

BROKER-DEALER REGULATION

Our diverse broker-dealer clients include substantially all of the largest full-service broker-dealers and investment banks, large online brokerage firms, proprietary trading firms, hedge fund and private equity fund third-party marketers, “captive” broker-dealers owned by hedge funds or investment advisers, clearing firms, and insurance company-affiliated broker-dealers.

Recognizing the intense regulatory scrutiny and severe consequences for non-compliance, Katten’s Broker-Dealer Regulation team helps clients resolve complex legal and regulatory issues, as well as adopt a proactive approach to compliance for mitigating risk. Our attorneys have worked in-house for broker-dealers and for self-regulatory organizations, including the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) and the SEC, bringing the established relationships and inside perspective needed to effectively navigate regulatory hurdles.

We advise on all aspects of broker-dealer formation and operation, including registration, reporting, trading, research, advertising, net capital, margin and supervision. Our capabilities extend to virtually all relevant investment products, including equity securities, bonds, municipal securities, government securities, mutual funds, hedge funds, annuities and life insurance, exchange-traded and over-the-counter (OTC) equity and index options, and direct participation programs.

Our extensive experience in the field enables us to handle even the most complex transactions involving transfers of ownership interests in broker-dealers. Our attorneys routinely draft and help implement brokerage agreements, compliance manuals (including trading, research, institutional, retail and market making), employee trading policies, privacy policies, and business continuity plans. We also represent broker-dealers in regulatory and self-regulatory enforcement investigations and proceedings.

FINANCIAL SERVICES LITIGATION

The Financial Services Litigation team provides thoughtful, effective and efficient representation to members of the financial services industry ranging from the largest global investment banks and broker-dealers, to individual investment professionals. Our attorneys, many of whom are former federal prosecutors and regulators, have successfully litigated complex, high-stakes disputes in federal and state courts across the country, and before administrative law judges, business conduct committees and arbitration panels. We understand the structure, risk and regulatory context of the full spectrum of financial products, from exchange-traded securities, options, futures and funds, to sophisticated OTC swaps and derivatives. We have a deep understanding of floor-based open-outcry trading venues, fully electronic trading platforms and clearinghouses, and traditional OTC dealer-to-dealer markets.

We frequently represent clients in SEC, CFTC and DOJ investigations and enforcement actions, self-regulatory organization (SRO) regulatory disputes, administrative proceedings and private civil litigation. We have particular experience in planning, conducting and reporting the results of internal investigations for boards of directors, audit committees and special litigation committees. We have investigated allegations of insider trading, front-running, market manipulation, improper order internalization, unethical floor trading and sales practices, disruptive trading, mismarking of securities, and inadequate or misleading investment disclosures.

We represent clients in disputes arising out of all aspects of their businesses, including mergers and acquisitions, customer and competitor complaints, employee controversies, and intellectual property disputes.

Katten’s Financial Services Litigation team crafts and executes effective litigation and dispute resolution strategies that are tailor-made to serve our clients’ business objectives.

Our Team



Christian Kemnitz

Co-head, Financial Services Litigation
+1.312.902.5379
christian.kemnitz@kattenlaw.com



Janet Angstadt

Head, Chicago Financial Services
+1.312.902.5494
janet.angstadt@kattenlaw.com



Alan Brudner

Financial Services Litigation Partner
+1.212.940.6362
alan.brudner@kattenlaw.com



David Goldberg

Financial Services Litigation Partner
+1.212.940.6787
david.goldberg@kattenlaw.com



James Van De Graaff

Financial Services Partner
+1.312.902.5227
james.vandegraaff@kattenlaw.com



Michael Foley

Financial Services Special Counsel
+1.312.902.5452
michael.foley@kattenlaw.com

Recognized By

- **The Legal 500 United States**
 - Financial Services: Litigation 2016
- **The Legal 500 United Kingdom**
 - Corporate and Commercial – Financial Services (Non-Contentious/Regulatory) 2016, 2015

