



# Adam J. Schlatner

**Member**

**New York**

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## Practice Areas

- Commercial Litigation
- Financial Services
- Litigation
- Securities Litigation & SEC Enforcement

## Industry Sectors

- Sports

## Education

- University of Michigan Law School, J.D., *cum laude*, 1993
- SUNY-Binghamton, B.A., 1990

## Bar Admissions

- New York

## Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- U.S. District Court -- Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court -- Southern District of New York

Adam Schlatner focuses his practice on complex commercial litigation, representing clients in a wide range of matters including contract, securities, labor and employment, shareholder, products liability, antitrust, executive compensation, consumer fraud and IP cases, as well as corporate internal investigations. His practice has included the representation of executives in a variety of director and officer liability cases, including securities class and derivative litigation, internal, governmental and regulatory investigations, and other contexts. Adam has handled matters across a number of industries, including consumer products, financial services, sports, real estate, accounting, energy, construction, software and technology, pharmaceutical, and insurance. Additionally, Adam has extensive experience in both corporate and real estate transactional matters.

Adam also heads up the firm's nationally recognized Sports industry team, which represents all sectors in the sports world including professional and amateur teams and organizations, team owners and executives, professional leagues, professional and amateur athletes, agents and agencies, broadcast and media providers, venues and arena management companies, corporate sponsors and sporting equipment manufacturers. The firm was recently recognized by Holt Hackney Publications as one of the Top 20 Law Firms in the Professional Sports Team Industry. In this capacity, Adam has played an integral role in the firm's annual "Sports Law for Rookies & Veterans" conference. He is a frequent commentator on business and legal issues facing the industry and co-teaches a sports law class at the University of Miami School of Law. Most recently, he hosted a Spring 2017 Short Course called "Cutting Edge Issues for Sports Law Practitioners in a Collectively Bargained World."

Adam earned his law degree from University of Michigan Law School, graduating *cum laude*. He received his bachelor's degree from State University of New York at Binghamton with honors, majoring in political science. Prior to joining Cozen O'Connor, Adam was a partner at Winston & Strawn, where he spent the first 18 years of his career.

## Experience

Represented the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., in the internal investigation, SEC and New York Attorney General investigations, and related civil litigation concerning the compensation of former NYSE Chairman and CEO Richard A. Grasso.

Represented the former chairman and CEO of Computer Associates International, Inc., in securities class and shareholder derivative litigation, as well as related internal and government investigations.

Represented Philip Morris USA in the trial of several product liability and fraud actions, and participating in the successful case management of more than 200 individual actions filed against the company.

Conducted internal investigations into alleged improprieties by contractors at construction sites on U.S. military bases, and counseling on related litigation, employment and contractual issues.

Conducted an internal investigation on behalf of a major construction company relating to potential illegal activity at a high-profile job site, counseling on related employment issues, and interfacing with local authorities concerning the findings of the investigation.

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Represented software/technology consulting firm in litigation against private equity firm and portfolio company for breach of contract resulting in a successful settlement.

Represented credit card issuer in a nationwide antitrust class action stemming from provisions of cardholder agreements.

Represented pharmaceutical manufacturer and its subsidiary in multi-district antitrust proceedings arising from the settlement of patent litigation between brand name and generic manufacturers.

Represented the majority owner of an NHL club in an ownership dispute with, and business divorce from, a co-owner.

Represented an NHL club in an employment dispute with its former general manager.

Represented developer and owner of a professional sports franchise in connection with efforts to develop a new arena and surrounding multi-use land project.

Represented the former chairman and CEO of a public company in consolidated derivative litigation concerning employee stock option plans.

Represented a securities industry executive in connection with federal and state investigations related to the auction rates securities market.

Represented the auditor of a NASDAQ-listed Chinese issuer in NASDAQ and SEC investigations.

Represented majority and minority shareholders in various Delaware LLC disputes (including in the energy, real estate, publishing and waste management/recycling industries).

Represented minority shareholder in direct and derivative litigation against an oil and gas exploration company, and the related negotiation of the purchase and sale of leasehold interests in the western United States.

Represented IPTV provider in copyright infringement litigation relating to the use of U.S. film properties.

Represented a professional sports representation agency in contract disputes with a former client and former agent.

Represented an NBA player in a cybersquatting case resulting in the return of domain names belonging to professional athletes and celebrities.

Advised an NBA player agent on labor and antitrust issues pertaining to the NBA lockout.

Represented an international media and entertainment company in lawsuit emanating from the production of a major international film awards show resulting in the lawsuit being dismissed.

Represented IPTV/online sports provider in patent infringement action regarding streaming technology.

Won summary judgment on behalf of Big Ten Network in its defense of a patent infringement case centering on a mobile streaming application through which users can watch Big Ten Conference games on their mobile devices. In granting our motion, the court agreed that there was no literal infringement of the patent at issue and that the plaintiff was estopped from arguing infringement under the doctrine of equivalents. This result was affirmed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.