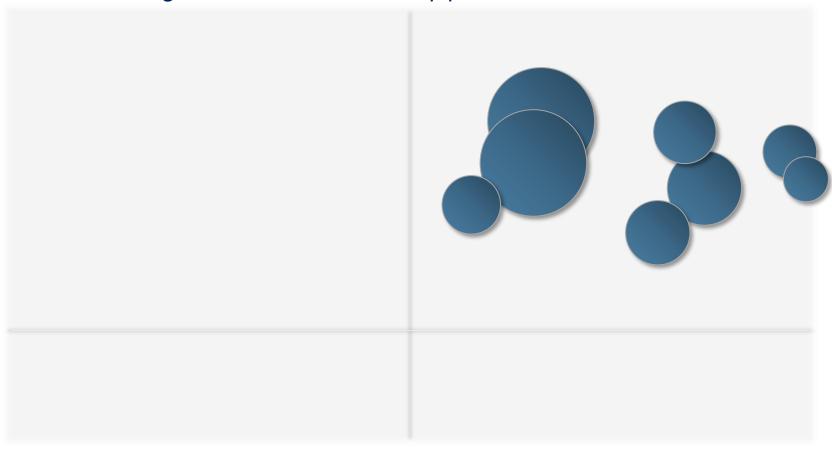


# BTI Litigation Outlook 2026:

# More Contentious. More Complex. More Spending.

Changes, Trends, and Opportunities For Law Firms



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High Rate, High Growth Opportunities Detailed for 18 industries, including:

- Banking
- Chemicals
- Consumer Goods
- Energy
- Financial Services
- Food/Agriculture
- Health Care
- High Tech
- Insurance

- Manufacturing
- Pharmaceuticals
- Professional Services
- Real Estate
- Retail Trade
- Telecom
- Transportation
- Regulated Utilities
- Wholesale Trade

#### Client Law Firm Preference and Favorites | 37

#### IP Litigation | 39

- Powerhouses 9 Firms
- Leaders 31 Firms
- Distinguished 36 Firms
- Standouts 36 Firms

#### Class Action Litigation | 43

- Powerhouses 12 Firms
- Leaders 25 Firms
- Distinguished 30 Firms
- Standouts 44 Firms

#### Cybersecurity Litigation | 47

- Powerhouses 7 Firms
- Leaders 12 Firms
- Distinguished 32 Firms
- Standouts 40 Firms

#### Securities & Finance Litigation | 51

- Powerhouses 9 Firms
- Leaders 11 Firms
- Distinguished 19 Firms
- Standouts 33 Firms

#### Complex Employment Litigation | 55

- Powerhouses 9 Firms
- Leaders 25 Firms
- Distinguished 36 Firms
- Standouts 33 Firms

#### Employment Litigation | 59

- Powerhouses 10 Firms
- Leaders 35 Firms
- Distinguished 29 Firms
- Standouts 28 Firms

**BTI Litigation Outlook 2026** 

#### Client Law Firm Preference and Favorites (cont.)

#### Product Liability Litigation | 63

- Powerhouses 10 Firms
- Leaders 15 Firms
- Distinguished 30 Firms
- Standouts 40 Firms

#### Complex Commercial Litigation | 67

- Powerhouses 12 Firms
- Leaders 16 Firms
- Distinguished 47 Firms
- Standouts 47 Firms

#### Commercial Litigation | 71

- Powerhouses 13 Firms
- Leaders 35 Firms
- Distinguished 37 Firms
- Standouts 37 Firms
- Noteworthy 30 Firms

#### Generative Al Litigation | 76

- Powerhouses 6 Firms
- Leaders 6 Firms
- Distinguished 20 Firms

#### The BTI Fearsome Foursome | 79

The Most Feared

• The 4 law firms clients don't want to see on the other side of the table

**Feared Firms** 

12 Firms

Awesome Opponents

45 Firms

**Intimidating Opponents** 

• 37 Firms

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### At a Glance

- Clients with budget increases <u>plan very big increases</u>
- Complex and contentious litigation are the fastest growing
- Clients hiring new firms to deal with more contentious issues

#### **Turbocharged Growth Ahead**

The litigation market is turbocharged – accelerating faster, hitting harder and offering more opportunity for law firms than ever.

In 2026, more than two-thirds of companies will boost litigation spending – many by over 10% – propelling a fierce contest for the most agile, fearless and innovative counsel. High-stakes, "bet-the-company" matters are now part of everyday life, as disputes grow more complex, contentious and business-critical.

