COHEN & GRESSER

Products Liability, Mass Torts and Consumer Class Actions

C&G's Products Liability, Mass Torts & Consumer Class Actions group regularly leads the defense of complex, high-stakes litigation. Our attorneys are superb at finding the flaws in a case and getting it dismissed or meaningfully reduced in scope through motion practice, and we are equally skilled at negotiating favorable settlements and developing innovative strategies for alternative dispute resolution where appropriate. And if a case has to be tried – either as a matter of client strategy or because plaintiffs will not accept a reasonable settlement – our brilliant, experienced trial lawyers have an impressive record of guiding clients through the pretrial and trial process and winning trials in courts throughout the United States and overseas.

Whether we are serving as trial counsel, national coordinating counsel, or in another role, our focus is on aligning our interests with those of our clients, resolving cases as efficiently as possible, and reducing our clients' total exposure.

Products Liability & Mass Torts

Representing a major university in connection with hundreds of claims of abuse by a physician formerly employed by the University that occurred decades ago, in which plaintiffs' claims were revived by New York's Child Victims Act.

Representing individual family members, owners and former directors of a large pharmaceutical company, in several product liability actions filed by consumers and government authorities in numerous states relating to the production and marketing of certain opioid drugs.

Represented a leading international cosmetics company in a products liability personal injury action brought in New York Supreme Court alleging insufficient product warning labels and product design defects, among other claims.

Represented an international building-supply manufacturer in developing, negotiating, and managing a large-scale, complex, and novel settlement program in connection with the Chinese Drywall products liability litigation.

Represented a leading pharmaceutical company in obtaining dismissal on summary judgment of several products liability actions in various jurisdictions, including a multidistrict litigation, alleging, among other things, that a blockbuster prescription drug caused vision loss and stroke.

Represented one of the largest U.S. consumer products manufacturers in products liability litigation brought in the courts of Great Britain, Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, Poland, and Kazakhstan.

Represented a major construction materials company in connection with its nationwide strategy for responding to class and individual asbestos-related injury claims, including consulting with trial lawyers across the country on specific strategies for individual and groups of cases, providing trial assistance, negotiating individual and group settlements of claims, and helping to formulate and negotiate a nationwide settlement of all asbestos-related claims.

Represented a global healthcare company in multidistrict litigation involving thousands of claimants who alleged that an active ingredient in over-the-counter cough/cold medicines caused hemorrhagic strokes.

Represented a Japanese multinational information technology and electronics company in multiple products liability cases involving computer keyboards.

Represented a major pharmaceutical company in multiple litigations and investigations arising from claims of product liability, fraud, and off-label promotion in connection with multibillion dollar antipsychotic medication.

Represented several tobacco companies in defeating class certification in multiple products liability lawsuits across the United States.

Defended an international, government-owned electric power company against Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act criminal environmental claims brought by the DOJ Environmental Crimes Section, and in follow-up private civil suits with the company's supplier regarding indemnification claims and with community groups suing for environmental injury.

Represented a major automobile manufacturer in litigation arising from alleged tire failures and roll-overs associated with its vehicles.

Represented a major electronics and entertainment company in a nationwide products liability dispute relating to allegations that anti-pirating protection included on music CDs caused damage to operating systems on user devices. Representation included obtaining dismissal of actions in several state courts, and assisting with the consolidation of dozens of separate state and federal actions into one multidistrict litigation in federal court. Participated in devising global settlement, and advised client in connection with follow-up inquiries from state and federal regulators.

Represented multiple tobacco companies as lead counsel in the successful defense of numerous products liability actions, seeking hundreds of billions of dollars in damages, in state and federal courts throughout the United States.

Represented a Japanese manufacturing company in over 500 products liability actions across the United States, which involved defeating consolidation motions, and creating a streamlined, cost effective settlement procedure to resolve all actions before trial.

Counseled an international pharmaceutical company regarding end-game strategy and the mediation of thousands of lawsuits in a large multi-forum products liability litigation relating to a blockbuster prescription antipsychotic drug.

Consumer Class Actions

Defended one of the largest Korean consumer product design and manufacturing companies in a products liability class action alleging breach of warranty, fraud, and violation of state consumer protection laws relating to purported defects in plasma televisions. Matter was dismissed with prejudice.

Defended one of the world's largest multinational retailers in a putative class action alleging the retailer distributed, sold, and marketed products containing labels with material misrepresentations. Representation included defeating many pretrial motions and resolving several discovery disputes.

Represented a major electronics company in consumer fraud class actions alleging fraud and false advertising claims regarding a laptop computer model, including successfully obtaining a motion to dismiss claims for injunctive relief and reaching an eventual resolution outside of court.

Defended a manufacturer of popular snack foods in four consumer class actions pending in four separate jurisdictions, including defeating, after an evidentiary hearing and post-hearing briefing, Plaintiffs' motion to enforce a purported settlement negotiated with prior counsel.

Represented a major electronics company in consumer fraud class actions regarding its smartwatch model, notably handling the issues of arbitration agreement enforcement with consumers and what qualifies as sufficient notice of such arbitration agreements.

Represented an American lifestyle and performance footwear company in a putative class action alleging violation of state and consumer protection laws in the marketing and sale of footwear.

Represented a computer company in a multistate consumer class action involving allegations that marketing materials and user manuals included misleading statements regarding warranty protection. Oversaw portions of defensive discovery process, and assisted in drafting motion for summary judgment in advance of successful settlement.

Represented the parent company of a retail chain in responding to investigations by multiple regulatory authorities and class action plaintiffs in first major data breach caused by hackers.

Defended a multinational electronics company in a products liability class action relating to purported defects in televisions alleging breach of warranty, breach of duty of good faith and fair dealing, and unjust enrichment, in addition to statutory misrepresentation and fraud claims. All claims were dismissed without prejudice, and the matter was eventually settled out of court.

Represented a Korean computer component manufacturer as an intervening party in a consumer products class action alleging breach of express warranty and defective computers, including conducting extensive discovery review and obtaining a reversal of the statewide class certification.

Defended a leading provider of risk management and fraud prevention technology solutions in nationwide and statewide class actions asserting fraud and claims under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, among other claims.

Represented a Korean consumer product design and manufacturing company in a products liability action alleging breach of warranty, fraud, and violation of state consumer protection laws relating to purported defects in a cellular telephone.