



Jillian Hewitt

Partner

New York

(212) 336-8330

jhewitt@susmangodfrey.com

Overview

Jillian Hewitt litigates high-stakes disputes in state and federal courts and arbitrations across the country. Jillian represents plaintiffs and defendants through every stage of litigation in a wide range of complex commercial cases, including securities litigation, breach of contract, class actions, and employment litigation. Her clients range from universities and Fortune 500 companies to individuals and smaller businesses, to governmental entities and former government officials.

COMPLEX LITIGATION

Jillian has secured wins for her clients at all stages of arbitration and litigation. Below are a few of her notable successes:

- ***Perkins Coie LLP v. U.S. Department of Justice, et al.*** Representing a bipartisan group of 27 former national security, foreign policy, intelligence, and other public officials who have worked on security matters at the most senior levels of the United States government as *amici* in support of Perkins Coie. Read more about the brief [here](#).
- ***Mayor & City Council of Baltimore v. Purdue Pharma L.P., et al.*** Represented the City of Baltimore in litigation against the manufacturers, distributors, and prescribers that fueled the worst opioid epidemic in the nation. Ms. Hewitt argued a dozen motions to dismiss the City's case and took the depositions of key manufacturer and distributor fact witnesses. The City recently secured a \$266 million verdict against McKesson and AmerisourceBergen, and has recovered a total of \$668.5 million in settlements and damages. This includes \$402.5 million in settlements after the City declined to participate in the global settlements that most cities, counties, and states pursued. Read more [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).
- ***Confidential PPP Arbitration.*** Represented lender in a dispute concerning alleged breaches of contract related to the Paycheck Protection Program and secured a favorable award following arbitral

hearing. Ms. Hewitt presented three witnesses—two fact witnesses and one key expert—and conducted two cross-examinations at the hearing.

- ***Provi v. Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits, LLC et al.*** Representing Provi, an online marketplace connecting licensed wholesale alcohol distributors and retailers, in an antitrust action against the two largest alcohol distributors in the United States in federal court in Chicago

BACKGROUND

Jillian is the co-chair of Susman Godfrey's Diversity Committee. She also helped develop the [Susman Godfrey Prize](#) and participates each year in the review, interview, and selection process for SG Prize recipients.

Jillian joined Susman Godfrey after clerking on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. She graduated *magna cum laude* from Princeton University and earned her J.D. from Yale Law School.

Notable Representations

Representative Cases

- ***Provi v. Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits, LLC et al.*** Representing Provi, an online marketplace connecting licensed wholesale alcohol distributors and retailers, in an antitrust action against the two largest alcohol distributors in the United States in federal court in Chicago.
- ***Confidential Executive Compensation Arbitration.*** Representing former CEO of a publicly-traded company in a dispute concerning alleged compensation-related breaches of contract.
- ***Perkins Coie LLP v. U.S. Department of Justice, et al.*** Representing a bipartisan group of 27 former national security, foreign policy, intelligence, and other public officials who have worked on security matters at the most senior levels of the United States government as *amici* in support of Perkins Coie. Read more about the brief [here](#).
- ***Mayor & City Council of Baltimore v. Purdue Pharma L.P., et al.*** Represented the City of Baltimore in litigation against the manufacturers, distributors, and prescribers that fueled the worst opioid epidemic in the nation. Ms. Hewitt argued a dozen motions to dismiss the City's case and took the depositions of key manufacturer and distributor fact witnesses. The City recently secured a [\\$266 million verdict](#) against McKesson and AmerisourceBergen, and has recovered a total of \$668.5 million in settlements and damages. This includes \$402.5 million in settlements after the City declined to participate in the global settlements that most cities, counties, and states pursued. Read more [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).
- ***Confidential Family Office Arbitration.*** Represented former employees of family office in a dispute concerning alleged breaches of restrictive

covenants and fiduciary duties. Secured a favorable, confidential settlement following resolution of clients' partial dispositive motion.

- **Confidential PPP Arbitration.** Represented lender in a dispute concerning alleged breaches of contract related to the Paycheck Protection Program and secured a favorable award following arbitral hearing. Ms. Hewitt presented three witnesses—two fact witnesses and one key expert—and conducted two cross-examinations at the hearing.
 - **SEC v. Akazoo, SA.** Intervened in the SEC's action against digital music streaming service, Akazoo, securing a \$35 million settlement on behalf of a group of PIPE and SPAC investors related to allegations that Akazoo defrauded investors and lied about business prospects before and after its 2019 special purpose acquisition company merger. The investor group represented by Ms. Hewitt and her team was awarded \$30.1 million of the settlement (\$25.3 million after fees and expenses). [Read more.](#)
 - **In re: Lincoln National COI Litigation.** Secured final approval of a \$109 million settlement on behalf of a class of life insurance policyholders in action challenging cost of insurance increases by Lincoln.
 - **FASORP v. New York University.** Working pro bono, represented New York University against FASORP, a Texas organization that alleged that the NYU School of Law and the NYU Law Review discriminate against white men in the entities' efforts to foster diversity. Ms. Hewitt was a key drafter of NYU's successful motion to dismiss in the trial court and its appellate brief before the Second Circuit. She also led efforts on NYU's successful opposition to FASORP's petition for certiorari before the United States Supreme Court. Click [here](#) for the Second Circuit's decision, and read more about the decision in [Reuters](#), [ABA Journal](#), and in [Law360's coverage](#)* (*subscription required).
 - **Fish v. Goulston & Storrs PC.** Represented John Fish in an action against Goulston & Storrs PC alleging legal malpractice, breach of fiduciary duty, and willful violations of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 93A, arising out of a failed billion-dollar real estate development project in Boston's Back Bay. The case settled favorably for Mr. Fish pursuant to a confidential settlement agreement following Ms. Hewitt's deposition of several Goulston witnesses.
 - **Broussard et al. v. Chevron.** Obtained a favorable, confidential settlement on the eve of trial for Chevron in a \$50 million breach of contract and royalties action involving oil and gas wells drilled in Vermilion Parish, Louisiana. Hewitt defended the deposition of Chevron's principal expert witness and briefed and argued several pre-trial motions.
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- Rising Star, New York Super Lawyers – an honor awarded to the top 2.5% of lawyers under the age of 40 in New York ([2024](#), Thomson Reuters)

*Honors &
Distinctions*

- Lawdragon 500X – The Next Generation of Leading Lawyers (2024)
- Benjamin Scharps Prize (awarded for the best paper written by a third-year student, Yale Law School)

Clerkships

Honorable Andrew D. Hurwitz, United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Honorable John G. Koeltl, United States District Court for the Southern District of New York

Education

Yale Law School (J.D.,)

Princeton University (A.B., magna cum laude)