

People



Elizabeth A. Izquierdo

Partner, Litigation

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Elizabeth Izquierdo focuses her practice on legal malpractice defense. She also has experience in the areas of complex commercial litigation, securities fraud, and professional liability with a focus on accounting malpractice defense, as well as appellate practice.

Notable Work

Professional Negligence Claim: Successfully obtained summary judgment based on statute of limitations in negligence action for purported failure to procure liability insurance, in a case against an insurance broker seeking damages in excess of \$16 million.

Class Action Litigation: Successfully defended the trial court's entry of final summary for the defendant in a class action suit in an appeal to the Fourth District Court of Appeal in *Colombo v. Robertson Anschutz & Schneid, P.L.* See the Fourth DCA May 4, 2022, decision, at 2022 WL 1397564.

Jury Trial: Represented large law firm client in a challenging seven-year-old case that the team took over from prior counsel after a number of adverse rulings, including orders granting leave to pursue punitive damage claims against a major law firm and one of its lawyers. The team prevailed in a two-week jury trial on claims for conspiracy/usurpation of corporate opportunity, negligent misrepresentation, aiding and abetting fraud/theft of corporate opportunity, civil theft, and breach of escrow agreement. The court granted a directed verdict on the claims for civil theft and for punitive damages against the law firm, and the jury rendered a complete defense verdict on all remaining claims.

Securities Litigation: Defended a multinational corporate fund administrator and individual directors of a \$500 million offshore hedge fund in numerous lawsuits in multiple jurisdictions arising out of a complex valuation fraud scheme perpetrated by the hedge fund's investment manager. The lawsuits included a securities fraud

Areas of Experience

Litigation
Professional Liability
Commercial Disputes
Appellate

Education

J.D., University of Florida Levin College of Law, 2002, with honors, *Florida Law Review*
B.A., University of Central Florida, 1999, summa cum laude

Admissions

Bars

Florida

Courts

U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida

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class action lawsuit brought by two individual investors (see *Bruhl v. Price Waterhousecoopers Int'l Ltd. II*, No. 03-23044-CIV, 2011 WL 13071116 (S.D. Fla. Oct. 7, 2011)); a federal securities fraud lawsuit brought by a large group of institutional investors (see *Pension Committee of the University of Montreal Pension Plan v. Banc of America Securities, LLC*, 592 F. Supp. 2d 608 (S.D.N.Y. 2009)); and breach of fiduciary duty, breach of contract, and negligence-based claims brought by the hedge fund's court-appointed receiver (see *Court Appointed Receiver of Lancer Offshore, Inc. v. Citco Grp. Ltd.*, No. 05-60080-CIV, 2011 WL 1232986 (S.D. Fla. Mar. 30, 2011)).

Hedge Fund Litigation: Defended a multinational corporate fund administrator and custodian of a multibillion-dollar hedge fund group in multiple lawsuits, including a federal securities class action lawsuit and shareholder derivative claims, arising out of the hedge fund's losses caused by the Bernard L. Madoff Ponzi scheme. See *Anwar v. Fairfield Greenwich Ltd.*, 2013 WL 662972 (S.D.N.Y. Feb. 25, 2013); *Stephenson v. Citco Group Limited*, 700 F. Supp. 2d 599 (S.D.N.Y. 2010).