Al-fueled IP battles are only the beginning. Add massive class actions and relentless cybersecurity claims, and clients are demanding rapid, creative strategies and industry-specific insights. Employment litigation brings confounding challenges – while new breach of contract claims grow bigger and more complex than they ever have.

The winners will be those who deliver speed, precision and bold thinking – not just arguments.

This report pinpoints the fastest-growing segments, the practice areas commanding the biggest premium and the industries where opportunity is set to explode. And details the law firms – by name – best suited for this plum work.

Litigation in 2026 isn't for the cautious – it's for those ready to run in the red zone.

Our **16**<sup>th</sup> **BTI Litigation Outlook** reveals the contentious and complex nature of litigation – **why litigation spending is growing again**.

Contentious, complex, and novel cases translate into top-of-the-market rates for firms who can solve the problems.

#### Clients are:

- Boosting spending by more than 10%
- Looking for new law firms who can deal with the complexity

Clients' 2026 litigation spending brings a whole new set of business development demands – all outlined in rich detail in this report.

BTI Litigation Outlook 2026 immediately targets the most compelling opportunities — and the business development strategies to get the work. Order today!

**BTI Litigation Outlook 2026** 

# 7 Key Trends Shaping Litigation in 2026



More litigation now hits business operations (revenue) directly – raising urgency, and rates



Clients are expanding what they call bet-the-company – creating a fast-growing segment of complex need



Litigation is more contentious than ever – driving spending and new law firm selection criteria



Clients describe litigation chaos conditions as a result of caseload, complexity, novel claims and financial risk – looking to law firms for help



Litigation budgets are jumping – with increases deep into double digits



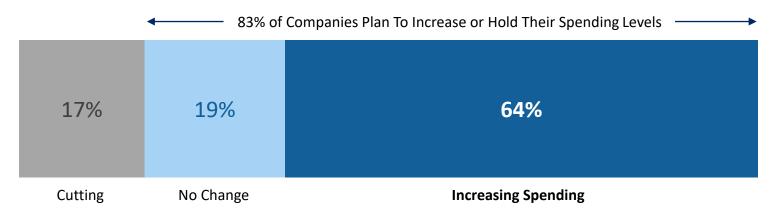
6 areas of litigation show acute demand



64% of clients are increasing spend – up from 57% a year ago

# Clients' Spending Stays Strong, Big Increases for 2026

#### Large Companies Plan Their Legal Spending



#### Clients Committed to Higher Spending Levels to Fight More Pressing Litigation

83% of clients plan to at least match last year's litigation spend. But the real story lies within the 64% who plan an increase. **Of this 64% group:** 



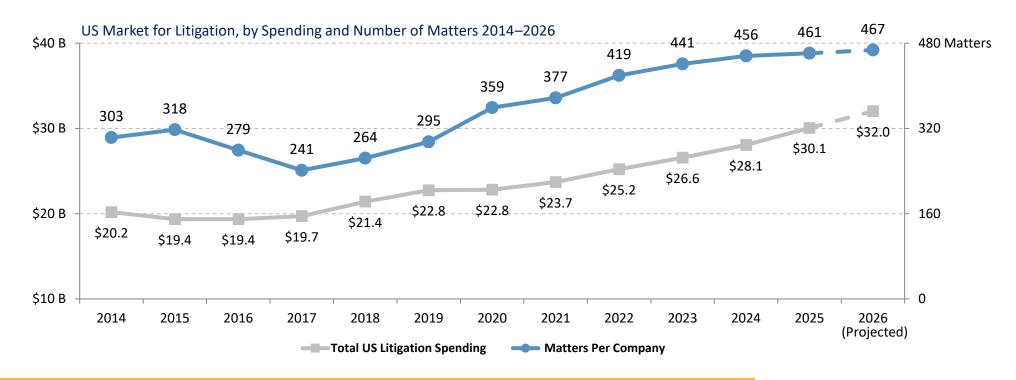
These are some of the largest increases we have uncovered on our 24 years of conducting The BTI Survey of Corporate Counsel. They share the following drivers:

- Litigation is more contentious than ever
- Claims are growing in size
- Litigation has a substantially more significant impact on client business operations demanding a more vigorous defense
- New and novel issues are growing demanding more innovative defenses

Law firms capturing the new spending are offering strategies quickly, embedding themselves in client decision-making and putting strong teams in front of clients – and they are all using GenAl as a productivity and brainstorming tool.



