlement.

**RESULT:** \$1.67 billion settlement

#### MERCEDES BLUETEC EMISSIONS LITIGATION

Hagens Berman was appointed co-lead counsel in this class action representing thousands of vehicle owners against Mercedes concerning emissions-cheating in its BlueTEC diesel vehicles. The lawsuit states Mercedes told vehicle owners and lessees their diesel cars were "the world's cleanest and most advanced diesel," when in fact testing indicated a systemic failure to meet emissions standards. Low temperature testing at highway speeds for example, produced emissions that were 8.1 to 19.7 times the highway emissions standard; at variable speeds, testing produced emissions as high as 30.8 times the standard, according to the firm's independent testing.

Since the case settled, Hagens Berman has taken an advisory role in the emissions-cheating litigation against Mercedes' parent company, Daimler, filed in Australia. The firm looks to build upon its existing win against Mercedes for emissions cheating in its vehicles sold in the U.S. and support Australians who were similarly deceived.

**RESULT:** \$700 million settlement

# FIAT CHRYSLER ECODIESEL EMISSIONS LITIGATION

The firm led charges against Fiat Chrysler that it sold hundreds of thousands of EcoDiesel-branded vehicles that release illegally high levels of NOx emissions, despite explicitly selling these "Eco" diesels to consumers who wanted a more environmentally friendly vehicle. Hagens Berman was the first firm in the nation to uncover this scheme and file against Fiat Chrysler on behalf of owners of affected Dodge RAM 1500 and Jeep Grand Cherokee EcoDiesel vehicles. Following the firm's groundbreaking suit, the EPA took notice, filing formal accusations against Fiat Chrysler.

**RESULT:** Settlement valued at \$307 million, dependent upon claims rate

#### PORSCHE EMISSIONS LITIGATION

This lawsuit claimed fuel economy inaccuracies in half a million 2005 to 2020 Volkswagen and Porsche gasoline models, and in 2022, a federal judge granted preliminary approval of an \$80 million settlement agreement regarding emissions-cheating claims. Under the settlement, consumers in the most basic bracket of the class can receive payments from \$250 to \$1,109 per vehicle, and those who purchased higher-performance vehicles can receive an additional \$250 in compensation, with other payments of \$200 per vehicle available to other eligible class members.

**RESULT:** \$80 million settlement

# **AUDI EMISSIONS LITIGATION**

In 2016, Hagens Berman unearthed additional emissions-cheating by Audi, affecting its gasoline 3.0-liter vehicles. The firm's investigation revealed a newly discovered defeat device installed in gasoline engines which changed how the transmission operated when testing was detected to lower CO2 emissions, but otherwise allowed excessive CO2 emissions in normal, on-road driving. The firm was appointed lead counsel.

**RESULT:** The lawsuit was folded into the Volkswagen Dieselgate multidistrict litigation. The settlement benefited more than 88,000 vehicle owners and resulted in vehicle buybacks valued at more than \$30,000 for some class members.

#### PENDING LITIGATION AGAINST AUTOMAKERS

The firm is currently litigating many pending cases against major automakers regarding emissions, including the following:

# **CHEVY CRUZE DIESEL EMISSIONS LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman filed a class-action lawsuit against Chevrolet (a division of General Motors) and Robert Bosch, LLC for installing emissions-cheating software in Cruze Clean Turbo Diesel cars, forcing consumers to pay high premiums for vehicles that pollute at illegal levels. While Chevy marketed these cars as a clean option, testing by an expert retained by Hagens Berman revealed the cars' emissions are often up to 36 times the federal standard. In a recent ruling, U.S. District Judge Thomas L. Ludington upheld the bulk of the owners' claims, and admitted the extensive emissions testing, software analysis, marketing and damages testimony offered by experts retained by Hagens Berman on behalf of Cruze

owners. In 2022, Judge Ludington excluded one of GM's experts and ruled on GM's and Bosch's motions for summary judgment, allowing the bulk of plaintiffs' claims to proceed.

#### **BMW X5 & 335D EMISSIONS LITIGATION**

Based on BMW's marketing, consumers who purchased its X5 Diesel and 335d vehicles assumed they were making a choice that was better for the environment than other options. BMW told the public that the vehicles "met emissions standards in all 50 states," that "BMW Efficient Dynamics" meant "Less emissions," that its engines "protect the environment every day," were "environmentally friendly," and turned nitric oxides (harmful pollutants in diesel exhaust) "into environmentally compatible nitrogen and water vapor." In reality, the 2009-2013 BMW X5 diesel and 2009-2011 335d vehicles emit harmful pollutants and emissions many times above legal emissions standards. A federal judge granted preliminary approval to a settlement valued at \$6 million and preliminarily appointed Hagens Berman co-class counsel for the settlement class.

#### **DODGE RAM 2500/3500 DIESEL EMISSIONS LITIGATION**

According to the firm's investigation, Dodge has sold hundreds of thousands of Dodge RAM 2500 and 3500 trucks equipped with Cummins diesel engines that release illegally high levels of NOx emissions because fuel is diverted and burned to clear out the soot in the emission system. The firm is leading a national class action against Fiat Chrysler and Cummins (the engine manufacturer) for knowingly inducing consumers to pay premium prices for vehicles that exceed emissions standards, and lead to decreased fuel economy and higher costs because of the wasted fuel. Hagens Berman has also determined that there is a defeat device in these vehicles.

# **GENERAL MOTORS DURAMAX EMISSIONS LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman recently pioneered another instance of diesel emissions fraud. The firm's independent testing revealed that GM had installed an emissions-masking defeat device in its Duramax trucks, including Chevy Silverado and GMC Sierra models, in a cover-up akin to Volkswagen's Dieselgate concealment. In real world conditions the trucks frequently emit 1.6 - 2.5 times the legal limit of deadly NOx pollutants and have been observed emitting almost 50 times the federal standard. Emissions cheating devices are installed in an estimated 705,000 affected vehicles.

PRACTICE AREAS

# Consumer Protection – General Class Litigation

Hagens Berman is a leader in protecting consumers, representing millions in large-scale cases that challenge unfair, deceptive and fraudulent practices.

We realize that consumers suffer the brunt of corporate wrongdoing and have little power to hold companies responsible or to change those tactics. We believe that when backed by a tenacious spirit and determination, class action cases have the ability to serve as a powerful line of defense in consumer protection.

Hagens Berman pursues class litigation on behalf of clients to confront fraudulent practices that consumers alone cannot effectively dispute. We make consumers' concerns a priority, collecting consumer complaints against suspected companies and exploring all avenues for prosecution.

Hagens Berman's legacy of protecting consumer rights reflects the wide spectrum of scams that occur in the marketplace. The cases that we have led have challenged a variety of practices such as:

- False, deceptive advertising of consumer products and services
- False billing and over-charging by credit card companies, banks, telecommunications providers, power companies, hospitals, insurance plans, shipping companies, airlines and Internet companies
- Deceptive practices in selling insurance and financial products and services such as life insurance and annuities
- Predatory and other unfair lending practices, and fraudulent activities related to home purchases

A few of our notable settlements include:

# T-MOBILE DATA BREACH LITIGATION (2021)

Hagens Berman served a court-appointed position on the Executive Committee in this consumer class action against T-Mobile for a data breach affecting 7.8 million subscribers, as well as 40 million people who had applied for credit with T-Mobile. T-Mobile also reported that approximately 850,000 active T-Mobile prepaid customers names, phone numbers and PIN numbers were exposed, as well as up to 52,000 names of customers related to current Metro by T-Mobile accounts.

**RESULT:** \$350 million settlement pending preliminary approval

#### BANK OF AMERICA COUNTRYWIDE APPRAISAL RICO LITIGATION

Hagens Berman filed a nationwide class-action lawsuit against Bank of America, Countrywide Financial and appraisal firm, LandSafe Inc. on behalf of a class of home buyers alleging defendants carried out a series of phony appraisals in an attempt to secure more loans.

**RESULT:** \$250 million settlement

#### STERICYCLE CONTRACT LITIGATION

The firm served as court-appointed lead counsel in a class-action lawsuit against Stericycle alleging that the company violated contracts and defrauded them by hundreds of millions of dollars through an automatic price-increasing scheme. In February of 2017, a federal judge certified a nationwide consumer class. The class had more than 246,000 class members, with damages estimated preliminarily at \$608 million.

**RESULT:** \$295 million settlement

# **NOTEWORLD/MERACORD DEBT SETTLEMENT LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman filed its lawsuit in 2011 on behalf of consumers nationwide, claiming the company violated Washington law and the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act by conspiring with debt settlement providers to defraud consumers through trust accounts related to useless debt-settlement programs. Following years of plaintiff victories in the District Court and in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal, Judge Settle granted plaintiffs' motion for class certification and default final judgment against the Tacoma, WA company after Meracord ceased defending itself from plaintiffs' claims.

**RESULT:** \$1.45 billion default judgment

#### **APPLECARE WARRANTY LITIGATION**

The firm represented a class of Apple device owners claiming that Apple violated consumer laws, illegally charging customers premium prices for what they believed to be new replacement devices under its AppleCare/AppleCare+ programs. Attorneys for the class estimate the settlement will cover between 3.5 and 4 million refurbished Apple devices.

**RESULT:** \$95 million settlement has been preliminarily approved

# **BANK OF AMERICA MILITARY CUSTOMER FRAUD LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman filed a class-action lawsuit alleging that Bank of America violated the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, the Truth in Lending Act and North Carolina's Unfair and Deceptive Trade Practices Act. The suit also accused Bank of America of violating common law, including breach of contract, negligence and negligent misrepresentation.

**RESULT:** \$250 million settlement

# MIDLAND NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE LITIGATION

Hagens Berman filed a class-action lawsuit against Midland National Life Insurance Company claiming it engaged in a scheme to reap profits by exploiting and preying on senior citizens. The complaint states Midland National knowingly sold deferred annuity products to senior citizens that would not mature until after the annuitant's life expectancy. The 2012 settlement benefited more than 70,000 senior citizens.

**RESULT:** \$80 million settlement

# **LUMBER LIQUIDATORS FLOORING PRODUCTS LIABILITY LITIGATION**

National laminate wood flooring company Lumber Liquidators Inc. reportedly sold flooring tainted with hazardous levels of formaldehyde to consumers across the country. Hagens Berman represented consumers who purchased composite wood flooring products from the company in a class-action lawsuit.

**RESULT:** \$36 million settlement

#### CHASE FORCE-PLACED INSURANCE LITIGATION

Hagens Berman filed a lawsuit on behalf of a proposed class of JPMorgan Chase borrowers nationwide whose home loans were serviced by Chase. The lawsuit alleged Chase illegally charged homeowners for inferior and often unnecessary flood insurance at premium rates nearly 10 times the market rate for similar policies.

**RESULT:** \$22 million settlement

# **COVID-19 COLLEGE TUITION & FEES REIMBURSEMENT**

In 2020, as the COVID-19 pandemic unfolded, Hagens Berman sought to represent tuition and fee payers in class-action lawsuits seeking reimbursement for parents and guardians of college students or college students for tuition, fees and other expenses at colleges and universities across the nation. Hagens Berman believes that institutions of higher learning had no right to keep these charges given the coronavirus outbreak and lack of options to students, as college campuses closed. The firm has so far settled cases with Brown University, Quinnipiac University and Rutgers University, with several active cases pending.

**RESULT:** \$9 million in combined settlements so far

# TREX AND FIBER COMPOSITES LLC PORTICO DECKING

Hagens Berman filed multiple class-action lawsuits against the makers of composite decking, including Fiber Composites LLC and Trex. The lawsuits were filed on behalf of consumers and alleged that the companies failed to uphold their promises to their customers, calling out defects in their decking including mold, fading and decking prone to fungus.

**RESULT:** More than \$8 million in combined settlement

# WALMART ORGANIC MILK MARKETING AND SALES PRACTICES LITIGATION

The firm filed a lawsuit against Wal-Mart alleging the organic milk sold in stores under the Great Value label isn't organic. The lawsuit named Aurora Dairy Corp. as the milk producer and supplier for Wal-Mart.

**RESULT:** \$7.5 million settlement

## **TENET HEALTHCARE**

In a pioneering suit filed by Hagens Berman, plaintiffs alleged that Tenet Healthcare charged excessive prices to uninsured patients at 114 hospitals owned and operated by Tenet subsidiaries in 16 different states.

**RESULT:** Settlement under which class members received amounts paid in excess of certain thresholds over a four-and-a-half-year period

# **HOMEBUILDER AND REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman has filed multiple class-action lawsuits against homebuilders and real estate development companies on behalf of homeowners seeking damages for alleged poor construction, depressed property values and unfair and deceptive practices often preying on elderly communities.

**RESULT:** The parties reached confidential settlements

#### WELLS FARGO FORCE-PLACED INSURANCE

Hagens Berman brought a case against Wells Fargo alleging it used "force-placed" insurance clauses in mortgage agreements, a practice that enables the bank to charge homeowners insurance premiums up to 10 times higher than normal rates.

**RESULT:** All class members received checks for more than double the amount of commissions that Wells Fargo wrongfully extracted from the force placement of insurance on class members' properties

#### AMERICAN EQUITY INVESTMENT LIFE INSURANCE LITIGATION

The firm served as co-counsel in a case against American Equity Investment Life Insurance Company that claimed the company knowingly engaged in an unethical and fraudulent scheme targeted towards senior citizens.

**RESULT:** The parties reached a confidential settlement

#### **CARRIER IQ CELL PHONE CONSUMER PRIVACY LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel in this class-action lawsuit claiming that smartphone manufacturers HTC Corporation, HTC America Inc. and Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd. used software developed by Carrier IQ Inc. that illegally intercepted incoming text messages and captured users' keystrokes, including those used to compose email and text messages or to dial numbers, without consumers' knowledge or permission.

**RESULT:** The parties reached a confidential settlement

#### AMAZON CONSUMER PROTECTION LITIGATION

The firm has filed several active consumer-rights class actions against Amazon Inc. In one active matter, Hagens Berman represents a proposed class of consumers seeking to hold Amazon accountable for its alleged use of "dark patterns" to deceive users into subscribing to Amazon Prime, or complicate the process of unsubscribing. Since the firm's lawsuit, the Federal Trade Commission filed a complaint against Amazon for the same actions, bolstering the firm's existing claims.

