



# THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL

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A SPECIAL REPORT

## ELITE TRIAL LAWYERS

The National Law Journal recently honored law firms and lawyers handling cutting-edge work on behalf of plaintiffs in practice areas ranging from mass torts to securities litigation. Here's a look at the winners and the work they did this past year.



# ELITE TRIAL LAWYERS

## RISEING STARS OF THE PLAINTIFFS BAR

MOLLY J. BOWEN — COHEN MILSTEIN SELLERS & TOLL

■ **TELL US ABOUT YOUR BIGGEST CLIENT WINS THIS YEAR.** Alphabet shone a light on boards complicit in workplace harassment through setting a “tone at the top” that accepts such behavior and rewards wrongdoers. Alphabet shareholders challenged that practice, thereby amplifying the voices of worker-organizers and achieving a landmark settlement with the largest-ever commitment by a tech company to diversity, equity and inclusion efforts (\$310 million), including eliminating mandatory arbitration for such claims. We also achieved a \$15.5 million settlement in a hard-fought securities

class action against Credit Suisse for defrauding investors through false and misleading statements regarding its trading and risk limits and surreptitious accumulation of risky debt.

■ **WHAT’S THE BEST LESSON YOU LEARNED AS A YOUNG LAWYER?** Ask questions. It’s the only way to learn, and a fresh perspective helps clarify and simplify the case.

■ **WHAT’S BEEN THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN YOUR PRACTICE AREA AND HOW HAVE YOU ADJUSTED?** The push to arbitration. We are working with policy partners to



ensure shareholders retain the courts’ full justice and sunlight.

■ **SHARE AN INTERESTING FACT ABOUT YOUR FIRM THAT FEW KNOW.** Cohen Milstein offers new parents strong support, including generous leave and an informal “parents chat” to share resources and stories. ■

## RISEING STARS OF THE PLAINTIFFS BAR

JESSICA WEINER — COHEN MILSTEIN SELLERS & TOLL

■ **TELL US ABOUT YOUR BIGGEST CLIENT WINS THIS YEAR.** I’m proud of the results we secured for class members. On Jan. 21, 2021, the court granted preliminary approval of a \$641.25 million settlement with the state of Michigan, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and multiple individual defendants in the Flint water cases. And on March 9, 2021, in *UFCW & Employers Benefit Trust v. Sutter Health*, we—as one of five firms representing the certified class—secured preliminary approval of a historic settlement providing \$575 million and comprehensive in-

junctive relief, which will restore competition to the health care market in Northern California.

■ **WHAT’S THE BEST LESSON YOU LEARNED AS A YOUNG LAWYER?** Trust your work and your opinions, and don’t be afraid to speak up in meetings.

■ **WHAT’S BEEN THE MOST SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN YOUR PRACTICE AREA AND HOW HAVE YOU ADJUSTED?** Attending hearings and depositions remotely has, in some ways, made it easier to balance the needs of multiple cases.

■ **SHARE AN INTERESTING FACT**



**ABOUT YOUR FIRM THAT FEW KNOW.** Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll pairs associates with mentors, rotating every few years so associates can meet and learn from partners across practice groups. ■