

BRIENNE M. LETOURNEAU, Partner

Brienne M. Letourneau is litigator and trial lawyer who represents businesses and institutions in their most complex and high-stakes matters. Her significant litigation experience extends to a variety of substantive areas, including ERISA, fiduciary litigation, higher education, consumer class actions, insurance coverage disputes, professional malpractice, contract disputes and business torts. Ms. Letourneau has broad experience representing clients as plaintiffs and defendants before state and federal courts and arbitral tribunals throughout the country, as well as in alternative dispute resolution.

Ms. Letourneau has succeeded for her clients in every phase of litigation, from early dispositive motion practice to trial and appeal. She has a track record of defeating high-stakes class actions and other “bet-the-company” matters that her clients have faced, and has obtained multiple judgments requiring insurers to provide coverage to her clients. She also has experience defending clients in connection with government subpoenas and investigative demands.

Ms. Letourneau is actively engaged in the firm and the community. She maintains an active pro bono practice representing clients in civil actions. She serves as a member of the firm’s Hiring Committee, and as a senior associate, she served as co-chair of the firm’s Associates Committee. Ms. Letourneau currently serves on the Board of Directors for Victory Gardens Theater in Chicago, and is an active member of the Chicago Bar Association. *Illinois Super Lawyers* has recognized her as a “Rising Star” in business litigation each year since 2014.

Ms. Letourneau graduated from Harvard Law School in 2010, where she served as a student attorney with the Title IX Clinic. Prior to attending law school, she obtained her B.A. with Highest Honors and Highest Distinction from the University of North Carolina

Representative Matters

- Won dismissal of a class action alleging that a Big Ten university had mismanaged workers’ retirement savings.
- Won dismissal of a class action alleging that a financial services company mismanaged the assets of trusts for which it served as a professional fiduciary.
- Won dismissal of claims for breaches of fiduciary duty in connection with individual participant investment advice in 401(k) plans.
- Won dismissal of a class action alleging that an asset management company executed an imprudent investment strategy on behalf of a defined benefit pension plan.
- Won dismissal of consumer class actions filed against a marketing services company and a global publishing company. In a case involving a novel issue of insurance coverage law, won a summary judgment ruling that required an insurer to provide defense coverage to a client facing a series of consumer class actions.



BRIENNE M. LETOURNEAU Partner

PRONOUNS

She / Her

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PRACTICE GROUPS

Class Action
Complex Commercial Litigation
Consumer Law
ERISA Litigation
Litigation
Private Wealth

INDUSTRY GROUPS

Education

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, J.D., 2010

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill,
B.A., 2007; Highest Honors; Highest
Distinction; Phi Beta Kappa

ADMISSIONS

Illinois, 2010

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit,
2018

U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit, 2018

U.S. District Court, Northern District of
Illinois, 2011

Awards

- *Illinois Super Lawyers*
"Rising Star," Business Litigation - 2014 - 2019

Service To The Bar

- Chicago Bar Association

Community

- Victory Gardens Theater
Member, Board of Directors - 2019-present

Publications

- Co-Author, Client Alert: ERISA Section 403(b) and 457 Retirement Plans Are the Subject of New Government Agency Investigations, October 11, 2019
- Co-Author, "A Trustee's Fiduciary Duties May Extend to 529 Accounts," *WealthManagement.com*, June 26, 2019
- Co-Author, "Collegiate Concussion Cases with Implications for the Sports Industry," *Sports Business Journal*, September 2018
- Co-Author, "3 Key Concussion Issues To Be Decided By Ohio High Court," *Law360*, April 10, 2018
- Client Alert: Supreme Court Adopts New Prudence Pleading Requirements for ERISA Stock-Drop Cases in *Fifth Third Bancorp v. Dudenhoeffer*, July 1, 2014
- "Eleventh Circuit Becomes Latest Circuit to Adopt Rebuttable Presumption That Fiduciaries Act Prudently by Investing in Employer Stock," *Employee Relations Law Journal*, Vol. 38, No. 2, Autumn 2012