



LITIGATION DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR: PROFESSIONAL LIABILITY

## LATHAM & WATKINS

**Q&A** **What are some of the department's most satisfying successes of the past year and why? In the past year, we secured a jury trial win for Puma Biotechnology** in the first federal securities class action to reach a verdict in nearly 10 years, and litigated multi-billion dollar disputes from both sides of the V—winning more than \$1 billion for UBS Securities in a New York Supreme Court bench trial and staving off a \$6 billion class certification decision for Facebook. Our collaborative nature also paid dividends for our clients. In a trifecta for our securities litigation & professional liability and Supreme Court & appellate practices, three separate SDNY victories were successfully affirmed in the Second Circuit—for Eaton, Endo, and Ferrellgas. We're also constantly looking ahead of the curve for our clients. For example, Latham has been at the forefront of the direct listing, an innovative alternative to the IPO. The first and only firm to advise on both the issuer and financial adviser side of a direct listing, Latham is uniquely positioned to help our clients understand

the complex and novel Section 11 liability issues raised by this new method of going public.

**A prospective client in crisis calls and asks why your team should be retained. What is your answer? For every matter, we proceed with a trial-ready mindset** so that, should trial become inevitable, our team is already primed to put on our best case. That is what sets us apart. We have securities and professional liability litigators who are also courtroom lawyers, fully equipped to lead the case through trial. Latham's global platform and size enables us to quickly build bespoke litigation teams with the specific experience and capabilities the case and client demand regardless of geography. The power of this constellation of talent has been a game-changer for our clients and will continue to be a critical differentiator for us following the Supreme Court's *Cyan* ruling, which allows for state court actions to parallel district court disputes. We represent every major bank down to small institutions in state courts all over the country. This national

reach is a difference-maker for our clients—in addition to being engrained in the classic New York industries, we are also plugged into the nationwide tech and pharma communities, where a great deal of securities litigation is now generated. Combine these factors with our elite courtroom advocates and seasoned litigators across every practice and industry, and Latham is the firm to call when you're facing your most critical securities and liability disputes.

**What traits do you respect most in opposing firms and lawyers? We like litigating against the best because we love a challenge.** Against top-quality lawyers, the result is a more efficient proceeding where everyone plays by the rules and we can focus on the facts instead of distraction tactics.

**What is the firm doing to ensure that future generations of litigators are ready to take the helm? We work tirelessly to develop and promote diverse attorneys** and to foster a culture of inclusiveness. Without question, diverse teams are the best teams. This past year, six of our biggest trials—each in a different venue involving a different industry and a different practice—were led by women. We

LAW FIRM PROFILE		
	<b>\$3.77B</b> GROSS REVENUE LAST YEAR	<b>\$3.06B</b> IN 2018
	<b>#2</b> 2018 AM LAW 200 RANKING	<b>#2</b> IN 2017
	<b>\$3.78M</b> PROFIT PER EQUITY PARTNER	<b>\$1.39M</b> RPL
	<b>2,720</b> ATTORNEYS	
<b>514</b> EQUITY PARTNERS	<b>277</b> NON EQUITY	<b>1,749</b> ASSOCIATES

also invest heavily in equipping our young litigators with the experiences they need to be successful. A notable example is a five-week bench trial in New York federal court we recently completed, pro bono. Though several top litigation partners from Latham offices across the country were deeply involved from start to finish, our associates put on the case—which for most marked their first time presenting in court. Five partners sat behind and guided the associate trial team every step of the way, making sure they had the tools to succeed, and did they ever. Our clients recently shared with us how much the entire team's dedication resulted in absolute, top quality lawyering on a case of great importance to their community.