CLEARY GOTTLIEB

"They have a very international approach – that is why it is nice to work with them. They have a lot of experience in cross-border matters – they are well aware of the differences of legal culture."

Chambers Global, 2021

"They have a collection of extremely bright partners and associates... They're thorough, thoughtful, and very, very good."

Chambers USA, 2021



Litigation and Arbitration

A leading international law firm with 17 offices located in major financial centers around the world, Cleary Gottlieb has helped shape the globalization of the legal profession for 75 years. Cleary has been recognized as one of the top litigation and arbitration groups in the world with clients that include governments, corporations, financial institutions, and individuals in cases that have dominated world business and legal news.

We are committed to providing clients with creative and result-oriented litigation and arbitration counsel — in fact, more than one-third of our U.S. lawyers are litigators. Many of our most important and enduring client relationships originated with a dispute-related matter — testimony to the long-standing trust clients have put in us to protect, enforce, and defend their interests.

Cleary's practice includes a deep bench of former federal prosecutors, the former chief legal counsel of the Enforcement Division of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and a former General Counsel of the SEC. The team regularly draws upon the experience of many other partners who provide experience and credibility with the government, including former senior officials of the U.S. Justice Department's Antitrust Division and the Federal Trade Commission and the former General Counsel of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Cleary's lawyers handle litigation and arbitration involving a wide variety of issues, such as securities, derivatives, M&A, sovereign debt, investment treaties, antitrust, bankruptcy, white-collar crime, employment, executive compensation, intellectual property, and general commercial disputes.

Top 20 Firm

Global Arbitration Review's GAR 30, 2021

Leading Firm for General Commercial Litigation; Litigation: Securities; Litigation: White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations

Chambers USA, 2021

Top-Tier Firm for Dispute Resolution—Commercial Litigation; Dispute Resolution— Stock Market Litigation (France)

The Legal 500 EMEA, 2021

White-Collar Crime/Investigations Firm of the Year

Benchmark Litigation U.S. Awards, 2021

Leading Firm for Arbitration (International); Dispute Resolution

Chambers Global, 2021

Recent Highlights

- Allergan and certain of its current and former executives in obtaining a rare denial of class certification in a putative securities class action.
- trivago in obtaining the affirmance of the dismissal of a putative securities fraud class action before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.
- T-Mobile US and Deutsche Telekom on antitrust matters related to T-Mobile US's merger with Sprint Corporation, including securing a decisive victory for T-Mobile in an unprecedented multistate lawsuit in an attempt to block the merger.
- Several major financial institutions in investigations by authorities in the U.S., Europe, Africa, and Asia concerning FX, Libor, ISDAFIX, and other benchmark rates.
- Major financial institutions in investigations by the DOJ, federal banking regulators, and the New York State Department of Financial Services regarding compliance with anti-money laundering requirements and U.S. sanctions programs.
- National Amusements Inc. (NAI), Shari Redstone, and Sumner Redstone in Delaware Chancery Court litigation against CBS Corporation and certain members of its board of directors concerning CBS's attempt to dilute NAI's voting control of CBS, ending in a favorable resolution rescinding dilutive stock dividend and dismissal of all claims.
- National Westminster Bank and Crédit Lyonnais against terror financing claims under the U.S. Anti-Terrorism Act, based on their provision of banking services to customers accused of funding Hamas, bringing to an end 14 years of litigation.
- Kindred Healthcare and its board of directors in connection with a challenge to its sale to Humana, TPG, and Welsh Carson, defeating a preliminary injunction motion brought by a hedge fund investor.

- Bosch in connection with investigations and civil litigation in the United States relating to the revelations that diesel automobiles manufactured by Volkswagen used equipment supplied by Bosch to manipulate the results of vehicle emissions tests.
- Western Digital and its SanDisk subsidiary in connection with a series of arbitration and litigation disputes (in California and Japan) with Toshiba concerning the latter's effort to sell to a third party its share of the \$30+ billion, highly successful Toshiba-SanDisk joint venture for the development and manufacture of NAND flash memory.
- Petrobras, PGF, and current and former officers and directors in a securities fraud class action litigation and 35 individual actions in connection with the Operation Carwash corruption scandal, securing a significant victory concerning the extraterritorial application of the federal securities laws, which resulted in the decertification of the class action and a favorable settlement of the class action—reportedly the largest corruption scandal in Latin American history.
- Sabre Holdings in defending against litigation brought by American Airlines and US Airways challenging nondiscrimination provisions in an agreement to distribute flights and fares through Sabre's computerized reservation system.
- Sanofi US in winning summary judgment in a multibillion-dollar lawsuit challenging its loyalty discounts program—a decision upheld by the Third Circuit.

Nationally Ranked for Antitrust, Bankruptcy, General Commercial, International Arbitration, Securities, and White-Collar Crime

Benchmark Litigation, 2021

Dispute Resolution: International Litigation; General Commercial Disputes; Financial Services: Litigation; International Arbitration; M&A: Litigation: Defense; Securities Litigation: Defense

The Legal 500 U.S., 2021

International Arbitration Firm of the Year

Benchmark Litigation Europe and U.S. East Coast Awards, 2020

Impact Case of the Year (Google v. Android)

Benchmark Litigation Europe Awards, 2020

Impact Cases of the Year (Fiat Chrysler settlements; Sears Chapter 11)

Benchmark Litigation U.S. East Coast Awards, 2020

International Arbitration Team of the Year

Legal Business, 2020

Subscribe to our blog



The Cleary Enforcement Watch blog provides updates and analysis on critical enforcement, white-collar, and related regulatory developments, as well as strategies for improving compliance programs and conducting risk assessments.

