



Meredith C. Slawe

Co-Chair, Class Actions

Philadelphia

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Practice Areas

- Class Actions
- Commercial Litigation
- Privacy Litigation & Compliance
- Technology, Privacy & Data Security

Industry Sectors

- Retail
- Media & Entertainment
- Food & Beverage
- Health Care & Life Sciences

Education

- University of Pennsylvania Law School, J.D., 2005
- Dartmouth College, A.B., 2001

Bar Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- New Jersey

Court Admissions

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. District Court -- Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court -- New Jersey
- Supreme Court of New Jersey
- Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Affiliations

American Bar Foundation, Fellow

American Law Institute, Member

Bloomberg Law, Member, Litigation Innovation Board

Brandeis Law Society, Member

Dartmouth Lawyers Association, Member

Moore College of Art and Design, Member, Visionary Women's Committee

National Association of Women Lawyers, Advocacy Committee

National Museum of American Jewish History, Member, Board of Trustees

Meredith is a recognized authority in the national class actions defense bar. She represents businesses in a range of industries in class actions across the country. Her cases often implicate cutting-edge privacy and consumer protection issues under federal and state statutes. Meredith has been widely acknowledged for her mastery of the facts and the law and for her strategic and thoughtful defense of litigation. She routinely secures early dispositive victories on the pleadings that spare clients the costs and burdens associated with protracted litigation. She has been the architect of strategies to prompt plaintiffs to voluntarily dismiss their claims, to compel arbitration, to obtain dismissals on the pleadings and at summary judgment, to strike class allegations, to defeat class certification, and to prevail on the merits in arbitration proceedings. Meredith is also a thought leader on the issue of consumer arbitration, and drafts, revises, interposes, and enforces arbitration agreements and class action waivers in consumer contracts. Meredith's proven record of success, combined with her practical, accessible, and business-oriented approach, have made her the go-to class actions lawyer for several of the country's leading businesses.

Meredith is also co-chair of the firm's cross-practice Retail Industry Group and counsel to many prominent retailers and consumer-facing companies. She represents retailers in consumer class actions and advises them on related compliance issues to mitigate litigation and enforcement risk. She has deep experience advising retailers and consumer companies on compliance with federal and state privacy laws, including the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), Biometric Information Privacy Act (BIPA), California Invasion of Privacy Act (CIPA), Song-Beverly Credit Card Act, Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), Shine the Light Law, and other federal and state privacy-based laws. She also works closely with retailers to reduce litigation exposure under assorted consumer protection statutes, including California's Unfair Competition Law (UCL), Consumers Legal Remedies Act (CLRA), and False Advertising Law (FAL). Meredith counsels retailers on issues related to COVID-19, including contracts, leases, dynamic pricing, asset protection, health and safety measures, data privacy, store operations, e-commerce, shipping delays, policies and procedures, and tort liability. Meredith is a member of the firm's Coronavirus Task Force.

Meredith represents industry groups, including the Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA) and the Retail Litigation Center (RLC), in class actions and privacy proceedings, including before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and in the U.S. Supreme Court. Meredith's work on behalf of the retail community led her to be selected as the designated consumer class actions lawyer for the RLC's Defense Division. In 2018, Meredith received a certificate from Harvard Business School in connection with its Senior Leaders in Retail Executive Program and a certificate from ShopTalk.

Meredith was elected to the American Law Institute (ALI) and the American Bar Foundation (ABF) in 2019, and has been the recipient of numerous awards and accolades. Meredith is frequently invited to speak and write on issues pertaining to class actions, privacy, consumer arbitration, and the retail industry. She is a guest lecturer on privacy at the University of Pennsylvania Law School, and has presented at the Annenberg School of Communications. In addition, Meredith has been a featured speaker at conferences sponsored by the American Bar Association (ABA), Association of Corporate

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Penn Law Alumni Society, Member, Board of Managers

Philadelphia Museum of Art, Member, Corporate Executive Board

Retail Litigation Center, Member, Defense Division

Awards & Honors

- Best Law Firm Mentor, *The Legal Intelligencer*, 2020
- Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Rising Star (Class Actions)
- Cyber law (including data privacy and data protection), *The Legal 500 US*, 2019
- Pennsylvania Litigation, Client Choice Award, 2019
- Under 40 Hot List, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2017 and 2018
- 40 Under 40, *Philadelphia Business Journal*, 2017
- Rising Star Award, University of Pennsylvania Law School, 2016
- Top Women in Law, *American Lawyer*, 2016
- Lawyer on the Fast Track, *The Legal Intelligencer*, 2016

Counsel (ACC), RILA, RLC, the Professional Association for Customer Engagement (PACE) and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA). She led a boot camp at the Retail Law Conference on the CCPA and moderated a panel discussion of chief privacy officers. Meredith recently presented programs on strategies to reduce the risk of COVID-19-related tort and class action litigation and on anticipated federal and state government enforcement proceedings to retail in-house counsel at RLC member meetings.

Meredith is deeply committed to diversity and inclusion, and speaks regularly on issues pertaining to women in the profession to law students, practitioners and the business community. She has been recognized for her significant efforts on behalf of women in the law with awards from the Kilgore Society, The American Lawyer, and the Legal Intelligencer, among others. Meredith is a member of the firm's Women's Initiative. Meredith is a graduate of Leadership Philadelphia, is actively involved in community nonprofits, and serves on multiple boards and committees including the National Museum of American Jewish History Board of Trustees, Philadelphia Museum of Art Corporate Executive Board, and the University of Pennsylvania Law School Alumni Board of Managers.

Meredith earned her undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College and her law degree from the University of Pennsylvania Law School.

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