



Product Liability & Mass Torts

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Overview

O'Melveny helps clients across a wide range of industries defend against product liability and consumer claims in mass tort proceedings, class actions, and government enforcement actions. Our clients have achieved victories in cases involving billions of dollars in damages, challenges to established business practices, or the threat of irreparable reputational harm.

Over the past 30 years, we have successfully defended hundreds of individual suits and consumer class actions in almost all 50 states and across a broad array of subject areas, including pharmaceuticals and medical devices, food and beverages, consumer electronics, automobiles, and industrial equipment.

We have served as lead or co-lead national counsel in dozens of multidistrict litigation proceedings involving allegedly defective products, and we have defended numerous clients in "bet the company cases," as well as in investigations and aggregated litigation brought by federal agencies and state attorneys general, including liability claims stemming from plane

Accolades

"With its national coverage and depth of expertise, the firm's bet-the-

company labor and
employment
litigation practice is
very well known."

Legal 500 US

crashes, fires, and oil spills. Depending on our clients' needs, our role has run the gamut from developing and coordinating overall defense strategy to acting as trial counsel in individual cases—often in tandem with lawyers from our nationally renowned appellate practice who ensure cases are best positioned on appeal.

And when product liability threats escalate, our lawyers have extensive experience helping organizations and their senior executive officers successfully navigate multi-front onslaughts from criminal, regulatory, and administrative agencies; civil litigants; Congressional committees; and the media. We also draw upon our litigation experience to counsel clients on risk mitigation before any kind of litigation arises.

Clients appreciate our ability to:

- Quickly develop a creative and uniform approach to the overarching legal issues, drawing on our nationally recognized appellate expertise to ensure important issues are preserved for appeal
- Field an experienced and creative science team that includes lawyers who have advanced science degrees, including MDs and PhDs
- Advocate groundbreaking punitive damages strategies that have reduced our clients' exposure dramatically
- Bring deep, successful experience to help our clients handle attorney general, congressional, and other proceedings

Clients

- Bausch & Lomb, Inc.
- Exxon Mobil Corporation
- Ford Motor Company
- General Mills
- Johnson & Johnson
- The Lincoln Electric Company
- Merck & Co., Inc.
- Southern California Edison Co.
- Toyota Motor Sales
- Trane Inc.
- Verizon

Related Industries

- Automotive
- Consumer & Retail Products
- Energy, Natural Resources & Utilities
- Industrials & Manufacturing
- Life Sciences

Related Practices

- Supreme Court & Appellate Litigation
- Business & Commercial Litigation
- State Attorneys General Litigation & Investigations
- White Collar Defense & Corporate Investigations