# Spending Per Case to Grow: Spending Increases Outpace Caseload Increases



#### Growing Complexity, More Impact on Client Operations Ignite Increased Spending

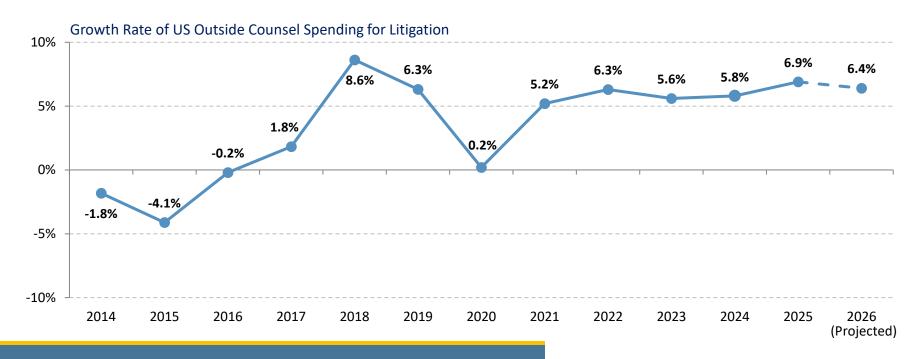
Building on the prior 2 years' litigation spending, increases continue to outpace growth in caseload. The reason:

- More litigation impacting client business operations creating higher value matters
- Increased complexity for existing matters
- Increased outside counsel costs
- New and novel claims
- More contentious, hard-fought litigation

This faster growth is driving clients to select law firms bringing new ideas very early in the process.



## Growth for Outside Counsel Flirts with Record Levels



#### Elevated Growth for Outside Counsel Spending Stays Strong

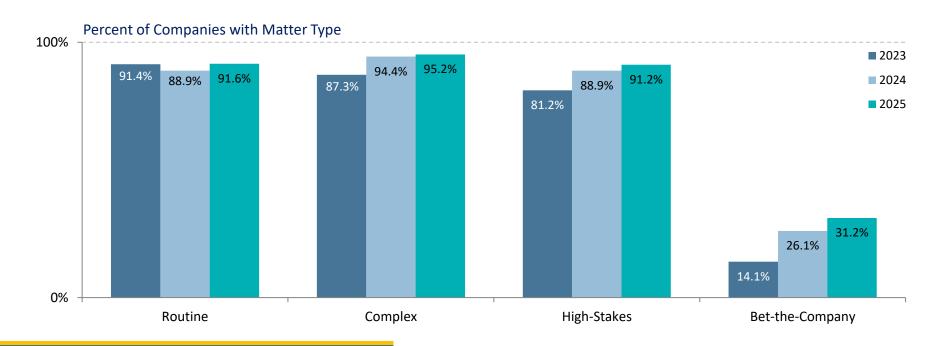
Litigation spending enters its 6<sup>th</sup> straight year at elevated levels. Credit the following key drivers:

- Growth in bet-the-company work
- Increased litigation impacting business operations
- Spike in labor and employment cases
- More companies with class actions
- Larger outside counsel teams to deal with new claims
- Bigger claims

Complexity increases while the pace of new and existing litigation races ahead. Growth in contentious litigation is causing chaos – and increased spending on outside counsel.



## Complex and High-Stakes Become Pervasive



#### Almost All Clients Face High-Stakes Work

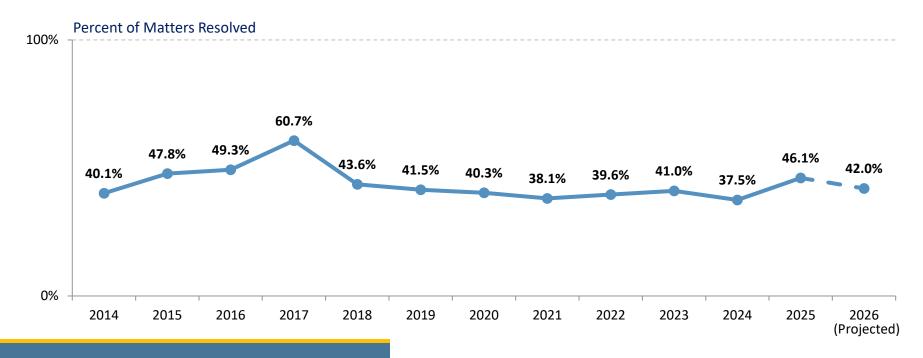
High-stakes, high-risk work is a routine part of the litigation landscape. The key issues driving the increase and changes in risk profile include:

- 1. A contentious litigation environment
- 2. An expanding set of risks facing clients
- 3. Tariffs and market volatility upending supply chain agreements
- 4. More claims with the potential to impact client revenue streams
- 5. Labor-related actions as a result of political changes
- 6. Fighting political and regulatory headwinds
- 7. Clients applying broader definitions of high risk

Clients are dealing with a new litigation landscape characterized by high risk – and are looking for law firms with responses to match their new world order.