Hagens Berman's consumer attorneys have also taken up the fight against the retail giant for its alleged price gouging that occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, causing massive price spikes for essential goods including food, personal hygiene products and other emergency or medical supplies, allegedly violating California state consumer-protection laws.

# **CBL & ASSOCIATES UTILITY CHARGES**

In this class-action lawsuit, the firm represents past and present small business tenants of CBL & Associates, a real estate investment trust. The lawsuit accuses CBL of illegally overcharging thousands of its mall tenants for years through a calculated "criminal enterprise" of inflated electricity charges, charging tenants up to 100 percent more than the cost of electricity actually used, in violation of its own lease agreements and state law.

# **ONEWHEEL SHUT OFF DEFECT**

Consumers have reported sudden shutoffs and nosedives while operating Future Motion Inc.'s OneWheel electronic skateboards that launch riders from the board at potentially high speeds and steep angles. The boards have since been recalled yet Future Motion has yet to remedy the defect causing sudden loss of power. Hagens Berman filed its class action in 2022, seeking damages on behalf of consumers.

# **EVENFLO BIG KID BOOSTER CAR SEAT**

Hagens Berman has been appointed co-lead counsel in a class-action lawsuit pertaining to a dangerous and defective line of child booster seats sold by Evenflo. Testing revealed Evenflo's Big Kid car seats place children weighing less than 40 pounds at grave risk of injury in the event of a car crash, especially side-impact collisions. Despite selling its Big Kid booster seat as safe for kids that weigh less than 40 pounds and "side impact tested," Evenflo does not tell consumers that its own tests showed a child seated in its booster could be in danger in such a crash.

# **CONSUMER INSURANCE LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman has pioneered theories to ensure that, in first- and third-party contexts, consumers and health plans always receive the treatment and benefits to which they are entitled. Many of our cases have succeeded in expanding coverage owed and providing more benefits; recovering underpayments of benefits; and returning

uninsured/underinsured premiums from the misleading tactics of the insurer. The firm's existing cases include pending litigation against Allstate and CNA Casualty Company.

# ADDITIONAL CONSUMER-FACING LITIGATION

The firm's core ethos of bringing positive change to large numbers of affected individuals in need of recourse means that the vast majority of our cases benefit consumers directly. Many of these matters fall under additional complex areas of law. For additional consumer-facing litigation, settlements and victories see our work in the areas of antitrust price-fixing, automotive litigation and emissions cheating.

PRACTICE AREAS

# Consumer Protection – Drug and Supplement Litigation

Hagens Berman aggressively pursues pharmaceutical industry litigation, fighting against waste, fraud and abuse in healthcare. For decades, pharmaceutical manufacturers have been among the most profitable companies in America. But while pharmaceutical companies become richer, consumers, health plans and insurers pay higher costs for prescription and over-the-counter drugs and supplements. We shine the light of public scrutiny on this industry's practices and represent individuals, direct and indirect purchasers, and the nation's most forward-thinking public-interest groups.

The firm's pharmaceutical and dietary supplement litigation practice is second to none in the nation in terms of expertise, commitment and landmark results. Hagens Berman's attorneys have argued suits against dozens of major drug companies, and the firm's aggressive litigation against the pharmaceutical industry has recovered settlements valued at more than \$3.8 billion.

# RECENT ANTITRUST RESOLUTIONS

In the last few years, Hagens Berman — as lead or co-lead class counsel — has garnered significant settlements in several antitrust cases involving prescription drugs. In each case, the plaintiffs alleged that a manufacturer of a brand-name drug violated federal or state antitrust laws by delaying generic competitors from coming to market, forcing purchasers to buy the more expensive brand name version instead of the generic equivalent. Examples of our recent successes include:

# **ZETIA ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman served as court-appointed lead counsel in this class-action lawsuit representing a class of direct purchasers of Merck's blockbuster cholesterol drug, Zetia. The lawsuit against pharma giant Merck and generic drugmaker Glenmark alleges the two colluded to illegally delay the market entry of generic versions and settled in 2024.

**RESULT:** Confidential settlement valued at hundreds of millions of dollars

# **GLUMETZA ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

The court denied summary judgment and paved the way for trial in this litigation against brand and generic manufacturers of the diabetes drug Glumetza. Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel for the direct purchaser class. U.S. District Judge William Alsup approved \$453.85 million in settlements resolving direct purchasers' allegations. The result was the largest antitrust recovery to receive final approval in 2022.

**RESULT:** \$453.85 million settlement

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#### SUBOXONE ANTITRUST LITIGATION

Hagens Berman was co-lead counsel for a class of direct purchasers in this pharmaceutical antitrust class action MDL alleging defendants violated federal antitrust laws by delaying generic competition for its blockbuster opioid addiction medicine, Suboxone. The complaint alleges this scheme succeeded, and purchasers incurred substantial damages as a result.

**RESULT:** \$385 million settlement

# **RANBAXY ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel representing Meijer Inc. and Meijer Distribution Inc. in a class-action lawsuit against drug maker, Ranbaxy. The lawsuit alleged it recklessly stuffed the generic drug approval queues with grossly inadequate applications, deceiving the FDA into granting tentative approvals to lock in statutory exclusivities to which Ranbaxy was not entitled and that it brandished these undeserved exclusivities to exclude others while its own applications floundered, all at the direct expense of U.S. drug purchasers. The settlement was part of a \$485 million total settlement for all plaintiffs in the case. The result was the second largest antitrust recovery to receive final approval in 2022.

**RESULT:** \$340 million settlement

#### **FLONASE ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman represented purchasers in this case alleging pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline filed petitions to prevent the emergence of generic competitors to its drug Flonase, all to overcharge consumers and purchasers of the drug, which would have been priced lower had a generic competitor been allowed to come to market.

**RESULT:** \$150 million settlement

#### **PROGRAF ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman represented purchasers who alleged Astellas Pharma US, Inc. unlawfully maintained its monopoly and prevented generic competition for Prograf, an immunosuppressant used to help prevent organ rejection in transplant patients, harming purchasers by forcing them to pay inflated brand name prices for longer than they should have absent the anticompetitive conduct.

**RESULT:** \$98 million settlement

#### **RELAFEN ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman filed a class-action lawsuit against GlaxoSmithKline, SmithKline Beecham Corporation, Beecham Group PLC and SmithKline Beecham PLC, on behalf of consumers and third-party payors who purchased the drug Relafen or its generic alternatives. The suit alleged that the companies who manufacture and sell Relafen unlawfully obtained a patent which allowed them to enforce a monopoly over Relafen and prevented competition by generic prescription drugs, causing consumers to pay inflated prices for the drug.

**RESULT:** \$75 million settlement, \$25 million of which was allocated to consumers and \$50 million paid the claims of insurers and other third-party payors

#### SKELAXIN ANTITRUST LITIGATION

The firm represented purchasers in this case alleging King Pharmaceuticals LLC and Mutual Pharmaceutical Company alleging conspired to suppress generic competition and preserve King's monopoly in the market for the brand name muscle relaxant Skelaxin.

**RESULT:** \$73 million class settlement

#### TRICOR ANTITRUST LITIGATION

In June 2005, Hagens Berman filed an antitrust lawsuit on behalf of a class of consumers and third-party payors against pharmaceutical manufacturers Abbott Laboratories and Fournier Industries concerning the brand name cholesterol drug Tricor. HBSS was appointed co-lead class counsel by the Court.

**RESULT:** \$65.7 million settlement

#### **ALLERGAN RESTASIS LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman served as court-appointed interim lead counsel for a proposed class of direct purchasers of the Allergan Inc. dry-eye emulsion, Restasis. The lawsuit accused the drugmaker fraudulently obtained a series of patents for Restasis by misrepresenting that clinical trials newly showed that a lower strength Restasis formulation worked better than a stronger version.

**RESULT:** \$51.25 million settlement

#### FRAUDULENT DRUG PRICING RESOLUTIONS

Hagens Berman has led many complex cases that take on fraud and inflated drug prices throughout the U.S. This includes sweeping manipulation of the average wholesale price benchmark used to set prices for prescription drugs nationwide, fraudulent marketing of prescription drugs and the rampant use of co-pay subsidy cards that drive up healthcare costs. These efforts have led to several significant settlements:

#### MCKESSON AND FIRST DATABANK DRUG LITIGATION

The firm discovered a far-reaching fraud by McKesson and became lead counsel in this RICO case against McKesson and First DataBank, alleging the companies fraudulently inflated prices of more than 400 prescription drugs. Following the culmination of this case, states and federal government then used Hagens Berman's work to bring additional suits. Hagens Berman represented several states and obtained settlements three to seven times more than that of the Attorneys General. Almost \$1 billion was recovered from the McKesson fraud.

**RESULT:** \$350 million settlement and a four percent rollback on the prices of 95 percent of the nation's retail branded drugs, the net impact of which could be in the billions of dollars

## **AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICE DRUG LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel and lead trial counsel in this sprawling litigation against most of the nation's largest pharma companies, which alleges defendants artificially inflated Average Wholesale Price. Hagens Berman's work in this area led to many state governments filing suit and hundreds of millions in additional recovery.

**RESULT:** Approximately \$338 million in settlements

# FRAUDULENT MARKETING RESOLUTIONS

Hagens Berman also litigates against drug companies that fraudulently promote drugs for uses not approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), commonly known as "off-label" uses. We also litigate cases against dietary supplement manufacturers for making false claims about their products. Recent successes include:

## **NEURONTIN THIRD-PARTY PAYOR LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman served as co-lead trial counsel in this case alleging that Pfizer fraudulently and unlawfully promoted the drug Neurontin for uses unapproved by the FDA.

**RESULT:** \$47 million jury verdict in favor of a single third-party payor plaintiff, automatically trebled to \$142 million, and court-approved a \$325 million class settlement

#### NEW ENGLAND COMPOUNDING CENTER MENINGITIS OUTBREAK

In 2012, the Center for Disease Control confirmed that New England Compounding Center sold at least 17,000 potentially tainted steroid shots to 75 clinics in 23 states across the country, resulting in more than 64 deaths and 751 cases of fungal meningitis, stroke or paraspinal/peripheral joint infection. HBSS attorneys Thomas M. Sobol and Kristen A. Johnson serve as Court-appointed Lead Counsel for the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee on behalf of plaintiff-victims in MDL 2419 consolidated before The Honorable Ray W. Zobel in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

**RESULT:** \$200 million settlement

# **LUPRON LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman prosecuted a lawsuit against TAP Pharmaceuticals Products, Inc. on behalf of a class of consumers and third-party payors who purchased the drug Lupron. The suit charged that TAP Pharmaceutical Products, Inc., Abbott Laboratories and Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited conspired to fraudulently market, sell and distribute Lupron, causing consumers to pay inflated prices for the drug.

**RESULT:** \$150 million settlement

#### **CELEBREX/BEXTRA LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman filed a class-action lawsuit against Pfizer on behalf of individual consumers and third-party payors who paid for the drug Bextra. The firm was praised by Judge Breyer for its "unstinting" efforts on behalf of the class, adding, "The attorneys on both sides were sophisticated, skilled, professional counsel whose object was to zealously pursue their clients' interest, but not at the cost of abandoning the appropriate litigation goals, which were to see, whether or not, based upon the merits of the cases, a settlement could be achieved."

**RESULT:** \$89 million settlement

# **VIOXX THIRD PARTY PAYOR MARKETING AND SALES PRACTICES LITIGATION**

The firm served as lead counsel for third party payors in the Vioxx MDL, alleging that Merck & Co. misled physicians, consumers and health benefit providers when it touted Vioxx as a superior product to other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. According to the lawsuit. The drug had no benefits over less expensive medications but carried increased risk of causing cardiovascular events.

**RESULT:** \$80 million settlement

# **SERONO DRUG LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman served as lead counsel for a class of consumers and third-party payors in a suit alleging that global biotechnology company Serono, Inc. schemed to substantially increase sales of the AIDS drug Serostim by duping patients diagnosed with HIV into believing they suffered from AIDS-wasting and needed the drug to treat that condition.

**RESULT:** \$24 million settlement

# BAYER COMBINATION ASPIRIN/SUPPLEMENT LITIGATION

Hagens Berman served as lead counsel on behalf of consumers in a suit alleging that Bayer Healthcare LLC deceptively marketed Bayer® Women's Low-Dose Aspirin + Calcium, an 81 mg aspirin pill combined with calcium, and Bayer® Aspirin With Heart Advantage, an 81 mg aspirin pill combined with phytosterols. Plaintiffs alleged that Bayer overcharged consumers for these products or that these products should not have been sold, because these products were not FDA-approved, could not provide all advertised health benefits, and were inappropriate for long-term use.

**RESULT:** \$15 million settlement

PRACTICE AREAS

# **High Tech Litigation**

Hagens Berman routinely takes on the world's largest tech companies and has pending litigation against Facebook, Apple, Amazon and other Big Tech players for issues related to intellectual property, antitrust infringement, consumer rights and product defects affecting millions of individuals' daily lives.

#### **HIGH TECH LITIGATION ATTORNEYS**

Hagens Berman brings cutting edge cases against major tech companies. We leverage our resources, breadth of knowledge and expert litigation strategies against harmful anticompetitive practices, defective products and other instances of malfeasance perpetrated by Big Tech. While some of these companies believe they are too big to fail, our firm is well-practiced in uncovering wrongdoing and holding responsible parties accountable for widespread fraud, even when governing bodies are constrained by red tape and bureaucracy.

Hagens Berman also litigates claims against tech companies in the areas of trade secrets, IP and patent law, and we represent individual business owners as well as large groups of consumers.

#### HIGH TECH CLASS-ACTION CASES

Throughout Hagen's Berman's decades-long track record, some of our largest cases have been brought against Big Tech companies, resulting in monumental recoveries for our clients:

#### **APPLE E-BOOKS LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman served as co-lead counsel representing a class of Apple e-book purchasers claiming that Apple and five of the nation's top publishers, including HarperCollins Publishers, Hachette Book Group, Macmillan Publishers, Penguin Group Inc. and Simon & Schuster Inc. illegally fixed prices of electronic books. Working with the State Attorneys General in 33 jurisdictions. Hagens Berman reached settlements with the publishers, and after the Second Circuit confirmed its liability, Apple paid \$450 million to the consumer class, a combined settlement that provided more than twice the estimated losses suffered by consumers.

