



Douglas J Pepe
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Practice Areas

Litigation and Arbitration, Professional Liability, Commercial Litigation, Insurance, Securities Litigation, Appellate Practice, Products Liability, Mass Torts and Consumer Class Actions, Digital Currency and Blockchain Technology

Education

Columbia Law School (J.D., Chancellor Kent Scholar, 1999); State University of New York at Buffalo (B.A., *summa cum laude*, 1996)

Bar Admissions

New York State; New Jersey State; U.S. Supreme Court; U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second Circuit, Ninth Circuit and Federal Circuit; U.S. District Courts for the Southern District of New York, Eastern District of New York, and District of New Jersey

Douglas J. Pepe is a partner in Cohen & Gresser's New York office. His practice focuses on litigating complex commercial matters on behalf of corporate and institutional clients, defending major law firms in high-stakes legal malpractice cases, and blockchain law.

Throughout his career, Doug has litigated tens of billions of dollars in claims involving a wide variety of complex substantive and procedural issues, including the securities laws and RICO Act; fiduciary, contractual and pre-contractual liability; corporate, class action and derivative litigation; legal malpractice and sanctions defense; and insurance subrogation, mass tort, aircraft disaster and terrorism litigation. He has extensive experience in large multiparty disputes and played a leading role on the Court-appointed Executive Committee charged with directing the subrogation and property damage claims arising out of the 9/11 terrorist attack, which were successfully resolved in a \$1.2 billion settlement approved by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Doug is recognized by *The Legal 500* in the general commercial disputes category. The guide notes that Doug "is a lawyer's lawyer. The best law firms in the country turn to Doug when facing systemic and sensitive risks to their firms." Doug is also recognized as one of New York's Super Lawyers for business litigation.

Doug is also a Professorial Lecturer in Law at The George Washington University School of Law, where he teaches blockchain law, technology, and cybersecurity. He is a member of the American Law Institute, the preeminent independent organization in the United States producing scholarly work to clarify, modernize, and otherwise improve the law. Doug has authored numerous articles and book chapters on complex commercial litigation issues that have been cited in legal treatises, law reviews and other professional journals, and the commentaries to the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules. He speaks regularly on blockchain-related legal issues.

Before joining the firm, Doug practiced for 20 years at Joseph Hage Aaronson, one of the country's preeminent litigation boutiques. Before that, he was an associate at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson, where he practiced in both the Corporate and Litigation departments, working principally in the fields of Mergers & Acquisitions, White Collar Criminal Investigations and Securities Litigation. Doug also served as a law clerk for U.S. District Court Judge Faith S. Hochberg for the District of New Jersey. He is a graduate of Columbia Law School, where he was a James Kent Scholar.

Activities and Affiliations

Senior Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America

Member, American Law Institute