# Optimism for Settling Drops: One Symptom of a More Contentious Market



#### Client Optimism for Settlements Drops

Corporate counsel see fewer settlements on the horizon for 3 reasons:

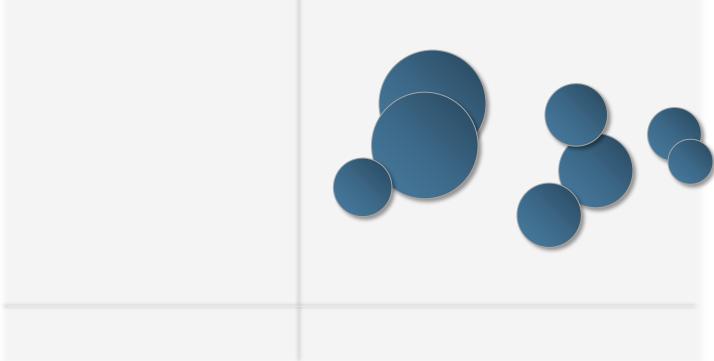
- Growing contentiousness
- Plaintiffs are less inclined to settle, thinking courts are leaning in their favor
- Concern about precedent for new and novel claims

Fewer settlements becomes a key driver behind increased spending.





# BTI's Litigation Forecast 2026 Opportunity Roadmap



# How to Use BTI's Litigation Forecast 2026

#### **Identify Growing (and Shrinking) Market Segments**

Vertical axis measures 2026 growth potential

- Practices above the zero-growth line highlight segments growing faster than the overall market
- Practices below the growth line are growing slower than the market

#### **Pinpoint Premium Rate Opportunities**

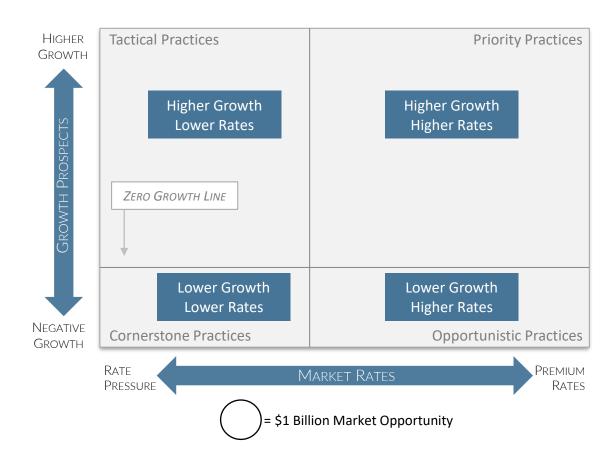
Horizontal axis identifies relative average rates

- Practices on the right side of the chart garner higher average hourly rates
- Practices on the left side of the chart experience greater rate pressure

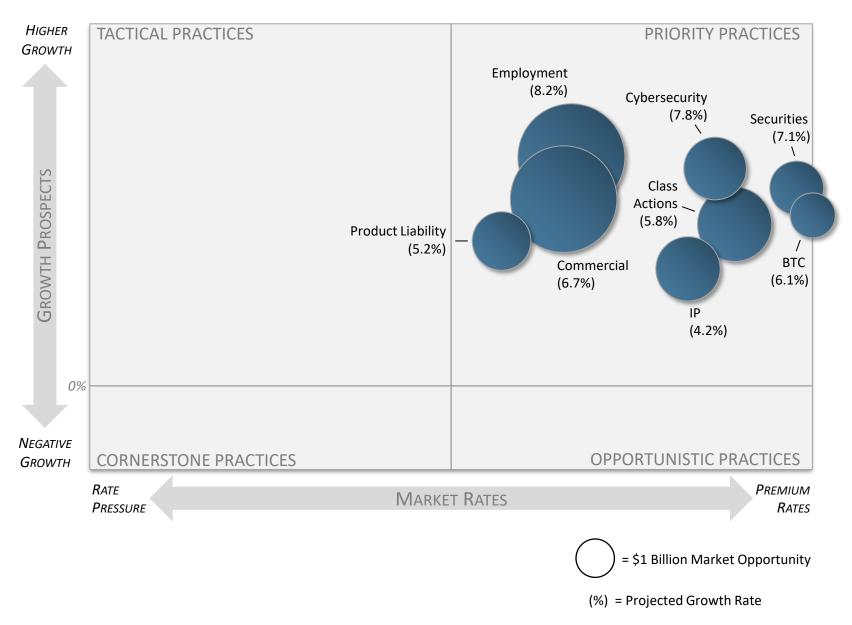
#### **Understand Extent of Opportunities**