**RESULT:** \$568 million settlement

# **APPLE IOS APP STORE FEES LITIGATION**

In this lawsuit against Apple, the firm served as interim lead counsel and represented U.S. iOS developers. The lawsuit accused Apple of monopolizing distribution services for iOS apps and in-app digital products, resulting in commission overcharges.

**RESULT:** \$100 million and developer-friendly changes to the App Store's policies

## **GOOGLE PLAY STORE FEES LITIGATION**

The firm filed a class action on behalf of Android app developers against Google accusing it of violating antitrust laws by illegally monopolizing markets for Android app distribution and in-app payment processing. Hagens Berman was the

first to file a class case, led settlement negotiations and patterned the settlement with Google after its 2021 legal win against Apple regarding damages to iOS developers through Apple's App Store policies.

**RESULT:** \$90 million settlement

# **GOOGLE ADSENSE LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman represented a class of Google AdSense users who suffered unjust account suspensions.

**RESULT:** \$11 million settlement

#### PENDING LITIGATION AGAINST BIG TECH COMPANIES

The firm also has several pending litigations against Big Tech giants like Amazon, Apple and Facebook. Some of our most notable pending claims include:

#### AMAZON ANTITRUST VIOLATIONS

Independent investigations by Hagens Berman's legal team and expert antitrust attorneys have revealed that Amazon.com has violated federal antitrust price-fixing and monopoly laws, causing Amazon customers to pay artificially increased prices for products purchased online. In each of the pending cases, Hagens Berman was the first to file, and it serves as interim lead counsel, where leadership was contested. In two cases, representing consumers who purchased on and off Amazon Marketplace, Hagens Berman alleges a broad-reaching agreement between Amazon and the 2 million merchants that sell on its platform as third-party sellers. This agreement prevents third-party sellers from selling at lower prices anywhere else online, even if it costs them less to sell on other platforms and it would be more profitable to do so. This agreement substantially increases the price of virtually every product sold online and consolidates Amazon's iron hold on the online retail market. In a third suit, Hagens Berman alleges that Amazon's agreements with its suppliers likewise increase online consumer prices by restraining price competition from other online retailers. These agreements impose financial penalties on the suppliers, whenever Amazon reduces its own retail price to match a lower online price of the supplier's products. These penalties pressure suppliers to impose minimum retail prices and enforce them against Amazon's retail competitors that would otherwise sell at a lower price than Amazon. In other litigation, the firm also represents booksellers and is interim lead counsel, representing e-book purchasers in antitrust matters regarding those markets and Amazon's monopolistic practices that have harmed businesses and consumers alike.

#### **APPLE PAY ANTITRUST**

The firm filed a class-action lawsuit accusing Apple of intentionally monopolizing the billion-dollar mobile wallet market on iOS platforms, forcing payment card issuers to pay supracompetitive fees and stifling mobile wallet innovation. The lawsuit claims that Apple's antitrust behavior has led to upwards of \$1 billion in illicit annual revenue through Apple Pay fees paid by payment card issuers including credit unions and other small businesses.

# **FACEBOOK ANTITRUST**

Hagens Berman filed a class-action lawsuit alleging that Facebook gained an illegal monopoly by exploiting and selling user data. We believe Facebook utilized its own user data to identify emerging threats to its social-media monopoly without properly compensating consumers and without notifying them the extent to which their personal information was being used. A key attorney on the case at Hagens Berman was named co-lead counsel for the class of consumers.

# **NONPUBLIC INVESTIGATIONS**

Hagens Berman is also involved in a number of nonpublic investigations of tech companies for various forms of deception and harm to consumers and employees.

PRACTICE AREAS

# **Intellectual Property**

The Hagens Berman intellectual property team has deep experience in all aspects of intellectual property litigation. We specialize in complex and significant damages cases against some of the world's largest corporations.

The firm is primarily engaged in patent and copyright infringement litigation at this time. We represent intellectual property owners, including inventors, universities, non-practicing entities, authors and other groups whose patent and copyright portfolios represents a significant creative and capital investment.

Our current and recent engagements include the following:

# DISNEY, FOX, MARVEL, PARAMOUNT COPYRIGHT LITIGATION

Hagens Berman currently represents Rearden LLC in three cases against Hollywood film studios. The complaint alleges that the studios are liable for thousands of unauthorized copies of Rearden's groundbreaking MOVA facial performance capture software, used by the studios for CG characters that appeared in seven major motion pictures. The complaint also alleges infringement of the MOVA trademark.

# **ANGRY BIRDS TRADEMARK LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman represented a Seattle artist who filed a lawsuit against Hartz Mountain Corporation — one of the nation's largest producers of pet-related products — claiming the company illegally sold the artist's trademarked Angry Birds pet toy line to video game giant Rovio Entertainment Ltd, robbing her of millions of dollars of royalty fees.

**RESULT:** Settled under confidential terms

# **BOMBARDIER INC. PATENT LITIGATION**

The firm represented Arctic Cat Inc. in patent infringement litigation against Bombardier Recreational Products and BRP U.S. Inc. The complaint alleges that Bombardier's Sea-Doo personal watercraft infringe Arctic Cat's patents covering temporary steerable thrust technology used when the rider turns in off-throttle situations.

**RESULT:** \$46.7 million final judgment against defendants, trebling initial damages of \$15.5 million awarded in a unanimous jury verdict

# **NINTENDO PATENT LITIGATION**

The firm represented Japan-based Shinsedai Company in patent infringement litigation against Nintendo. The suit alleged that our client's patents were infringed by various sports games for the Nintendo Wii.

**RESULT:** Settled under confidential terms

# SAMSUNG, LG, APPLE PATENT LITIGATION

The firm represented FlatWorld Interactives LLC in patent litigation against Apple, LG and Samsung. The complaints allege that the defendants' mobile handsets, tablets, media players and other devices infringe a FlatWorld patent covering the use of certain gestures to control touchscreen displays.

**RESULT:** Settled under confidential terms

Hagens Berman is also skilled in other aspects of intellectual property law, including trademark, trade dress, unfair competition, and trade secret litigation.

Unlike other intellectual property firms, Hagens Berman only represents plaintiffs. This reduces the risk of potential conflicts of interest which often create delays in deciding whether or not to take a case at larger firms.

PRACTICE AREAS

# Investor Fraud – Individual and Class Action Litigation

Investing is a speculative business involving assessment of a variety of risks that can only be properly weighed with full disclosure of accurate information. No investor should suffer undue risk or incur losses due to misrepresentations related to their investment decisions.

Our attorneys work for institutional and individual investors defrauded by unscrupulous corporate insiders and mutual funds. The firm vigorously pursues fraud recovery litigation, forcing corporations and mutual funds to answer to deceived investors.

Hagens Berman is one of the country's leading securities litigation firms advising clients in both individual and class-action cases. The firm has experience, dedication and a team with the horsepower required to drive complex cases to exemplary outcomes. Our attorneys are authorities in an array of issues unique to federal and state securities statutes and related laws. We use a variety of highly experienced experts as an integral part of our prosecution team. A few notable successes on behalf of our investor clients include:

# CHINA MEDIAEXPRESS HOLDINGS, INC. SECURITIES LITIGATION

Hagens Berman served as lead counsel in the case alleging on behalf of a class of investors that China MediaExpress Holdings made false and misleading statements, including misrepresentations about its revenues, the number of buses in its network and the nature of its business relationships. The lawsuit resulted in relief for investors valued at \$535 million.

**RESULT:** \$535 million settlement

# **CHARLES SCHWAB YIELD PLUS SECURITIES LITIGATION**

Lead counsel, alleging fraud in the management of the Schwab YieldPlus mutual fund.

**RESULT:** \$235 million settlement

# **AEQUITAS CAPITAL MANAGEMENT SECURITIES LITIGATION**

Prosecuted class action against the bankers, lawyers and accountants who assisted Aequitas in carrying out a massive Ponzi scheme that defrauded investors of millions of dollars before the firm was shut down in 2016.

RESULT: \$234 million in total settlements, representing the largest settlement of a securities lawsuit in Oregon history.

#### JPMORGAN - MADOFF PONZI SCHEME LITIGATION

Case alleged that banking and investment giant JPMorgan was complicit in aiding Bernard Madoff's Ponzi scheme. Investors claim that JPMorgan operated as Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC's primary banker for more than 20 years.

**RESULT:** \$218 million settlement amount for the class and a total of \$2.2 billion paid from JPMorgan that will benefit victims of Madoff's Ponzi scheme

#### **MCKESSON**

Hagens Berman filed this class action investor-rights derivative action based on the McKesson board's failure to monitor and oversee the company's opioid distribution operations resulting in hundreds of millions of dollars of potential damages from scores of lawsuits filed against McKesson.

RESULT: \$175 million record-breaking derivative settlement and strong corporate governance changes

## **OPPENHEIMER SECURITIES LITIGATION**

Additional counsel for lead plaintiffs in class action alleging Oppenheimer misled investors regarding its Champion and Core Bond Funds.

**RESULT:** \$100 million settlement

#### **TREMONT**

Co-lead counsel in a case alleging Tremont Group Holdings (and its five Madoff feeder funds: Rye Select Broad Market Fund, L.P., Rye Select Broad Market Prime Fund, L.P., Rye Select Broad Market XL Fund, L.P., Rye Select Broad Market XL Portfolio Limited, and Rye Select Broad Market Portfolio Limited) breached its fiduciary duties by turning over \$3.1 billion to Bernard Madoff. On Sept. 14, 2015, after nearly two years of negotiations and mediation, the court granted final approval of the plan of allocation and distribution of the funds which markets estimate could yield investors as much as \$1.45 billion.

RESULT: \$100 million plus negotiated bankruptcy proceed resulting in distributions of over \$1 billion to investors

#### **BOEING**

Uncovered critical production problems with the 777 airliner documented internally by Boeing, but swept under the rug until a pending merger with McDonnell Douglas was completed.

**RESULT:** \$92.5 million record-breaking settlement

# **ZUORA, INC. SECURITIES LITIGATION**

The firm filed a securities fraud class action alleging misrepresentations and concealment of delays in implementing and integrating RevPro, the company's revenue recognition management software application. A \$75.5 million settlement provided significant relief to investors.

**RESULT:** \$75.5 million settlement

#### **MORRISON KNUDSEN**

Filed a shareholder class action alleging that MK's senior officers concealed hundreds of millions in losses.

**RESULT:** \$63 million settlement

# **RAYTHEON/WASHINGTON GROUP**

Charged Raytheon with deliberately misrepresenting the true financial condition of Raytheon Engineers & Constructors division in order to sell this division to the Washington Group at an artificially inflated price.

**RESULT:** \$39 million settlement

# THERANOS INVESTOR LITIGATION

Hagens Berman represented Theranos investors in a lawsuit that states that Theranos and its officers set in motion a publicity campaign to raise billions of dollars for Theranos and themselves, and to induce investors to invest in Theranos, all the while knowing that its "revolutionary" blood test technology was essentially a hoax. In a case of first impression, the court upheld the investor claims where plaintiffs did not directly purchase their securities from Theranos, Elizabeth Holmes and Sunny Balwani, but through funds whose purpose included investing in Theranos.

**RESULT:** The firm secured a confidential settlement with Theranos, Holmes and Balwani ending the suit. The settlement also allowed for continued public access to depositions, video and exhibits which were featured prominently in various podcasts and streaming services, including "Bad Blood the Final Chapter," Netflix's "The Inventor: Out for Blood in Silicon Valley" and Hulu's "The Dropout."

#### **U.S. WEST**

Represented shareholders of U.S. West New Vector in a challenge to the proposed buyout of minority shareholders by U.S. West

**RESULT:** Settlement achieved, resulting in a \$63 million increase in the price of the buyout, and the proposed buyout was stayed

Our current casework includes:

#### **SPAC LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman represents investors in a number of private securities class action lawsuits arising out of fraud and other misconduct in connection with private companies that went public through special purpose acquisition vehicle ("SPAC") business combinations.

SPACs are shell entities that raise money and list on an exchange, usually with the goal of merging with a private firm and taking it public. SPACS burst onto the scene in 2020, as a hot alternative to traditional initial public offerings, raising more than \$80 billion raised in 2020 and more than \$160 billion raised in 2021, alone.

The SEC has recently raised serious concerns regarding the information asymmetries, the potential for misleading information and fraud, and conflicts of interest inherent SPAC business combinations. Several high-profile SPAC debacles have resulted in serious allegations of green washing, false projections and other securities fraud, collectively costing investors billions of dollars in investment losses.

The Firm's attorneys, together with its investigators, accountants and economic consultants, are prosecuting a number of securities class actions brought on behalf of damaged SPAC investors. For example, Hagens Berman serves as the court-appointed counsel in Berkeley Lights, Danimer, Desktop Metal, Hyzon, and Redwire.

# **COVID-19-RELATED CLASS ACTIONS**

As COVID-19 has continued to spread across the United States, Hagens Berman has remained keenly focused on protecting investors from frauds, illicit schemes and other misconduct relating to COVID-19. For example, Hagens Berman investigated, filed a proprietary action and serves as court-appointed lead counsel in one of the first securities class actions arising from a fraudulent scheme for corporate insiders to profit from disseminating false and misleading information concerning a company's COVID-19 vaccine candidate, *In re Vaxart*, Inc. Sec. Litig., No. 3:20-cv-05949-VA (N.D. Cal.). The Firm and its co-counsel recently defeated in large part defendants' motions to dismiss in Vaxart.

#### **CANNABIS SECURITIES FRAUD**

The expanding legalization and sale of cannabis in not only the U.S. but globally, spurred a wave of cannabis-related initial public offerings and mergers and acquisitions. But as investors would later learn, the nascent industry was rife with accounting fraud, false projections and egregious insider trading. Hagens Berman currently serves as co-lead counsel in *In re Aurora Cannabis Inc. Securities Litigation*, 2:19-cv-20588-JMV-JBC (D. N.J.). The Firm and its-counsel also recently obtained a \$13 million settlement on behalf of investors in *Ortiz v. Canopy Growth Corp. et al.*, 2:19-cv-20543 (D. N.J.).

