



Jeffrey A. Rossman

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Areas of Practice

Litigation/Trial Law | Class Action Litigation | Cybersecurity and Data Privacy | Securities | State and Local Tax | White Collar Law

Jeffrey A. Rossman is a Partner in the Litigation Practice of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP. Mr. Rossman was a Partner at Freeborn & Peters, which combined with SGR in 2023.

Mr. Rossman is a trusted advisor and counselor to his clients. He has extensive trial and appellate experience and has tried and argued cases in federal and state courts across the country. In addition to his substantial litigation experience, Mr. Rossman regularly counsels clients on litigation, tax, and regulatory matters across the country, including acting as national counsel for several large eCommerce companies in which he advises and helps direct and implement national strategy.

Mr. Rossman has extensive litigation experience including state and local tax matters as well as financial services litigation.

Mr. Rossman has served as national lead counsel for Expedia and its affiliates in more than 70 cases in 28 states brought by states, counties, and cities, as well as related consumer class actions, concerning the application of state and local taxes. Mr. Rossman has represented Expedia at all stages of tax litigation from the administrative level to state Supreme Court and federal court of appeals. In addition, Mr. Rossman counsels other technology clients in state and local tax, regulatory, and litigation matters.

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Mr. Rossman also has substantial experience in financial services litigation, including, but not limited to, securities class and derivative actions, including cases alleging accounting irregularities, illegal trading, and breaches of fiduciary duty. He regularly represents clients before the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and other self-regulatory organizations. He also advises clients in connection with internal corporate investigations and shareholder and derivative litigation.

Mr. Rossman earned his B.A. from University of Michigan and his J.D., cum laude, from University of Michigan Law School. While at Freeborn (now SGR), Mr. Rossman served as Co-Leader of the Complex Litigation Team. Prior to joining Freeborn (now SGR), he was a Partner in the Chicago office of McDermott Will & Emery LLP in the Trial Practice Group.

Representative Experience

- Obtained complete defense verdict for Expedia after a two-week trial involving claims of statutory violations as well as consumer protection claims.
- Successfully argued summary judgment on state-wide statutory claims.
- Successfully argued appeal before the Third Circuit upholding dismissal of all claims on standing.
- Obtained favorable judgment, after trial, rejecting all claims against broker dealer in action relating to margin loans.
- Achieved reversal of conviction in Seventh Circuit of healthcare fraud conviction.
- Represented the Special Litigation Committee of a large real estate investment trust in connection with an independent investigation of various facts and circumstances raised in derivative demands, a filed derivative action, various books and records actions, and an SEC investigation.
- Represented the Special Litigation Committee for a for-profit education company in connection with an independent investigation of alleged securities and fraud in connection with a filed securities action and an SEC investigation.
- Secured dismissal of securities class action complaint with prejudice on statute of limitation grounds.
- Successfully prosecuted fraud claims against member of a captive insurance company.
- Favorably resolved numerous interest rate swap valuation disputes with the Lehman Brothers estate.
- Successfully defended trading companies in CFTC investigations.
- Represented national accounting firm in SEC and Public Company Accounting Board enforcement actions relating to alleged accounting fraud.
- Represented bond trustee in action to secure repayment of debt in bankruptcy action.

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Admissions

Illinois

California

United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

United States District Court for the Northern and Central Districts of California

United States Court of Appeals for the Third, Sixth, Seventh and Ninth Circuits

Memberships

Chicago Bar Association

Illinois Bar Association

California Bar Association

Recognitions

BTI Client Service All Star, one of approximately 300 lawyers recognized nationally by BTI Consulting Group through a survey of top legal decision makers at companies with more than \$1 billion in revenues, 2019.

Publications

Author, "Client Alert: S. Supreme Court Overrules "Physical Presence" Standard - Potentially Opening the Door for States to Collect Sales Tax on Online Sales," Freeborn & Peters LLP (June 27, 2018).