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NOTABLE

LITIGATORS & TRIAL ATTORNEYS

How many lawyers does it take to show the complex, high-stakes world of litigation? In this case, 74. The litigators and trial attorneys

profiled here have led cases that meant the difference between solvency and bankruptcy for companies and, at times, life or death for human beings. These honorees have fought headline-making courtroom battles, in several cases on opposite sides of each other. Off the clock, they epitomize all that the Latin phrase *pro bono* — “for the public good” — represents: Whether they’re defending exploited children and gender-nonconforming teens locally, or victims of the Taliban and refugees from all over the globe, the contributions of these notable Chicago attorneys offer ample reason to pause the next time anyone’s tempted to tell a lawyer joke. —By *Lisa Bertagnoli*



MARY ROSE ALEXANDER

Chicago Office Managing Partner
Latham & Watkins

Mary Rose Alexander focuses on commercial litigation for Fortune 500 companies. In the past year, she’s handled 15 putative class actions for Netflix that involve state franchise taxes, defeating disputes at the federal, state and appellate level in courts around the country. She led a Latham team which, after years of litigation (including summary judgment motions and a trip to the 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals) secured a favorable settlement just two weeks before trial. Alexander spearheads Latham’s trial advocacy training program and, as global chair of the Women Enriching Business Committee, guides initiatives to build diverse teams. She’s also an adviser to Equal Justice Works.



SEAN BERKOWITZ

Partner
Latham & Watkins

Sean Berkowitz is global chair of the firm’s complex commercial litigation practice. In 2021, he led two trials and five different arbitrations and was in court more than 60 days. He secured a complete defense bench trial verdict in a 14-count federal criminal action in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois on behalf of Gary Winemaster, former CEO and co-founder of Power Solutions. He also won an acquittal for Michael Susan, a former campaign lawyer for Hillary Clinton and former Perkins Coie partner, in a two-week jury trial. Berkowitz led the Latham team, working *pro bono* for the president of the Illinois Senate, in a case upholding the state’s redistricting map. He serves on the boards of the Chicago Area Project and A Better Chicago.



ERIC SWIBEL

Partner
Latham & Watkins

Eric Swibel is co-chair of the firm’s Chicago litigation and trial department and is a member of Latham Chicago’s Task Force on racial justice and equality. Over the past 18 months, Eric Swibel secured a complete defense bench trial verdict in a 14-count federal criminal action against Gary Winemaster, the former CEO and co-founder of Power Solutions, ultimately negotiating an unusual settlement whereby the SEC dropped all allegations of fraud. He also won in multiple securities class actions and derivative suits in federal and state court against Camping World Holdings and several of the company’s officers and directors. Also in 2022, he successfully led a Latham team in a first-of-its-kind cryptocurrency-related criminal prosecution while also defending the maker of Welch’s Fruit Snacks from breach of contract and fraud claims.

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