#### **U.S.-LISTED FOREIGN COMPANIES**

Investing in U.S.-listed foreign companies is a convenient way for U.S. investors to gain exposure to vast and fast-growing foreign economies. But the inability to inspect the audits of certain foreign firms, together with the spectacular collapses of several large issuers, have shined the light on rampant financial fraud at foreign issuers trading on American exchanges. The firm is currently leading the prosecution in a number of private securities class actions against U.S.-listed foreign companies, including against JOYY, Sasol, SOS and Wirecard.

#### **TECHNOLOGY SECTOR**

Claims of lucrative contracts, investments and acquisitions, or of new product lines are common ways in which issuers in the technology space are about to get investors excited about the company so that they will purchase shares. But in recent history, several high-profile technology firms have been accused of attempting to pump their share price through fictitious statements about their products, prospects and economic activity. The firm was appointed lead counsel in an action against a recent IPO cloud application company, *Roberts v. Zuora Inc. et al.*, 3:19-cv-03422 (N.D. Cal.), where the firm and its client have defeated defendants' motion to dismiss, certified a class of investors, and are preparing for trial. The firm was also appointed lead counsel against tech real-estate marketplace company Zillow over its failed houseflipping business, *Barua v. Zillow Group, Inc., et al.*, 2:21-cv-01551-TSZ (W. Wash.).

#### WHISTLEBLOWERS

In an effort to curb Wall Street excesses, Congress passed the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which built vigorous whistleblower protections into the legislation known as the "Wall Street Tip-Off Law." The law empowers the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission to award between 10 and 30 percent of any monetary sanctions recovered in excess of \$1 million to whistleblowers who provide information leading to a successful SEC enforcement. It also provides similar rewards for whistleblowers reporting fraud in the commodities markets.

Hagens Berman represents whistleblowers with claims involving violations of the Securities Exchange Act and the Commodities Exchange Act. Unlike traditional whistleblower firms who have pivoted into this area, Hagens Berman has a strong background and history of success in securities, antitrust and other areas of fraud enforcement, making us an ideal partner for these cases. Our matters before the SEC/CFTC include a range of claims, including market manipulation and fraudulent financial statements.

PRACTICE AREAS

# Personal Injury and Abuse

For nearly two decades, Hagens Berman's blend of professional expertise and commitment to our clients has made our firm one of the most well-respected and successful mass tort and personal injury law firms in the nation. We deliver exceptional results for our clients by obtaining impressive verdicts and settlements in personal injury litigation.

Our attorneys have experience in wrongful death, brain injury and other catastrophic injury cases, as well as deep experience in social work negligence, medical malpractice, nursing home negligence and sexual abuse cases.

Hagens Berman also has unparalleled experience in very specific areas of abuse law, recovering damages on behalf of some of the most vulnerable people in our society.

# **VEHICLE COLLISION/TRAUMATIC INJURIES**

Hagens Berman is an established leader in traumatic injury litigation. Our attorneys fight for the rights of injured athletes, slip-and-fall victims, victims of life-changing collisions and car crashes, those injured in the workplace and other victims of negligence who have suffered severe injuries. Our firm has successfully litigated personal injury claims involving traumatic brain injuries, spinal cord damage and other catastrophic injuries that require immediate care and leave victims physically, emotionally and financially vulnerable.

# MEDICAL MALPRACTICE

Litigating a medical malpractice case takes acute specialization and knowledge of medical treatments and medicine. Notwithstanding these facts, Hagens Berman pursues meritorious medical malpractice claims in instances where clients have suffered life-altering personal injuries. Our firm's personal injury attorneys handle medical malpractice cases with the dedication and detail necessary to make victims whole. Hagens Berman is very selective in accepting medical malpractice cases and has been successful in recovering significant compensation for victims of medical error and negligence.

# **NURSING HOME NEGLIGENCE**

Nursing home negligence is a growing problem throughout the nation. As our population ages, reports of elder abuse and nursing home negligence continue to rise. Today, elder abuse is one of the most rapidly escalating social problems in our society. Hagens Berman is uniquely qualified to represent victims of elder abuse and nursing home negligence. Our attorneys have secured outstanding settlements in this area of law and have committed to holding nursing homes accountable for wrongdoing.

# **SEXUAL ABUSE LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman has represented a wide spectrum of individuals who have been victims of sexual abuse, including children and developmentally disabled adults. We treat each case individually, with compassion and attention to detail and have the expertise, resources and track record to stand up to the toughest opponents. In the area of sexual abuse, our attorneys have obtained record-breaking verdicts, including the largest personal injury verdict ever upheld by an

appellate court in the state of Washington. More about Hagens Berman's sexual abuse practice can be found on the Sexual Abuse and Harassment practice area page.

#### **SOCIAL WORK NEGLIGENCE**

Social workers play a critical role in the daily lives of our nation's most vulnerable citizens. Social workers, assigned to protect children, the developmentally disabled and elderly adults, are responsible for critical aspects of the lives of tens of thousands of citizens who are unable to protect themselves. Many social workers do a fine job. Tragically, many do not. The results are often catastrophic when a social worker fails to monitor and protect his or her vulnerable client. All too often, the failure to protect a child or disabled citizen leads to injury or sexual victimization by predators. With more than \$40 million in recoveries on behalf of vulnerable citizens who were neglected by social workers, Hagens Berman is the most experienced, successful and knowledgeable group of attorneys in this dynamic area of law.

# **WORKPLACE INJURY**

While many workplace injury claims are precluded by workers' compensation laws, many instances of workplace injury are caused by the negligence and dangerous oversight of third parties. In these instances, victims may have valid claims. Hagens Berman's personal injury legal team has successfully brought many workplace injury claims, holding third parties liable for our clients' serious bodily injuries. This includes successfully litigating claims under the Washington Law Against Discrimination, which protects all people in the state from unfair and discriminatory practices in employment and public accommodations access.

PRACTICE AREAS

# **Sports Litigation**

Hagens Berman has one of the nation's most highly regarded sports litigation law practices. Our attorneys are the vanguard of new and innovative legal approaches to protect the rights of professional and college athletes in cases against large, well-financed interests, including the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), the National Football League (NFL), the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) and other sports governing institutions.

# NCAA SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANT-IN-AID LITIGATION

In a first-of-its-kind antitrust action and far-reaching case affecting approximately 40,000 Division I college athletes, Hagens Berman filed a class-action against the NCAA and its most powerful member conferences, including the Pac-12, Big Ten, Big-12, SEC and ACC, claiming these entities violated federal antitrust laws by drastically reducing the number of scholarships and financial aid student-athletes receive to an amount below the actual cost of attendance and far below what the free market would bear.

The damages portion of the case resulted in an estimated average amount of \$6,500 to each eligible class member who played his or her sport for four years.

In March of 2019, the firm as co-lead trial counsel on the injunctive aspect of the case obtained a court order that resulted in a change of NCAA rules limiting the financial treatment of athletes. That injunction was affirmed in a unanimous 9-0 Supreme Court victory, with the injunctive relief culminating in a monumental victory for plaintiffs in the case and for college athletes in years to come. The Court ruled that NCAA college athletes should be able to receive compensation from schools or conferences for athletic services other than cash compensation untethered to education-related expenses, prohibiting the NCAA from enforcing rules limiting those payments. The media called the firm's victory in the scholarships case against the NCAA a "major ruling" (ABC World News Tonight), that "will change the game" (ABC Good Morning America), "...the highest court left the NCAA unhoused and naked, with nothing left but its pretensions," (The Washington Post), it "delivered a heavy blow," (AP), and leaves the NCAA "more vulnerable than ever."

**RESULT:** \$208 million settlement regarding the damages portion of the case, 100% of estimated single damages, followed by a unanimous 9-0 decision in favor of plaintiffs from the U.S. Supreme Court regarding the injunctive portion. The media called the firm's victory in the scholarships case against the NCAA a "major ruling" (ABC World News Tonight), that "will change the game" (ABC Good Morning America), "...the highest court left the NCAA unhoused and naked, with nothing left but its pretensions," (The Washington Post), it "delivered a heavy blow," (AP), and leaves the NCAA "more vulnerable than ever."

# NCAA CONCUSSIONS LITIGATION

Cases of particular nationwide interest for fans, athletes and the general public involve numerous cases filed by Hagens Berman against the NCAA. Recently, the firm took on the NCAA for its failure to prevent concussions and protect student-athletes who suffered concussions. Steve Berman served as lead counsel in multi-district litigation and led the firm to finalize a settlement bringing sweeping changes to the NCAA's approach to concussion treatment and prevention.

The settlement's medical monitoring program is overseen by a medical science committee appointed by the court that screens and tracks concussions. Examinations include neurological and neurocognitive assessments to evaluate potential injuries. Each player now receives a seasonal baseline test to better assess concussions sustained during the season. All athletes who have sustained a concussion will now need to be cleared before returning to play. A medical professional trained in the diagnosis of concussions will be present at all games involving contact sports. The settlement also creates reporting mandates for concussions and their treatment.

**RESULT**: 50-year medical monitoring settlement funded by a \$70 million medical monitoring fund, paid by the NCAA and its insurers, as well as significant changes to and enforcement of the NCAA's concussion management policies and return-to-play guidelines

# NCAA & EA PLAYER NAME, IMAGE & LIKENESS (NIL) RIGHTS IN VIDEOGAMES

Hagens Berman attorneys represented student-athletes who claimed that the NCAA illegally used their names, images and likenesses in Electronic Arts' popular NCAA Football, Basketball and March Madness videogame series.

The firm began this case with the knowledge that the NCAA and member schools were resolute in keeping as much control over student-athletes as possible and fought hard to ensure that plaintiffs would not be exploited for profit, especially by the organization that vowed to prevent the college athletes from exploitation. Settlement checks were sent to about 15,000 players, with average amounts of \$1,100 and some up to \$7,600.

The firm also represented NFL legend Jim Brown in litigation against EA for improperly using his likeness in its NFL video games, culminating in a \$600,000 voluntary judgment offered by the video game manufacturer.

**RESULT**: Combined \$60 million settlement, marking the first time the NCAA agreed to a settlement that pays student-athletes for acts related to their participation in athletics

#### **CONTINUED NIL LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman has continued efforts against the NCAA in an additional pending antitrust case regarding NIL rights. In June 2020, the firm filed its case against the NCAA and the five most powerful conferences — the Pac-12, Big Ten, Big 12, SEC and ACC — claiming the defendants had knowingly violated federal antitrust laws in abiding by a particular subset of NCAA amateurism rules that prohibit college athletes from receiving anything of value in exchange for the commercial use of their name and likeness. The firm holds that the NCAA's regulations illegally limit the compensation that Division I college athletes may receive for the use of their NIL and athletic reputations.

In unanimously upholding the rights of NCAA athletes in *Alston*, Justice Gorsuch wrote the NCAA had sought "immunity from the normal operation of the antitrust laws," and Justice Kavanaugh stated, "The NCAA is not above the law." The firm looks forward to continuing to uphold that same sentiment regarding NCAA athlete NIL rights.

In July 2021, following the firm's victory in the *Alston* case and denial of defendants' motion to dismiss in the NIL Litigation, the NCAA chose to temporarily lift rules restricting certain NIL deals in what the firm believes will be the first step in another massive change in college sports to support college athletes.

#### FIFA & U.S. SOCCER CONCUSSIONS

Several soccer players filed a class action against U.S. Soccer's governing bodies, which led to life-changing safety measures brought to millions of U.S. youth soccer players. Players represented by Hagens Berman alleged these groups failed to adopt effective policies to evaluate and manage concussions, leaving millions of players vulnerable to long-lasting brain injury.

The settlement against six of the largest youth soccer organizations greatly diminished risks of concussions and traumatic head injuries. Prior to the settlement, no rule limited headers in children's soccer. The settlement also highlights the importance of on-staff medical personnel at youth tournaments. Under the settlement, youth players who have sustained a concussion during practice or a game will need to follow certain return-to-play protocols before they are allowed to play again. Steve Berman, a youth soccer coach, has seen first-hand the settlement's impacts and life-changing effects every time young athletes take to the field.

**RESULT**: New return-to-play guidelines, benchmarks for concussion measurement and safety protocols, as well as new safety guidelines throughout U.S. Soccer, including completely eliminating heading for youth soccer's youngest players

#### **NCAA TRANSFER ANTITRUST**

Hagens Berman took on the NCAA for several highly recruited college athletes whose scholarships were revoked after a coaching change, or after the student-athletes sought to transfer to another NCAA-member school. The suit claimed the organization's limits and transfer regulations violate antitrust law.

The firm's case hinges on a destructive double standard. While non-athlete students are free to transfer and are eligible for a new scholarship without waiting a year, and coaches often transfer to the tune of a hefty pay raise, student-athletes are penalized and forced to sit out a year before they can play elsewhere, making them much less sought after by other college athletic programs. Hagens Berman continues to fight for student-athletes' rights to be treated fairly and terminate the NCAA's anticompetitive practices and overbearing regulations that limit players' options and freedoms.

#### **POP WARNER**

Hagens Berman represented youth athletes who have suffered traumatic brain injuries due to gross negligence and filed a lawsuit on behalf of former Pop Warner football player Donnovan Hill and his mother Crystal Dixon. The suit claims that the league insisted Hill use improper and dangerous tackling techniques which left the then 13-year-old paralyzed from the neck down.

Hagens Berman sought to hold Pop Warner, its affiliates, Hill's coaches and members of the Lakewood Pop Warner board of directors accountable for the coaches' repeated and incorrect instruction that Hill and his teammates tackle opposing players by leading with the head. Sadly, months after the firm's settlement was reached in January 2016, 17-year-old Donnovan passed away. The firm believes that his case will continue to have a lasting impact on young athletes for generations and will help ensure safety in youth sports.

**RESULT:** Confidential settlement on behalf of Donnovan and his mother

#### **MLB FOUL BALL INJURIES**

Hagens Berman filed a class-action lawsuit on behalf of baseball fans, seeking to extend safety netting to all major and minor league ballparks from foul pole to foul pole. The suit alleges that tens of millions attend an MLB game annually, and every year fans of all ages, but often children, suffer horrific and preventable injuries, such as blindness, skull fractures, severe concussions and brain hemorrhages when struck by a fast-moving ball or flying shrapnel from a shattered bat. The lawsuit was dismissed with the court ruling that the plaintiffs lacked standing because the chance of getting hit by a ball is remote.

