

Rodney L. Lewis

SHAREHOLDER

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Rodney Lewis is an experienced and seasoned litigator and has assisted corporate clients in complex commercial litigation matters across an array of industries in state and federal courts, including consumer class action defense under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, Telephone Consumer Protection Act, Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, various state consumer protection laws, construction and commercial real estate litigation, False Claims Act defense, privacy and data security matters, and general commercial disputes. His concentration is in litigating financial services and business disputes.

Since joining Polsinelli, he has successfully defended several clients in civil trials, defeated motions for class certification, won cases on summary judgment, obtained favorable results for clients through alternative dispute resolution processes, and negotiated favorable settlements for clients where appropriate. Honed by a decade of running his own business in the competitive entertainment industry, Rodney is dedicated to understanding his clients' business and possesses project management skills that help him identify and implement effective strategies for clients.

Education

- DePaul University College of Law (J.D., *with high honors*, 2005)
 - Herzog Scholar; Hinshaw Scholar
- University of Illinois (B.A., 1992)
 - President's Award Scholar

Bar Admissions

- Illinois, 2006

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit

Memberships

Capabilities

- Commercial Litigation
- Consumer Financial Services Litigation
- Litigation
- Real Estate Litigation
- Sports & Entertainment
- Telephone Consumer Protection Act Litigation (TCPA)
- Telecommunications Litigation
- Privacy Litigation

- *Law360* Illinois Editorial Board, 2025
- Chicago Committee for Minority Lawyers in Large Law Firms
 - Board Member
- American Bar Association
- National Bar Association
- March of Dimes Chicago
 - Board Member, 2015 to Present
- Edutainment Project
 - Board Member, 2012 to Present
- Envision Unlimited
 - Associate Board Member, 2011-2012

Recognition

- Named one of 2018's "Most Notable Minority Lawyers" by Crain's Chicago Business
- Honored as one of *Chicago Defender's* "50" Men of Excellence
- Appointed to Board of Directors of the Chicago Committee, 2018
- 2015 L.C.L.D. Leadership Council Fellow
- Selected for inclusion in *Illinois Super Lawyers Rising Stars*, Business Litigation, 2013- 2016
- DePaul University College of Law Distinguished Alumni, 2015 Section
- Walk-on Member of University of Illinois Varsity Basketball Team
- Theater Alliance Awards Winner
- Ebony Magazine Future Leaders Finalist
- Represented United States in Music International Festival

Clerkships

- Judicial Clerkship: Hon. Ann Claire Williams, U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit

Matters

- Successfully enforced damages settlement for commercial real estate company against real estate developer after client sustained significant property damage due to the developer's construction of a neighboring luxury apartment complex.
- Successfully defended a manufacturer and seller of pet products in a class action claiming TCPA and Florida Telephone Solicitation Act (FTSA) violations for allegedly sending marketing texts to consumers who were on the National Do Not Call list and other consumers without capturing consent. After a thorough investigation was completed by Polsinelli, plaintiff's counsel agreed there were no violations and dismissed the case.
- Lead trial counsel for national food manufacturer in federal jury trial against distributor for breach of contract and various business tort claims.
- Lead trial counsel for a Telephone Consumer Protection Act ("TCPA") matter in Northern District of Illinois on behalf of financial institution. Successfully obtained dismissal.
- Lead trial counsel and defeated class certification on behalf of client in a Fair Credit Reporting Act ("FCRA") class action filed in the Northern District of Illinois. The proposed class, as defined, would have included over one million consumers, each claiming at least \$1000 in damages. Successfully moved for summary judgement after defeating certification.

- Lead trial counsel and won a Circuit Court of Cook County trial in a construction-related dispute involving the interpretation and application of final lien waivers.
- Lead trial counsel and successfully defended data client in Eastern District of Virginia putative class action alleging various violations of the FCRA and various state consumer protection laws.
- Leads team that supports one of "Big-3" consumer reporting agencies defending FCRA claims in federal courts across the country and trying state court cybersecurity claims on behalf of the client.
- Part of team that successfully defended putative class action in federal court brought by multiple financial institutions against a major national retailer client involving claims arising out of a data security breach.
- Represented real estate developer client in Circuit Court of Cook County Chancery Division in dispute between LLC members over \$92 million commercial real estate development.
- Successfully defended at trial a breach of fiduciary duty claim brought under the Illinois Uniform Partnership Act.
- Second chaired successful trial defense against breach of contract action between brokers of life insurance products.
- Part of trial team that defended a client sued on behalf of investors who lost \$700 million as victims of a Ponzi scheme and the legal team positioned the matter for a very favorable settlement.
- Won summary judgment in the amount of \$500,000 for client in dispute with former real estate investment partner.
- Successfully defended health and wellness benefits provider that was sued by a medical facility for alleged violations of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) in Central District of California.
- Provides front end compliance guidance to clients on issues involving FCRA, TCPA and other consumer protection statutes.