Bubble size measures market size

 The size of each practice bubble measures the total corporate counsel spending in the litigation segment

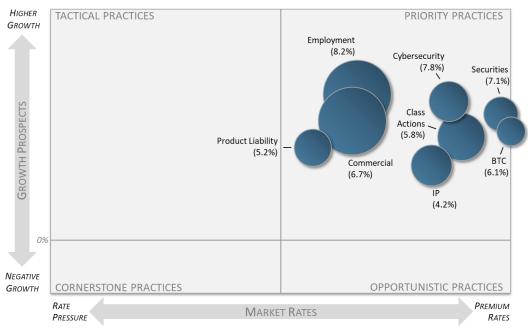


# BTI's Litigation Forecast 2026





# BTI's Litigation Forecast 2026



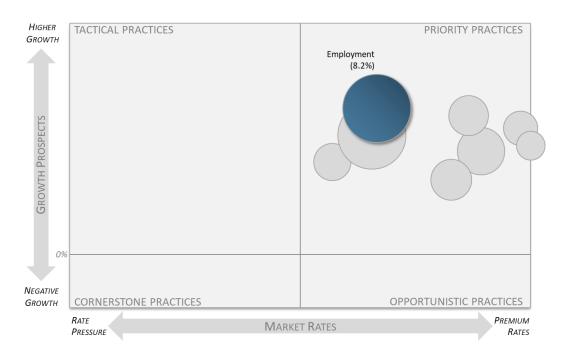
# PRIORITY PRACTICES: HIGHER RATES, GROWING SPENDING

Priority practices are a prime opportunity for law firms. These practice segments address clients' most pressing concerns and can be stand-alone drivers of growth and profitability. These practices command:

- Above-average market growth potential
- More access to premium rates

Practice Segment	2026 Projected Growth	2026 Projected Market Size
Employment Litigation (full details on page 18)	8.2%	\$9.77 B
Commercial Litigation (full details on page 20)	6.7%	\$9.69 B
Class Actions and Torts (full details on page 22)	5.8%	\$4.80 B
IP Litigation (full details on page 24)	4.2%	\$3.64 B
Cybersecurity Litigation (full details on page 26)	7.8%	\$3.37 B
Product Liability Litigation (full details on page 28)	5.2%	\$3.02 B
Securities and Finance Litigation (full details on page 30)	7.1%	\$2.53 B
Bet-the-Company Litigation (full details on page 32)	6.1%	\$1.69 B

# **Employment Litigation Set for Biggest Increases**





See the following page for:

- A breakdown of Employment Litigation opportunities by industry
- The history of Employment Litigation spending



Clients are facing a 7-way onslaught of issues in labor & employment. Up from 5 major issues last year. These include a combination of:

- DEI policy and risk mgmt.
- Reverse discrimination
- Wage and hour
- Whistleblower retaliation
- Reductions in force
- Mental health claims
- Non-competes and trade secrets

Most clients are facing at least 4 out of these 7 drivers – with larger clients facing all 7. These forces are creating litigation related to:

- Reverse discrimination claims
- Wage and hour and classification claims
- Salary and wage disclosure
- Conflicting Federal, state, and local mandates
- Gig economy misclassification Al bias in hiring

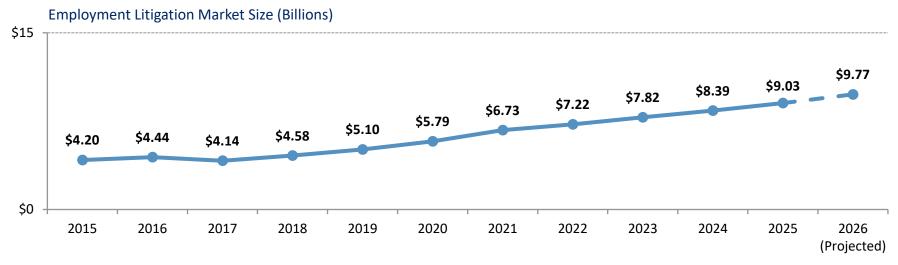
- Wrongful termination
- Hostile work environment claims
- Employee surveillance issues
- Privacy claims related to wearables