While the firm commends the league for finally addressing the serious safety issue at stake in December 2015, the firm continues to urge MLB and its commissioner to make these more than recommendations to help end senseless and avoidable injuries to baseball's biggest fans. We believe our case sparked the eventual move to netting. After one of the owners of the Mariners belittled Steve for having filed the case, the firm happily saw the addition of netting extended to the foul poles at T-Mobile Park in the firm's headquarters of Seattle.

**RESULT:** MLB's commissioner Rob Manfred issued a recommendation to all 30 MLB teams to implement extended safety measures, including additional safety netting at ballparks

#### **OTHER SPORTS CASES**

In addition to its class actions, Hagens Berman has filed several individual cases to uphold the rights of athletes and ensure a fair and safe environment. The firm has filed multiple individual cases to address concussions and other traumatic head injuries among student-athletes at NCAA schools and in youth sports. Hagens Berman continues to represent the interests of athletes and find innovative and effective applications of the law to uphold players' rights.

The firm has also brought many concussions cases on behalf of individual athletes, challenging large universities and institutions for the rights those who have suffered irreversible damage due to gross negligence and lack of even the most basic concussion-management guidelines.

# **APPELLATE VICTORIES**

#### APPELLATE VICTORIES

# Strengthening Consumer Law

At Hagens Berman, we distinguish ourselves not merely by the results we obtain, but by how we obtain them. Few class-action firms have our firm's combination of resources and acumen to see a case through as long as needed to obtain a favorable outcome. Our attorneys were instrumental in obtaining these federal appellate decisions that have shaped consumer law and bolstered the rights of millions nationwide:

- *Tershakovec v. Ford Motor Co., Inc.,* 79 F.4th 1299 (11th Cir. 2023) (affirming class certification under laws of several states and remanding for trial)
- Hernandez v. Illinois Inst. of Tech., 63 F.4th 661 (7th Cir. 2023) (claims for breach of contract and unjust enrichment upheld for failure to provide in-person education during COVID-19 pandemic)
- In re Evenflo Co., Inc., Mktg., Sales Pracs. & Prod. Liab. Litig., 54 F.4th 28, 32 (1st Cir. 2022) (consumers had standing to challenge overpayment for defective car booster seats)
- In re Lumber Liquidators Chinese-Manufactured Flooring Prod. Mktg., Sales Pracs. & Prod. Liab. Litig., 27 F.4th 291 (4th Cir. 2022) (affirming fee award as authorized by Class Action Fairness Act)
- NCAA v. Alston, 141 S. Ct. 2141 (2021) (landmark decision invalidating NCAA antitrust restrictions on compensating student athletes)
- Shaffer v. George Washington Univ., 27 F.4th 754 (D.C. Cir. 2022) (students adequately alleged universities breached contract to provide in-person education during COVID-19 pandemic)
- United Food & Com. Workers Loc. 1776 & Participating Emps. Health & Welfare Fund v. Takeda Pharm. Co. Ltd., 11
   F.4th 118 (2d Cir. 2021) (monopolization sufficiently alleged and brand drug manufacturer's combination patents did not claim brand drug under Hatch-Waxman Act)
- *Cherry v. Dometic Corp.*, 986 F.3d 1296 (11th Cir. 2021) (administrative feasibility identifying absent class members not required for class certification)
- In re Suboxone (Buprenorphine Hydrochloride & Naloxone) Antitrust Litig., 967 F.3d 264 (3d Cir. 2020) (upholding certified class of direct purchasers alleging anticompetitive conduct impeding market entry of generic versions of Suboxone)
- *In re NCAA Grant-in-Aid Cap Antitrust Litig.*, 958 F.3d 1239 (9th Cir. 2020) (affirming injunction in favor of student athletes against NCAA, later sustained by Supreme Court in *NCAA v. Alston*, 141 S. Ct. 1231 (2020))
- In re Lumber Liquidators Chinese-Manufactured Flooring Prod. Mktg., Sales Pracs. & Prod. Liab. Litig., 952 F.3d 471 (4th Cir. 2020) (approving class action settlement concerning defective laminate flooring)
- *In re Lantus Direct Purchaser Antitrust Litig.*, 950 F.3d 1 (1st Cir. 2020) (drug manufacturer improperly listed insulin patent in FDA's Orange Book to extend monopoly)

- In re Avandia Mktg., Sales & Prod. Liab. Litig., 945 F.3d 749 (3d Cir. 2019) (state law claims against manufacturer of type-2 diabetes drug not preempted by federal law)
- In re Hyundai & Kia Fuel Econ. Litig., 926 F.3d 539 (9th Cir. 2019) (en banc) (upholding nationwide settlement class and providing guidance for district courts on choice-of-law inquiry in settlement context)
- City of Miami v. Wells Fargo & Co., 923 F.3d 1260 (11th Cir. 2019) (municipality adequately alleged causation for discrimination violating Fair Housing Act)
- In re Avandia Mktq., Sales Pracs. & Prod. Liab. Litig., 924 F.3d 662 (3d Cir. 2019) (vacating protective order for impeding common law right of public access to court filings)
- In re Volkswagen "Clean Diesel" Mktg., Sales Pracs., & Prod. Liab. Litig., 895 F.3d 597 (9th Cir. 2018) (affirming \$10 billion nationwide settlement providing relief to one-half million consumers for Volkswagen's emissions cheating and misleading "clean diesel" advertising)
- In re Lipitor Antitrust Litiq., 868 F.3d 231 (3d Cir. 2017) (direct purchasers of Lipitor and Effexor plausibly alleged unlawful reverse payment settlement agreements in violation of antitrust laws)
- In Matter of Motors Liquidation Co., 829 F.3d 135 (2d Cir. 2016) (General Motors bankruptcy reorganization did not bar claims stemming from defective ignition switches)
- George v. Urban Settlement Servs., 833 F.3d 1242 (10th Cir. 2016) (complaint adequately alleged Bank of America's mortgage modification program violated RICO)
- In re Loestrin 24 Fe Antitrust Litig., 814 F.3d 538 (1st Cir. 2016) ("reverse payments" for antitrust purposes under Actavis are not limited to cash payments)
- Osborn v. Visa Inc., 797 F.3d 1057 (D.C. Cir. 2015) (complaint adequately alleged Visa and MasterCard unlawfully agreed to restrain trade in setting ATM access fees)
- Little v. Louisville Gas & Elec. Co., 805 F.3d 695 (6th Cir. 2015) (Clean Air Act did not preempt state nuisance claims against coal plant for polluting surrounding community)
- City of Miami v. Citigroup Inc., 801 F.3d 1268 (11th Cir. 2015) (reversing dismissal of complaint alleging Citigroup violated Fair Housing Act by pattern of discriminatory lending)
- Rajagopalan v. NoteWorld, LLC, 718 F.3d 844 (9th Cir. 2013) (non-party could not invoke arbitration clause against plaintiff suing debt services provider)
- In re Neurontin Mktg. & Sales Practices Litig., 712 F.3d 21 (1st Cir. 2013) (affirming \$142 million verdict for injury suffered from RICO scheme by Neurontin manufacturer Pfizer)
- In re NCAA Student-Athlete Name & Likeness Licensing Litig., 724 F.3d 1268 (9th Cir. 2013) (First Amendment did not shield video game developer's use of college athletes' likenesses)
- Garcia v. Wachovia Corp., 699 F.3d 1273 (11th Cir. 2012) (Wells Fargo could not rely on Concepcion to evade waiver of any right to compel arbitration)
- Agnew v. Nat'l Collegiate Athletic Ass'n, 683 F.3d 328 (7th Cir. 2012) (NCAA bylaws limiting scholarships per team and prohibiting multi-year scholarships are subject to antitrust scrutiny and do not receive pro-competitive justification at pleading stage)
- In re Lupron Mktg. & Sales Practices Litig., 677 F.3d 21, 24 (1st Cir. 2012) (approving cy pres provision in \$150 million settlement)

- *In re Pharm. Indus. Average Wholesale Price Litig.*, 582 F.3d 156 (1st Cir. 2009) (AstraZeneca illegally published inflated average wholesale drug prices, thereby giving windfall to physicians and injuring patients who paid inflated prices)

We set ourselves apart not only by getting results but by litigating every case through to finish – to trial and appeal, if necessary. This tenacious drive has led our firm to generate groundbreaking precedents in consumer law.

Hagens Berman has also been active in state courts nationwide. Notable examples of our victories include:

- <u>Franklin v. CSAA Gen. Ins. Co.</u>, 532 P.3d 1145, 1146 (Ariz. 2023) (injured drivers may "stack" or combine UIM coverages where multiple vehicles are insured under a single insurance policy)
- *In re Funko, Inc. Sec. Litig.*, 19 Wash. App. 2d 1045 (2021) (complaint adequately alleged violations of the Securities Act of 1933)
- Hernandez v. Restoration Hardware, Inc., 409 P.3d 281 (Cal. 2018) (successfully arguing on behalf of amicus curiae that class action objectors must intervene to appeal)
- *Purdue Pharma L.P. v. State*, 256 So. 3d 1 (Miss. 2018) (refusing to transfer venue in litigation against leading opioid manufacturers)
- *Garza v. Gama*, 379 P.3d 1004 (Ariz. Ct. App. 2016) (reinstating certified class in wage-and-hour action prosecuted by Hagens Berman since 2005)
- *In re Farm Raised Salmon Cases*, 42 Cal. 4th 1077 (Cal. 2008) (Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act did not preempt state claims for deceptive marketing of food products)
- *Pickett v. Holland Am. Line-Westours, Inc.*, 35 P.3d 351 (Wash. 2001) (reversing state court of appeals and upholding class action settlement with cruise line)



# **MANAGING PARTNER**

# Steve W. Berman



#### steve@hbsslaw.com

T 206-623-7292 F 206-623-0594

1301 Second Avenue Suite 2000 Seattle, WA 98101

#### YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

41

# PRACTICE AREAS

Anti-Terrorism
Automotive Litigation
Civil & Human Rights
Class Action
Consumer Rights
Emissions Litigation
Environmental Litigation
Governmental Representation
High Tech Litigation
Intellectual Property
Investor Fraud
Patent Litigation
Qui Tam
Securities
Sexual Abuse & Harassment

## **BAR ADMISSIONS**

**Sports Litigation** 

Whistleblower

- Illinois
- Washington
- Foreign Registered Attorney in England and Wales

#### **COURT ADMISSIONS**

Supreme Court of the United States Served as co-lead counsel against Big Tobacco, resulting in the largest settlement in world history, and at the time the largest automotive, antitrust, ERISA and securities settlements in U.S. history

#### INTRODUCTION

Steve Berman has dedicated this career as a class-action plaintiffs' lawyer to improving the lives of those most in need. He represents large classes of consumers, investors and employees in large-scale, complex litigation held in state and federal courts. Steve's trial experience has earned him significant recognition and led The National Law Journal to name him one of the 100 most powerful lawyers in the nation, and to repeatedly name Hagens Berman one of the top 10 plaintiffs' firms in the country. Steve's class-action lawsuits have led to record-breaking settlements, historic changes to industries and made real change possible for millions of individuals.

Steve co-founded Hagens Berman in 1993 after his prior firm refused to represent several young children who consumed fast food contaminated with E. coli — Steve knew he had to help. In that case, Steve alleged that the poisoning was the result of Jack in the Box's cost cutting measures and negligence. He was further inspired to build a firm that vociferously fought for the rights of those most in need. Berman's innovative approach, tenacious conviction and impeccable track record have earned him an excellent reputation and numerous historic legal victories. He is considered one of the nation's most successful class-action attorneys and has been praised for securing tangible benefits for class members, as well as outstanding monetary relief. Steve is particularly known for his tenacity in forging settlements that return a high percentage of recovery or meaningful industry change to class members.

#### Print & Online Feature Interviews »

#### **CURRENT ROLE**

 Managing Partner of Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP and Hagens Berman EMEA LLP (UK)

#### **CURRENT CASES**

Steve leads the firm's efforts in the areas of antitrust, consumer protection and more, maintaining a leading edge amid shifting trends and technology. His active cases concern billions of dollars in damages and affect hundreds of millions of individuals. Steve's caseload spans several industries, including technology, college sports, agriculture and wages and include the following highlights.

# **ANTITRUST LITIGATION**

The antitrust lawsuits that Steve Berman has led have secured settlements valued at more than \$27 billion, spotlighting anticompetitive practices that have harmed consumers across various industries. Steve's outstanding work in this field has earned the firm accolades and awards, and his current caseload speaks to the breadth of the firm's impact.

•	U.S. Court of Appeals for the
	First 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 Fifth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- U.S. Court of Federal Claims
- U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Central District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Washington
- U.S. District Court for the
   Western District of Washington
- Supreme Court of Illinois
- Supreme Court of Washington

# EDUCATION



University of Chicago Law School, J.D., 1980



CASE	DESCRIPTION
Amazon Buy Box	Class action against Amazon for violating state consumer protection laws through the alleged use of a biased algorithm Status: Complaint filed
Amazon E-Books Price-Fixing Co-Lead Counsel	Class action accusing Amazon of establishing an illegal monopoly of the e-books market and charging artificially inflated prices <b>Status:</b> Court denies Amazon's motion to dismiss monopoly claims
Amazon Online Retailer Consumer Antitrust (Frame- Wilson) Interim Co-Lead Counsel	Class action accusing Amazon of increasing prices for online purchases made via other retailers  Status: Amazon's motion to dismiss claims denied
Amazon.com Antitrust (De Coster) Co-Lead Counsel	Class action accusing Amazon of violating federal antitrust laws, causing customers to pay artificially high prices for products purchased via Amazon  Status: Motion to dismiss denied
Apple iCloud Antitrust	Class action accusing Apple of violating antitrust laws and establishing a monopoly through its iOS cloud-based storage policies  Status: Complaint filed
Apple Pay Payment Card Issuer Antitrust	Class action accusing Apple of intentionally monopolizing the billion-dollar mobile wallet market on iOS platforms, forcing payment card issuers to pay supracompetitive fees and stifling innovation  Status: Motion to dismiss denied in part
Real Estate Commissions Antitrust Co-Lead Counsel	Class action against four national broker franchises alleging parties illegally inflated commissions associated with home sales <b>Status:</b> Settlements reached totaling \$693.2 million
RealPage Rent Price-Fixing – State of Arizona Retained Counsel	Retained by Arizona Attorney General Kris Mayes in a consumer- protection lawsuit on behalf of the state of Arizona alleging leasing companies colluded to artificially increase the price of rent <b>Status:</b> Complaint filed
NCAA Student-Athlete Name, Image and Likeness Co-Lead Counsel	Class action representing current and former NCAA college athletes accusing the NCAA and its conferences of illegally limiting the compensation athletes may receive for the use of their names, images and likenesses  Status: Settlement reached
Visa Mastercard ATM Co-Lead Counsel	Class action alleging that Visa and MasterCard, with BofA, JP Morgan Chase and Wells Fargo, established uniform agreements with U.S. banks, preventing ATM operators from setting access fees below the level of fees charged on Visa's and MasterCard's networks \$197.5 million settlement with Visa and Mastercard receives preliminary approval, bringing total settlements to \$264.2 million if approved

# AGRICULTURE ANTITRUST LITIGATION

The firm's total settlements in this area of litigation is valued at more than \$636.32 million and have affected the lives of U.S. consumers and employees in the meat-processing industry. As inflation continues to rise, combatting anticompetitive schemes raising the cost of food is an issue pertinent to families across the nation.



