

Russell W. Gallaro

Senior Counsel

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Russell Gallaro represents clients in an array of complex commercial litigation matters that involve securities, derivatives, fraud, Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act (RICO), antitrust, construction and contract disputes.

While Russell's primary focus is in the financial services industry, where he represents securities broker-dealers, financial services companies, financial advisors and investment banks, he has also litigated disputes in a wide range of other industries, including real estate, construction, pharmaceutical, energy and marketing.

In addition to litigating in state and federal courts, Russell has extensive experience in arbitration proceedings. In particular, Russell has successfully represented financial services clients in numerous Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) arbitration hearings involving a wide range of disputes, from customer claims of unsuitability and unauthorized trading, to industry disputes involving complex investment products. Russell also regularly represents clients in FINRA regulatory and enforcement proceedings. Aside from FINRA, Russell's arbitration experience extends to many other arbitration forums, including the American Arbitration Association (AAA) and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC).

Industries

[Finance](#)

Practices

[Litigation](#)

[Financial Institutions Litigation](#)

Experience

Financial services company

- obtained favorable award from FINRA arbitration panel following five-day hearing involving claims of unsuitable investments in private equity and hedge

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funds, as well as favorable expungement decision for registered representative

Bloomberg, L.P.

- obtained dismissal of multiple lawsuits alleging breach of contract and violations of state and federal antitrust laws in construction dispute

Macquarie Futures USA

- obtained dismissal of breach of contract and fraud claims in both federal and state court in dispute concerning options contracts on commodities futures exchanges

Securities broker-dealer

- negotiated favorable settlement in multiple FINRA arbitrations involving allegations of unsuitable investment recommendations in student housing investments

Pharmaceutical company

- obtained an award of no damages following a 10-day ICC arbitration, on claims for alleged breaches of a pharmaceutical licensing agreement

Financial services company

- obtained complete dismissal of \$30 million claims of breach of contract, fraud and securities violations, in an 18-day FINRA arbitration in connection with client's origination of securities*

Financial services company and registered representative

- obtained complete dismissal in FINRA arbitration of claims against client alleging unsuitable investment activity, and obtained expungement in federal court of all references to the claims on registered representative's public disclosure report*

Data center services company

- successfully represented client alleging breach of contract claim in AAA arbitration and related New York state court proceeding*

Credit Suisse (USA) Inc.

- represented client in commercial mortgage-backed securities "putback" case*

** Work completed prior to Bracewell*

Credentials

Education

- Columbia Law School, J.D., 2012
- Georgetown University, B.A., 2009

Bar Admissions

- New York
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Recognition

BL Rankings

- *Best Lawyers*, Ones to Watch, Litigation – Securities, 2024 – 2025

Lawdragon Inc.

- *Lawdragon 500 X – The Next Generation*, Complex Commercial Litigation, especially Financial, 2023 – 2024
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Resources

What Labor Nominee Walsh Means for the Fiduciary Rule's Future

Article

2021 ESG Seminar, Session 2

Video

What Labor Nominee Martin Walsh Means for the Future of the Fiduciary Rule

Update

New SEC Task Force Confirms Commitment to ESG Focus

Update

Will Generic ESG Statements Lead to a Wave of Securities Litigation?

Update

Generic ESG Statements Remain Under Fire: Class Certification Granted for the Third Time as the Saga of the Goldman Sachs Securities Litigation Continues

Update

FINRA Facts and Trends: May 2022

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: June 2022

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: July 2022

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: September 2022

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: October 2022

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: November 2022

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: January 2023

Newsletter

Generic ESG Statements and Securities Class Actions: Goldman Sachs Secures Second Circuit Victory in Long-Running Class Certification Battle

Update

FINRA Facts and Trends: October 2023

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: September 2023

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: July 2023

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: May 2023

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: December 2023

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: January 2024

Newsletter

Time Has Come for Special Masters to Streamline Bankruptcy Cases

Article

FINRA Facts and Trends: March 2024

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: April 2024

Newsletter

A New Way to Pierce the Corporate Veil: Disgorging Profit From Corporate Affiliates

Update

FINRA Facts and Trends: November 2024

Newsletter

FINRA Facts and Trends: February 2025

Newsletter

Veil-Piercing Update: Supreme Court Restores the Status Quo, For Now

Update

Publications & Speeches

- "Corporate Liability Issues To Watch In High Court TM Case," *Law360*, December 5, 2024.
- "Time Has Come for Special Masters to Streamline Bankruptcy Cases," *Bloomberg Law*, February 13, 2024.