



Partner

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Services

Appellate > Class Actions > Strategic eDiscovery and Data Management >
White Collar, Compliance and Investigations > Litigation > M&A Litigation >
Securities Litigation/Enforcement >

Joni S. Jacobsen defends publicly traded companies and their directors and officers when they become entangled in securities class action litigation, derivative litigation, SEC investigations and corporate governance disputes. Ranked in *The Legal 500 (U.S.)* in four categories, Ms. Jacobsen was named Among the Most Influential Women Lawyers in Chicago by *Crain's Chicago Business* in 2017, and has been named to the Illinois *Super Lawyers* list every year since 2013, one of a select number of female attorneys recognized in the Securities Litigation section. She is currently a Lecturer in Law at the University of Chicago Law School, her alma mater, where she teaches a seminar in Strategic Considerations in Securities Litigation.

Ms. Jacobsen has litigated in federal and state courts throughout the country. She consistently succeeds in having the vast majority of her cases dismissed outright on motions to dismiss, thereby reducing the distraction and burden on her clients and resulting in significant savings for clients and insurance carriers alike. In the minority of cases that survive through motion practice, she takes a strategic approach in opposing motions for class certification or bringing motions for summary judgment in order to achieve the best possible resolution for her clients. Ms. Jacobsen's experience makes her particularly adept at helping clients navigate an onslaught of simultaneous litigation from various fronts, including securities actions, derivative actions, government investigations and shareholder demand letters seeking books and records.

Prior to joining Dechert, Ms. Jacobsen was a partner in the litigation and dispute resolution practice of an international law firm.

EXPERIENCE

- Obtained dismissal of a derivative action pending in federal court against **a prominent credit card company** based on alleged improper marketing practices.
- Has represented several **life sciences companies** facing securities litigation and derivative litigation following the Food and Drug Administration's rejection of new drug applications; obtained dismissal of several complaints on motions to dismiss.
- Obtained dismissal of fraud claims against **former CFO of large shipping company**, successfully litigated related securities fraud claims and SEC investigation.
- Obtained dismissal of derivative claims against **special litigation committee of large oil and gas company**.
- Defeated securities fraud claims against **former CEO of large grocery store chain**.
- Successfully litigated a large number of derivative and class actions challenging M&A litigation through the country, including successful enforcement of a forum selection clause through use of anti-suit injunction in Delaware Chancery Court.
- Obtained dismissal of fraud and misrepresentation claims against **large manufacturer** pending in New York state court.

EDUCATION

- The University of Utah, B.A., 1991
- The University of Chicago Law School, J.D., 1997

ADMISSIONS

- Illinois
- Supreme Court of the United States
- United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

MEMBERSHIPS

- **Chicago Bar Association**
- **National Women's Law Center**, Leadership 35 Advisory Committee (2009-2013)

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- **From the Boardroom to the Courtroom - A Price Worth Paying?** - Omaha, NE (March 22, 2017)
- **From the Boardroom to the Courtroom - "A Price Worth Paying?"** - Louisville, KY (May 19, 2016)
- **Class Actions Face Challenges At the Supreme Court** - Chicago, IL (March 24, 2016)