100 MOST INFLUENTIAL LAWYERS IN AMERICA

A SPECIAL REPORT





CASE	DESCRIPTION
Poultry Processing Wage- Fixing Antitrust Interim Co-Lead Counsel	Class action alleging wage-fixing agreement between the nation's biggest poultry companies  Status: Settlements reached totaling \$217.2 million
Red Meat Processing Wage- Fixing Antitrust	Class action against the nation's largest meat processing companies alleging a yearslong wage-fixing agreement, causing employees to receive far less than legally owed  Status: Settlements reached pending approval totaling \$138.5 million
Beef Antitrust Interim Co-Lead Counsel	Class action alleging major food corporations engaged in illegal conduct regarding the marketing and sales of beef products <b>Status:</b> Motion to dismiss denied
Broiler Chicken Antitrust Co-Lead Counsel	Class action accusing major food corporations of increasing the price of chicken in violation of antitrust laws  Status: Settlements totaling \$181 million are pending court approval, class certification granted
Pork Antitrust Co-Lead Counsel	Class action alleging pork producers colluded to reduce pork production to artificially inflate prices  Status: Settlements reached totaling \$95 million
Turkey Antitrust Interim Co-Lead Counsel	Class action alleging antitrust scheme by food corporations <b>Status:</b> Settlement reached with Tyson for \$4.62 million, seven remaining defendants

# **AUTO DEFECT & EMISSIONS LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman's settlements in automotive defect and emissions lawsuits are collectively valued at more than \$21.4 billion and have led to significant safety protocols and changes in the auto industry. Steve's expertise leading complex litigation has led him to be hand-selected to champion the rights of vehicle owners. He remains dedicated to unearthing new instances of defect coverups, emissions cheating and safety concerns, utilizing the firm's resources to lead the charge against negligence.

CASE	DESCRIPTION
Daimler Mercedes BlueTEC Emissions – Australia Advisory Role	Following Hagens Berman's \$700 million settlement with Mercedes for alleged emissions cheating in the U.S., the firm has taken an advisory role in comparable litigation against Daimler filed in Australia.  Status: Pending and active
FCA Dodge RAM 2500/3500 Emissions – 2007-2012 & 2013-2023	Class action alleging Fiat Chrysler/Stellantis and Cummins placed emissions-cheating defeat devices in affected RAM trucks <b>Status:</b> 2007-2012 models: motion to dismiss denied in part; 2013-2023 models: complaint filed
FCA Chrysler Pacifica Hybrid Minivan Fire Hazard Co-lead Counsel	Class action against Fiat Chrysler/Stellantis alleging a defect in the design of Chrysler Pacifica hybrid minivans results in spontaneous fires while vehicle is parked and off <b>Status:</b> Motion to dismiss denied
General Motors CP4 Fuel Pump Defect Class Counsel	Class action alleging Chevy Silverado and GMC Sierra trucks with a Duramax diesel 6.6 V8 engine are equipped with a defective high-pressure fuel injection pump.  Status: Class certification granted

#### **SECURITIES LITIGATION**

Hagens Berman's total settlements in securities litigation valued at more than \$2.9 billion, and Steve's efforts in this area have helped to recover losses for millions of individuals who have been blindsided by instances of fraud and disinformation orchestrated by publicly traded companies.

CASE	DESCRIPTION
Plantronics, Inc. (NYSE: PLT) Co-Lead Counsel	Class action representing Plantronics investors seeking to recover damages caused by violations of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Status: Motion to dismiss denied
Vaxart, Inc. (NASDAQ: VXRT) Lead Counsel	Class action against Vaxart and controlling shareholder, Armistice, alleging claims under federal securities laws  Status:\$12.015 million partial settlement reached
Zillow Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: Z, ZG) Lead Counsel	Class action alleging defendants falsely touted the durability and acceleration of Zillow Offers and improvements to pricing models <b>Status:</b> Motion to dismiss denied

#### **RECENT SUCCESS**

Steve Berman has achieved monumental settlements within the last two years, bringing hundreds of millions of dollars of relief to classes of everyday individuals affected by pricing schemes, automotive defects and other instances of wrongdoing. Through his recent case work, Steve maintains Hagens Berman's edge and excellence in class-action litigation.

CASE NAME	DATE	RECENT SUCCESS
NCAA Student-Athlete Name, Image and Likeness Co-Lead Counsel	07/26/24	Motion filed seeking preliminary approval of settlement
Visa MasterCard ATM Co-Lead Counsel	07/26/23	\$197.5 million settlement with Visa and Mastercard receives preliminary approval
Real Estate Commissions Antitrust Co-lead Counsel	04/23/24	\$418 million settlement with NAR receives preliminary approval
Hyundai / Kia Engine Fire Hazard Co-lead Counsel	04/09/24	Settlement receives final approval
NCAA/EA Video Games Likeness Co-lead Counsel	03/04/24	10,000 athletes revive EA College Football Videogame following NIL litigation
Hyundai / Kia Car Theft Defect Co-Lead Counsel	10/31/23	Settlement receives preliminary approval
University of Washington College Tuition Payback	06/29/23	Class certification granted
Hyundai / Kia Hydraulic Electronic Control Unit (HECU) Fire Hazard	05/05/23	Settlement receives final approval

CP4 Fuel Pump Defect – GM/Ford/FCA	03/31/23	Motion to dismiss denied
Pork Antitrust Co-Lead Counsel	09/27/22	Settlement agreements reached
Amazon.com Consumer Fraud	09/14/22	California AG files similar case, echoing Hagens Berman's claims
Poultry Processing Wage- Fixing Antitrust Interim Co-Lead Counsel	07/19/22	Motions to dismiss denied

#### **CAREER HIGHLIGHTS**

Steve's career highlights encompass the top cases in world history both in their historical significance and in their monetary relief. Steve's total settlements are valued at more than \$316 billion, including the infamous Big Tobacco litigation of the 90s, and have had major national impact. Steve's career highlights include Enron pension protection, justice for victims of Harvey Weinstein, restitution for those affected by Volkswagen's Dieselgate scandal, the complete remaking of college sports compensation and more.

His career focus remains clear: steadfast representation for those most in need across the nation. Steve's cases have brought widespread benefit to classes of individuals spanning industries and decades. Lawsuits he has settled have reunited Hungarian Holocaust survivors with priceless family heirlooms, and also enacted major changes in youth soccer and NCAA sports to promote safety and minimize the risk of concussions. Below are Steve's outstanding career highlights.

CASE/ROLE	SETTLEMENT VALUE	NATIONAL IMPACT
State Tobacco Litigation Special Assistant Attorney General Representing 13 States	\$260 billion	Largest civil settlement in history The multi-state agreement required tobacco companies to pay the states \$260 billion and submit to broad advertising and marketing restrictions, leaving a lasting and widespread impact.
Visa Check/MasterMoney Antitrust Litigation Co-lead Counsel	\$25 billion	Largest antitrust settlement in U.S. history at the time Agreements with Visa and Mastercard secured relief valued at as much as \$25-87 billion, and injunctive relief reducing interchange rates, among other benefits.
Volkswagen/Porsche/Audi Emissions Scandal Plaintiffs' Steering Committee and Settlement Negotiating Team	\$14.7 billion	Largest ever brought against any automaker Hagens Berman's automotive legal team was the first to file in this historic lawsuit against Volkswagen for its emissions cheating and masking of harmful pollutants, culminating in a historic settlement.
Volkswagen Franchise Dealerships Lead Counsel	\$1.67 billion	The firm achieved a monumental settlement or behalf of Volkswagen dealerships across the U.S. blindsided by the automaker's emissions cheating, returning an average payment to each Dealer Settlement Class Member of approximately \$1.85 million.

Toyota Sudden, Unintended Acceleration Co-lead Counsel	\$1.6 billion	Largest automotive settlement in history at the time The firm did not initially seek to lead this litigation but was sought out by the judge for it wealth of experience in managing very comple class-action MDLs.
Hyundai / Kia Theta II GDI Engine Fire Hazard Settlement Co-lead Counsel	\$1.3 billion	The firm achieved a settlement in response to defect in 4.1 million Hyundai and Kia vehicles equipped with Theta II GDI engines putting owners at risk for spontaneous, non-collision engine fires or premature engine failure.
Mercedes BlueTEC Co-lead Counsel	\$700 million	Spurred by the firm's success in the Volkswage Dieselgate case, Steve independently tested diesel vehicles across manufacturers, uncovering additional instances of emissionscheating, masked via illegal defeat devices.
Apple E-Books Antitrust Co-lead Counsel	\$568 million	This antitrust lawsuit alleged Apple and five of the nation's top publishers colluded to raise th price of e-books for U.S. consumers. Steve's litigation resulted in an unheard of recovery equal to twice consumers' actual damages. Apple took the case to the U.S. Supreme Court where it denied Apple's request to review the case.
McKesson Drug Class Litigation Co-lead Counsel	\$350 million	Steve was named co-lead counsel in this action that led to a rollback of benchmark prices of hundreds of brand name drugs, and relief for third-party payers and insurers. His discovery the McKesson scheme led to follow up lawsuit by governmental entities and recovery in total of over \$600 million.
Average Wholesale Price Litigation	\$338 million	Drug prices charged to consumers and payers across the nation are significantly more than the cost to produce them. In many cases, Big Pharma conspires with other companies to create these false profits. Hagens Berman has helped several classes of plaintiffs obtain multimillion-dollar judgments.
Enron Pension Protection Litigation Co-lead Counsel	\$250 million	Attorneys represented 24,000 Enron employed claiming the company recklessly endangered retirement funds, causing some employees to lose hundreds of thousands of dollars almost overnight, in a major economic milestone in U history.
BoA Homeloans	\$250 million	Following the historic market crash in 2008, Hagens Berman filed this class action against Bank of America, Countrywide and LandSafe, alleging their collusion was in direct violation of the RICO Act and other laws.
McKesson Governmental Entity Class Litigation Lead Counsel	\$82 million	Steve was lead counsel for a nationwide class local governments that resulted in a settlement for drug price-fixing claims.

		This historic settlement against JPMorgan
JPMorgan Madoff Lawsuit	\$218 million	involved three simultaneous, separately negotiated settlements totaling more than \$2. billion, in which Hagens Berman returned hundreds of millions of dollars on behalf of Bernard L. Madoff investors.
NCAA Athletic Grant-in-Aid Cap Antitrust Co-lead Counsel	\$208 million	Steve pioneered this historic case which forever changed NCAA sports and the lives of 53,748 class members. The case culminated in a \$208 million settlement regarding damages and injunctive relief secured through a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court decision in favor of plaintiffs. According to the Court, the NCAA "permanently restrained and enjoined from agreeing to fix or limit compensation or benefit related to education" that conferences or schools may make available. Schools are now allowed to provide benefits tethered to education up to \$6,000 annually
Apple iOS App Developers Class Counsel	\$100 million	Hagens Berman represented developers of iOS apps sold via Apple's App Store or featuring inapp sales, alleging the tech giant engaged in anticompetitive practices that harmed developers. The settlement brings important changes to App Store policies and practices. U. iOS app developers with less than \$1 million per year in proceeds from App Store sales through all associated developer accounts across the nation can receive hundreds to tens of thousands of dollars from the fund.
Google Play Store App Developers Co-lead Counsel	\$90 million	This antitrust class action accused Google of monopolizing its Play Store through anticompetitive policies, affecting small businesses across the nation. Attorneys for the class of roughly 43,000 Android app developer say some class members will likely see payments in the hundreds of thousands of dollar
Zuora Investor Fraud Lead Counsel	\$75.5 million	In a showcase of Steve's securities litigation expertise, this settlement achieved in 2023 provides significant relief to purchasers of the securities of Zuora across the U.S.
NCAA Concussions Lead Counsel	\$75 million	Hagens Berman served as lead counsel in this multidistrict litigation against the NCAA, achieving medical monitoring and injunctive relief in the form of changes to concussion management and return-to-play guidelines. Th lawsuit alleged the institutions neglected to protect college athletes from concussions and their aftermath at schools across the country.

NCAA/Electronic Arts Name and Likeness Co-lead Counsel	\$60 million	This first-of-its-kind lawsuit ushered in the first time that hardworking college athletes saw some of the profits from the use of their likeness in video games. More than 24,000 individuals were eligible to receive payment, and checks were issued for up to \$7,600, with a median around \$1,100.
Harvey Weinstein Sexual Harassment	\$17.1 million	As the #MeToo movement hit a fever pitch moment, Hagens Berman's Steve Berman represented a class of those harmed by Harvey Weinstein, a kingpin of sexual harassment in Hollywood. The firm litigated the case through to bankruptcy proceedings in 2020.
Youth Soccer Concussions		Steve pioneered this first-of-its-kind lawsuit that ended heading for US Soccer's youngest players to diminish risk of concussions and traumatic brain injuries, changing the game for youth players across the U.S.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

- In April of 2021, the University of Michigan School for Environment and Sustainability (SEAS) launched the Kathy and Steve Berman Western Forest and Fire Initiative with a philanthropic gift from Steve (BS '76) and his wife, Kathy. The program will improve society's ability to manage western forests to mitigate the risks of large wildfires, revitalize human communities and adapt to climate change. Steve studied at the School of Natural Resources (now SEAS) and volunteered as a firefighter due to his focus on environmental stewardship. Read more »
- In 2003, the University of Washington announced the establishment of the Kathy and Steve Berman Environmental Law Clinic. The Berman Environmental Law Clinic draws on UW's environmental law faculty and extensive cross-campus expertise in fields such as Zoology, Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, Forest Resources, Environmental Health and more. In addition to representing clients in court, the clinic has become a definitive information resource on contemporary environmental law and policy, with special focus on the Pacific Northwest.

# **RECOGNITION**

- 500 Global Plaintiff Lawyers, Lawdragon, 2024
- 500 Leading Lawyers in America, Plaintiff Financial Lawyers, Lawdragon, 2023-2024
- 500 Leading Lawyers in America, Plaintiff Consumer Lawyers, Lawdragon, 2024
- Lawyer of the Year, Litigation, Securities Litigation, Best Lawyers, 2024
- The Best Lawyers in America, Antitrust Litigation, Best Lawyers, 2024
- The Best Lawyers in America, Securities Litigation, Best Lawyers, 2024
- The Best Lawyers in America, Plaintiffs Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions, Best Lawyers, 2024
- The Best Lawyers in America, Plaintiffs Product Liability Litigation, Best Lawyers, 2024
- Legal Lion of the Week as part of the litigation team that achieved class certification in NCAA Student-Athlete Name, Image and Likeness, Law360, 2023

- Best Lawyers in America in Litigation, Securities and Product Liability Litigation,
   Plaintiffs and Other Areas of Note, 2023
- Washington Super Lawyers, 1999-2023
- Titan of the Plaintiffs Bar, Law360, 2018, 2020, 2022
- Leading Commercial Litigators, The Daily Journal, 2022
- Hall of Fame, Lawdragon, 2022
- Plaintiffs' Attorneys Trailblazer, The National Law Journal, 2017, 2022
- Sports & Entertainment Law Trailblazer, The National Law Journal, 2021
- Honoree for Outstanding Antitrust Litigation Achievement in Private Law Practice, American Antitrust Institute, 2021, 2019, 2018
- Class Action MVP of the Year, Law360, 2016-2020
- Elite Trial Lawyers, The National Law Journal, 2014-2016, 2018-2019
- 500 Leading Lawyers in America, Lawdragon, 2014-2019
- State Executive Committee member, The National Trial Lawyers, 2018
- Class Actions (Plaintiff) Law Firm of the Year in California, Global Law Experts, 2017
- Finalist for Trial Lawyer of the Year, Public Justice, 2014
- One of the 100 most influential attorneys in America, The National Law Journal, 2013
- Most powerful lawyer in the state of Washington, The National Law Journal, 2000
- One of the top 10 plaintiffs' firms in the country, The National Law Journal

# **PRESENTATIONS**

 Steve is a frequent public speaker and has been a guest lecturer at Stanford University, University of Washington, University of Michigan and Seattle University Law School.

# **PERSONAL INSIGHT**

Steve was a high school and college soccer player and coach. Now that his daughter's soccer skills exceed his, he is relegated to being a certified soccer referee and spends weekends being yelled at by parents, players and coaches (as opposed to being yelled at by judges during the week). Steve is also an avid cyclist and is heavily involved in working with young riders on the international Hagens Berman Axeon cycling team.

# PARTNER, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER

# Robert B. Carey



#### rob@hbsslaw.com

T 602-840-5900 F 602-840-3012

11 West Jefferson Street Suite 1000 Phoenix, AZ 85003

# YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

34

# PRACTICE AREAS

Breach of Contract Claims Class Action High Tech Litigation Insurance Bad Faith Personal Injury

# BAR ADMISSIONS

- Arizona
- Colorado

#### COURT ADMISSIONS

- Supreme Court of the United States
- Federal Circuit Court of Appeals
- Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals
- Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
- Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals
- Various Federal District Courts

#### **EDUCATION**



Rob added to HB's office a built-in mock courtroom, complete with jury box, audio-visual equipment to record witnesses and lawyers, and separate deliberation rooms for two juries.

#### INTRODUCTION

Mr. Carey handles various types of injury and consumer claims. Mr. Carey was lead counsel on a jury trial that produced the largest medical-malpractice verdict in 2018, secured class certification in class actions on behalf of consumers and workers where damages are almost \$2 billion, and investigated the dialysis industry's role in deaths caused by central venous catheter infections and misuse of dialysis solutions.

#### **CURRENT ROLE**

- Partner & Executive Committee Member, Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP
- · Leads Phoenix office
- Practice focuses on class-action lawsuits, including auto defect, insurance, right of
  publicity and fraud cases. Mr. Carey's work also extends to bad-faith insurance,
  personal injury and medical malpractice, with several trials involving verdicts in the
  hundreds of millions.
- · Frequently asked to handle jury trials for high-value cases

### **RECENT SUCCESS**

- In June 2018, a Denver jury awarded a monumental \$383.5 million jury verdict against GranuFlo dialysis provider, DaVita Inc. culminating lawsuits brought by families of three patients who suffered cardiac arrests and died after receiving dialysis treatments at DaVita clinics. Each of the three parties was awarded \$125 million in punitive damages from the jury, with compensatory damages ranging from \$1.5 million to \$5 million.
- Over the summer of 2012, Rob was lead counsel in Robin Antonick's case against
  Electronic Arts, where a jury heard evidence that Electronic Arts failed to pay
  Antonick for over 20 years for his work in coding and developing the legendary
  Madden NFL Football video game. This trial, held in the Northern District of
  California, resulted in two verdicts for Antonick and was dubbed a "Top Trial Verdict
  of 2013" by The Daily Journal, a leading legal publication.
- Prevailed at the Arizona Court of Appeals for the second time, keeping intact class certification for tens of thousands of truck drivers suing to recover underpayments caused by misuse of Rand McNally's HHG software by Swift Transportation.
- Helped originate the Toyota Sudden Unintended Acceleration case, filing the initial Hagens Berman complaints for a case that eventually settled for \$1.6 billion.
- Led Hagens Berman's efforts on the \$97 million settlement with Hyundai and Kia corporations over misrepresentations about MPG ratings.





#### AWARDS

2018 TOP VERDICTS
MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
\$383,500,000

- Helped secure a first-ever (\$60 million) settlement for collegiate student-athletes
  (Keller, consolidated with O'Bannon) from Electronic Arts (EA) and the NCAA for the
  misappropriation of the student-athletes' likenesses and images for the EA college
  football video game series. This groundbreaking suit went up to the U.S. Supreme
  Court before a settlement was reached, providing student-athletes even current
  ones with cash recoveries for the use of their likenesses without permission.
- Represented Donnovan Hill against Pop Warner after he was paralyzed at 13. With Rachel Freeman, Rob secured a settlement that "forever changed youth football" (OC Weekly) and was "unprecedented" and owed a debt of gratitude by those who care about the safety of kids playing football (Washington Post). Donnovan died tragically during a 2016 surgery.
- Rob secured a record verdict for a mother suing her deceased son's estate for negligence in starting a home fire. He then took an assignment of the estate's claim and pursued a bad faith claim against the insurer, resulting in lifetime financial security for the badly burned mother.
- After successfully reforming an insurance policy to cover a client a student-athlete
  injured in a roll-over accident that caused incomplete tetraplegia and traumatic brain
  injury Rob went to the jury, which awarded damages for all harms and losses
  requested and for insurance bad faith, with a verdict exceeding over 15 times policy
  limits.
- Rob sued the leading auto carrier for refusal to fully cover a pedestrian struck by the carrier's driver. The verdict was valued over seven figures, and included a finding of willful and wanton conduct, trebling the damages.
- After Rob cross-examined the CEO and CFO of a pharmacy benefits company, the jury entered a verdict for his client in the liability phase of a \$75 million dispute.
- During his representation of a driver paralyzed by a car's roof collapse, the insurance company ignored that the agent did not understand or offer required high-end coverages. The jury returned a verdict with a value over seven figures, including a finding for treble damages.
- Rob represented passengers of drunk driver, and persuaded the jury to award future earning capacity, essential services, medical bills and to find willful and wanton conduct against the insurer (treble damages). After a successful trip to the state supreme court, the verdict was maintained and had a value in excess of 15 times the policy limits.

#### **EXPERIENCE**

- While serving as Arizona Chief Deputy Attorney General Mr. Carey helped secure a \$4 billion divestiture and a landmark \$165 million antitrust settlement. He also was a principal drafter of the first major overhaul of Arizona's criminal code and authored the section of the federal Prisoner Litigation Reform Act of 1995 for Senators Dole and Kyl that virtually eliminated frivolous prisoner lawsuits. Mr. Carey oversaw all major legal, policy, legislative and political issues for the Arizona attorney general's office. He developed and spearheaded passage of Arizona's law requiring the DNA testing of all sex offenders and the law requiring that criminals pay the cost of victims' rights.
- Campaign staffer, intern, and staff member for U.S. Senator John McCain, during and after Senator McCain's first run for public office.

- Adjunct Professor, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, teaching class actions. Has taught law and policy courses at other universities.
- Judge Pro Tempore, Maricopa County Superior Court, presiding over contract and tort jury trials.
- In the 90s, he served as trial counsel on claims by counties for damages stemming from tobacco-related illnesses (and acted as special counsel for Hagens Berman in seeking to recover damages in the landmark tobacco litigation), and since then has led dozens of consumer and insurance class actions in various states.

## **LEGAL ACTIVITIES**

 Member and Former Chairman, Arizona State Bar Class Action and Derivative Suits Committee

# RECOGNITION

- 500 Leading Lawyers in America, Plaintiff Consumer Lawyers, Lawdragon, 2019-2024
- 500 Leading Lawyers in America, Plaintiff Financial Lawyers, Lawdragon, 2020-2024
- Top 100 Trial Lawyer, Arizona's Finest Lawyers and National Trial Lawyers, 2008present
- Member of Hagens Berman's Toyota team selected as a Finalist for Trial Lawyer of the Year, Public Justice, 2014
- Recognized by the judges of the Superior Court of Arizona in Maricopa County for outstanding contributions to the justice system
- Selected as a Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyer in America and a Leading Plaintiff Consumers Lawyer in America
- Recognized for victims' rights efforts, U.S. Department of Justice

# **NOTABLE CASES**

- Propane Exchange Tank Litigation
- Hyundai/Kia MPG Litigation
- Swift Truckers Litigation
- Toyota Unintended Acceleration Litigation
- NCAA Student-Athlete Name and Likeness Licensing Litigation
- Hyundai Subframe Defect Litigation
- Hyundai Occupant Classification System / Airbag Litigation
- Hyundai Horsepower Litigation
- Arizona v. McKesson False Claims and Consumer Protection Litigation (representing State of Arizona)
- Apple Refurbished iPhone/iPad Litigation
- Jim Brown v. Electronic Arts
- LifeLock Sales and Marketing Litigation
- Rexall Sundown Cellasene Litigation

# **PUBLICATIONS**

- Co-author, "7 Punitive Damages Strategies," Trial Magazine, April 2019
- Co-author, Arizona chapter of the ABA's "A Practitioner's Guide to Class Actions"
- Co-author, Arizona and Colorado chapters of the ABA's "A Practitioner's Guide to Class Actions," 2nd edition

# **PARTNER**

# John DeStefano



johnd@hbsslaw.com

T 602-840-5900 F 602-840-3012

11 West Jefferson Street Suite 1000 Phoenix, AZ 85003

#### PRACTICE AREAS

Appellate Advocacy
Class Action
Commercial Litigation
Consumer Rights
Insurance Law

#### COURT ADMISSIONS

- United States Supreme Court
- Third Circuit Court of Appeals
- Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals
- Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals
- Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
- Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals
- U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona
- U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
- Supreme Court of Arizona

#### **EDUCATION**



University of Arizona Law School, J.D.



Mr. DeStefano takes special pride in helping to protect consumers against fraud and the corruption of honest enterprise.

#### **CURRENT ROLE**

- Partner, Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP
- Practice focuses on consumer, insurance, and antitrust class actions as well as appellate representation

### **EXPERIENCE**

- Snell & Wilmer LLP 2009-2013
- American Inns of Court Pegasus Scholar 2012: study of commercial, media, and privacy law with barristers and judges in the U.K.
- U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona, Law Clerk to the Hon. Neil V. Wake 2008-2009
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Law Clerk to the Hon. William C. Canby, Jr. 2007-2008

# **LEGAL ACTIVITIES**

- Adjunct Professor, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Arizona State University
- Program Chair, Lorna Lockwood American Inn of Court
- Former Treasurer and Member of the Board of Trustees, American Inns of Court
- American Association for Justice

# **RECOGNITION**

- 500 Leading Plaintiff Consumer Lawyers, Lawdragon, 2024
- Rising Star, Class Action/Mass Tort, Super Lawyers, 2015-2017
- Top Pro Bono Attorneys in Arizona Award, Arizona Foundation for Legal Services & Education, 2013

#### **NOTABLE CASES**

- Gunn v. Continental Casualty Co.
- Sieving v. Continental Casualty Co.
- Cheslow v. Continental Casualty Co.
- Brown v. Continental Casualty Co.
- Kronenberg v. Allstate Insurance Co.

Lewis v. GEICO

- In re Hyundai & Kia Fuel Economy Litigation
- Jim Brown v. Electronic Arts Inc.

# **CLERKSHIPS**

- Hon. Neil V. Wake, U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona, 2008-2009
- Hon. William C. Canby, Jr., U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, 2007-2008

# **PUBLICATIONS**

• Co-author of the Arizona and Colorado chapters of the ABA's "A Practitioner's Guide to Class Actions," 2nd edition

# **PERSONAL INSIGHT**

When John's great-grandfather came from Italy to Boston, he lost his life savings to a man he met named Charles Ponzi. A century later, John takes special pride in protecting the public against broad-based frauds and swindles and the corruption of honest enterprise.

# **PARTNER**

# Michella A. Kras



#### michellak@hbsslaw.com

T 602-840-5900 F 602-840-3012

11 West Jefferson Street Suite 1000 Phoenix, AZ 85003

#### YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

21

# PRACTICE AREAS

#### Class Action

Commercial Litigation Complex Civil Litigation High Tech Litigation

# BAR ADMISSIONS

Arizona

#### **COURT ADMISSIONS**

U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona

#### **EDUCATION**



Arizona State University College of Law, J.D., magna cum laude, 2003



# State Bar of Arizona President's Volunteer Service Award, 2010

#### **CURRENT ROLE**

- Partner, Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP
- Practice focuses on class-action lawsuits and complex litigation, including consumer rights. Ms. Kras' practice also focuses on personal injury, medical malpractice, wrongful death and bad-faith insurance claims.
- Ms. Kras has extensive expertise in complex litigation in a variety of commercial contexts, including actions involving various contractual breaches, RICO violations, securities fraud, negligent and intentional torts and federal and state employment law.

#### **RECENT SUCCESS**

- Michella was part of a litigation team that secured a \$95 million class action settlement with Apple for Apple's failure to honor its AppleCare warranties. Apple promised consumers who purchased AppleCare warranties that they would receive "equivalent to new" replacement iPhones and iPads. But consumers had no way of knowing that the replacement devices they received were not equivalent to new devices. The litigation team uncovered evidence that these replacement devices were inferior, which was concealed from consumers. The litigation team hired world-class experts to show that these replacement devices had a shorter lifespan and were more likely to fail than a new iPhone or iPad. The \$95 million settlement provides direct payments to all class members who received these inferior devices. In 2022, Judge Orrick granted final approval, noting that a \$95 million settlement "on an untested theory" was an "excellent settlement" for the class.
- In 2014, Michella was part of a litigation team that settled a data breach case against Maricopa County Community Colleges. In 2013, a data hack exposed the PII of about 2.4 million students, graduates, employees, and vendors. The litigation team secured credit monitoring for all 2.4 million class members.

#### **EXPERIENCE**

- Michella worked as an associate at another firm, where she was a member of the commercial and securities litigation group. Ms. Kras worked on complex litigation matters involving private securities offerings, private lending, asset purchase agreements, shareholder and member disputes, and federal and state wage and hour disputes.
- As an associate at a different law firm, her work included civil litigation, employment law, election law, health care law, and estate planning.
- Michella served as a judicial law clerk for the Arizona Supreme Court, where her work consisted of a variety of appeals, including civil cases, criminal actions, and attorney discipline.

#### **LEGAL ACTIVITIES**

- Consistent commitment to pro bono work; Michella has worked on several pro bono matters, including obtaining Special Juvenile Immigrant Status for a teenager that was brought to the United States as a toddler and later abandoned by her parent.
- Former volunteer and member of the steering committee for Wills for Heroes, an organization that provides free estate planning for Arizona's first responders.

# **RECOGNITION**

- State Bar of Arizona President's Volunteer Service Award, 2010
- Rising Star, Southwest Super Lawyers, 2014-2015

#### **NOTABLE CASES**

- Maldonado v. Apple, Inc.
- In re Swift Transportation Co., Inc.
- Liebich v. Maricopa County Community Colleges District

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- Co-author, "A Practitioner's Guide to Class Actions," West Virginia chapter of the American Bar Association, 2nd edition
- Co-author, "A Practitioner's Guide to Class Actions" West Virginia chapter of the American Bar Association, 3rd edition

# **ASSOCIATE**

# Tory Beardsley



torvb@hbsslaw.com

T 602-840-5900 F 602-840-3012

11 West Jefferson Street Suite 1000 Phoenix, AZ 85003

# YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

10

# PRACTICE AREAS

Consumer Rights
High Tech Litigation

# INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

- Consumer Fraud
- Medical Negligence

#### **BAR ADMISSIONS**

Arizona

#### **COURT ADMISSIONS**

- U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona
- U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado

#### **EDUCATION**



Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, J.D.



Ms. Beardsley has experience in prosecuting a variety of cases, including wrongful death, medical malpractice, negligence, fraud, consumer protection, data breach and bad faith insurance cases.

#### **CURRENT ROLE**

- Associate, Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP
- Ms. Beardsley has experience prosecuting wrongful death, medical malpractice, negligence, negligence per se, intentional and negligent infliction of emotional distress, unjust enrichment, fraud, consumer protection, data breach and bad faith insurance cases.

#### **RECENT CASES**

- Member of the trial team representing the families of three patients who died after receiving dialysis at DaVita clinics. The case culminated with a \$383.5 million jury verdict.
- Ms. Beardsley has also aided in prosecuting data breach cases litigated by the firm in Arizona.
- Ms. Beardsley has been active in litigation challenging insurers' deliberate
  underpayments of total loss auto claims unfair practices that short consumers
  after serious car accidents when they are often injured and at their most vulnerable.
  In early 2022, the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey granted plaintiffs'
  motion to certify a class of New Jersey consumers challenging GEICO's use of
  improper adjustments to lower payments and its failure to pay substantial taxes and
  fees owed.
- Ms. Beardsley is also a part of the Hagens Berman litigation team challenging several
  auto insurers' failure to pay stacked coverages for accidents involving uninsured or
  underinsured motorists. In 2023, Hagens Berman obtained a unanimous decision
  from the Arizona Supreme Court that people injured by underinsured motorists in
  Arizona have the right to add together (or "stack") insurance coverages for multiple
  vehicles under a single insurance policy.

#### **RECENT SUCCESS**

• In June 2018, Ms. Beardsley was on the trial team where a Denver jury awarded a monumental \$383.5 million jury verdict against GranuFlo dialysis provider, DaVita Inc. culminating lawsuits brought by families of three patients who suffered cardiac arrests and died after receiving dialysis treatments at DaVita clinics. Each of the three parties was awarded \$125 million in punitive damages from the jury, with compensatory damages ranging from \$1.5 million to \$5 million.

# **EXPERIENCE**

 Prior to beginning her litigation career at Hagens Berman, Ms. Beardsley specialized in land use and development with other firms in the Phoenix area, working closely with the local municipalities and politicians to gain approval on proposed developments and ensure developments compliance with city code and zoning ordinance.

# **ACTIVITIES**

• Chair and member, Herberger Young Leadership Board

# **RECOGNITION**

Rising Star, Super Lawyers, 2024

# **PERSONAL INSIGHT**

In her free time, Tory is usually outside and on the move. A native Phoenician, Tory enjoys exploring all that Arizona has to offer with her dog, Bruce, whether it be via offroading, hiking, swimming or trail running.

# EXHIBIT 2

# RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A POTENTIAL CLASS REPRESENTATIVE

Hagens Berman Sobol Shapiro LLP ("Hagens Berman" or "the Firm") is investigating the filing of a case against Pekin Insurance Company ("Pekin") regarding the insurer's failure to appropriately stack and pay benefits owed for multiple insured vehicles. We are reviewing your file and information in order to determine whether or not to file a new case with you as a class representative. The Firm has the discretion to select the best persons to represent the interests of the class and its claims as a class representative. By signing this form, you give Hagens Berman permission to include you as a class representative in a Complaint. However, it does not mean the Firm represents you and it does not guarantee (1) the Firm will file a Complaint at all, or (2) the Firm will utilize you as a class representative if we decide to file a Complaint. If we do choose to file a case with you as a class representative, the below would be a description of your responsibilities to assist you in understanding your role. Please contact us at any time to clarify any of these points or if you have any questions.

- 1. You will be suing as a Class Representative. As such, you would represent the interests of all class members who have been affected by the challenged conduct. In this case, the class consists, roughly speaking, of all persons who purchased insurance policies from American Automobile Association, and the insurer's failure to appropriately stack and pay benefits owed for multiple insured vehicles.
- **2. Duty as a Class Representative.** As a class representative, the Court requires that you adequately and fairly represent the class. This is your duty. Here is how you are expected to accomplish that duty:
  - a. You must be generally familiar with the litigation.
    - (1) This does not mean you must know every aspect of this litigation. We will keep you informed of major events, and this will satisfy your duty. You should read the Complaint and understand it generally. You should know who the parties are. You should know why you are suing.
    - (2) You may and should confer with us at any time you feel it is appropriate to do so.
  - b. You must vigorously prosecute the litigation.

This basically means you will authorize Hagens Berman to do what is necessary to successfully prosecute this case on behalf of the class. We will vigorously pursue this case.

c. You must hire lawyers experienced in class action litigation.

Hagens Berman has national experience in class actions. Hagens Berman has participated in numerous consumer products cases, including auto insurance cases, with aggregate recoveries in the billions of dollars.

- 3. Preservation of Documents. You must preserve all of your documents that are related to this case until it has concluded, or your counsel informs you otherwise. Those documents include any information you have, no matter how it is recorded, including not only "paper" records but all financial data as well as any e-mail or other types of computer data that are stored on hard drives, CDs, DVDs, floppy discs, or the like. Additionally, "documents" to be preserved should be read broadly to include any social media or other Internet postings that may pertain to any matter at issue in this case. "Documents" also includes any documents that someone else is keeping for you. If you have any questions about whether information or items that you have should be retained, ask Hagens Berman.
- **4. Postings to Social Media Sites or Internet Websites.** In order to help preserve the attorney-client privilege, as well as the work product and other case-related protections, you agree not to post information regarding this matter, or communications between us, to social media sites or to Internet websites.
- **Responsibility for Costs.** Costs are such items as filing fees, photocopies, transcript costs, and the cost of notices if necessary. All costs are being advanced by Hagens Berman.
- 6. Notice to the Class. We will undertake this task on your behalf, and we will be responsible for all associated costs. Notice is usually accomplished by mailing a copy to identifiable class members and publishing a copy in newspapers.
- 7. No Special Treatment. You have not been promised any special treatment above the treatment which may be awarded to other class members. If successful in the Class Action, we will likely ask the judge to award you additional compensation for the extra time and effort you expend as a class representative and for having the courage to challenge defendant's conduct. We cannot guarantee the judge will award additional compensation or the amount of such compensation.

# **No Special Treatment acknowledgment:**

**8. No Compensation to be a Plaintiff.** You have not been given nor received any type of compensation by Hagens Berman or anyone else to become or be a plaintiff in this case.

# No Compensation to be a Plaintiff acknowledgement:

**You Initiated the Lawsuit.** You are the one who initiated the request to file a lawsuit and take action against Pekin. You asked Hagens Berman to be your attorney.

# You Initiated the Lawsuit acknowledgement:

10. You Do Not Have a Duty to Investigate or to Be an Expert. As an intimidation tactic, the defendant(s) may ask you in a deposition what investigation you have undertaken to fulfill your duty as a class representative. You have no such duty personally—that is why you have hired experienced lawyers. We have conducted a thorough investigation and you

have fulfilled your duty by relying on us to do so. We will and have discussed with you our investigation. Nonetheless, it is a good practice for you to familiarize yourself with the allegations in the Complaint and to read our reports to you.

11. Attorneys' Fees. Our fees (payment for our time) must be approved by the Court and are dependent upon a recovery. Typically, the range of our fee request is 20% to 33-1/3% of the recovery plus reimbursement of costs. You will be provided with notice of our fee request, and you will have the opportunity to discuss it with us and object to our request if you choose to do so. Whether or not we are successful in this litigation, you will not be obligated for any of our attorneys' fees. In the unlikely event the Court were to award the defendants' fees or costs, we will pay these.

# Attorney's Fees acknowledgement:

It is further understood, agreed, and acknowledged by the Client that there may be a sharing of attorney's fees by and between Hagens Berman and other counsel, and further that such co-counsel may assume joint responsibility for the performance of legal services. Client understands that there may be a sharing of the fee at the discretion of the attorney.

At the end of the litigation, in the event the Court awards attorneys' fees, counsel for plaintiffs will allocate the fees among those counsel participating in the litigation, based on factors such as compensable time spent working on the litigation and importance of contribution to the successful outcome. This allocation will not increase the total amount of fees.

- **12. Settlement.** If this case settles and does not go to trial, the settlement must be approved by the Court. You are entitled to object to the settlement if you do not agree with our recommendation to settle. We will consult you before recommending a settlement.
- **13. Judicial Approval.** In prosecuting a class action, all of our actions are subject to judicial approval, and courts take that approval seriously. Thus, we are subject to scrutiny that other lawyers, including defendants' counsel, never receive. This should provide you comfort that our actions will be of the highest professional caliber.
- 14. **Denial of Class Certification.** If class certification is denied, or the Class once certified is later decertified, we do not have an obligation to represent you in your individual claim unless we enter into a separate retainer agreement with you. Likewise, if we are unable to pursue a class claim on your behalf, we do not have an obligation to represent you in your individual claims unless we enter into a separate retainer agreement with you.
- **15. Attorneys.** The following is a list of the names and addresses of the attorneys who are representing your interests in this case:

Robert Carey John DeStefano HAGENS BERMAN SOBOL SHAPIRO LLP 11 West Jefferson, Suite 1000 Phoenix, AZ 85003 Telephone: (602) 840-5900 Facsimile: (602) 840-3012

<u>rob@hbsslaw.com</u> <u>johnd@hbsslaw.com</u>

Sam Saks Guidant Law Firm 402 East Southern Avenue Tempe, Arizona 85282 Telephone: (602) 888-0725 Fax: (888) 552-8529

sam@guidant.law
Evan Goldstein

Goldstein Woods & Alagha 706 E. Bell Rd., Ste. 200 Phoenix, AZ 85022 Telephone: (602) 569-8200

Fax: (602) 569-8201

egoldstein@gwalawfirm.com

Steve Hulsman Lewis Roca 201 E. Washington St., Ste. 1200 Phoenix, AZ 85004

Telephone: (602) 262-5311 Fax: (602) 262-5747

Shulsman@lewisroca.com

Additional counsel may be associated with this litigation. We will contact you should that become advisable.

Read and agreed to on: March 3, BOLL [enter today's date]:

Enter signature in the space below:

Printed Name: Taylor Doyle

Current Address: 6825 N. 10th Pl, Phylix 95014

Home Telephone:

Cell Phone: 402 932 0394