More of these claims are reaching CEO's offices because of public scrutiny and business implications. As a result, the firms winning new business are:

- Laying out the next set of risks and issues
- Sharing industry-specific risks and management strategies
- Solving jurisdictional conflict issues
- Crafting company-specific avoidance strategies
- **Exhibiting stunning timeliness**

Labor-only firms are offering tools to predict issues and map out jurisdictional issues and requirements. General Practice firms are leading with industry-specific strategies and avoidance. Both are winning formulas and the firms able to merge the 2 strategies will stand out most.

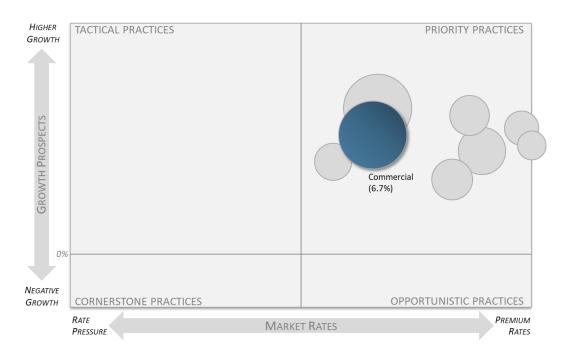
# Spending in Employment Litigation Heads Only Higher

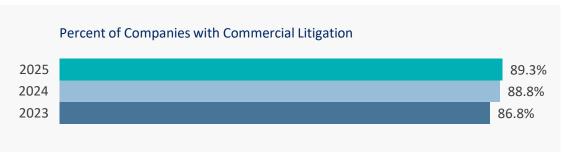


#### **BTI Industry Opportunity Assessment**

Hot Opportunity	Market Neutral	Pressure Points
Banking	Chemicals	
Energy	Consumer Goods	
Financial Services	Pharmaceuticals	
Food	Real Estate	
Health Care	Utilities	
High Tech	Wholesale Trade	
Insurance		
Manufacturing		
Professional Services		
Retail Trade		
Telecom		
Transportation		

# Commercial Litigation Increases Jump Again: Complex, Contentious and Novel Matters Surge





See the following page for:

- A breakdown of Commercial Litigation opportunities by industry
- The history of Commercial Litigation spending



More than 64% of companies are increasing their litigation budget with most of the increase going to outside counsel. The claims garnering the most attention from clients include:

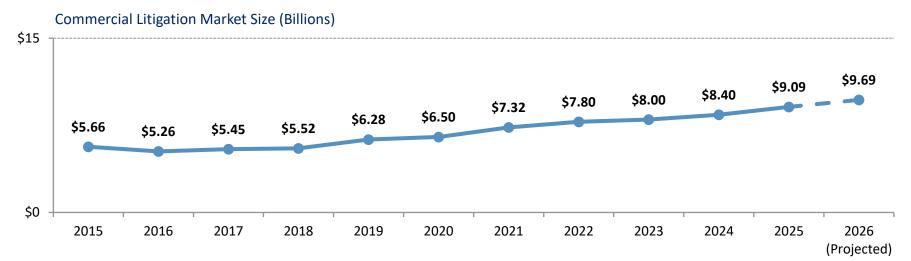
- Supply chains disrupted by tariffs and supply constraints
- Early claims related to Al-generated content governed by contract or other agreement
- Access to and use of AI training data
- Pile on suits from government interventions
- Tech implementation failures
- Joint ventures and partnering agreements unraveling
- Al-generated content and deepfakes

These new claims directly impact clients' business operations and revenue – adding tremendous pressure to corporate counsel to respond quickly. Law firms getting the new assignments – on a sole-source basis – offer the following:

- Swift assessment and action New approaches clients
- Practical solutions
- Aggressive approaches
- Clear understanding of business implications
- Ability to pivot when facts change
- New approaches client haven't seen before
- Creativity in applying precedents to new and novel issues

The old playbooks are officially obsolete – or limit firms to lower-rate work. Pitching your firm's legacy of wins tells clients you are stuck in the past. The winning pitches are built around brainstorming solutions, problem solving, and expediting legal processes. Anything else only proves a firm can't act as quickly as clients make decisions. The outsized litigation premium goes to the fast, flexible, and fearless counsel.

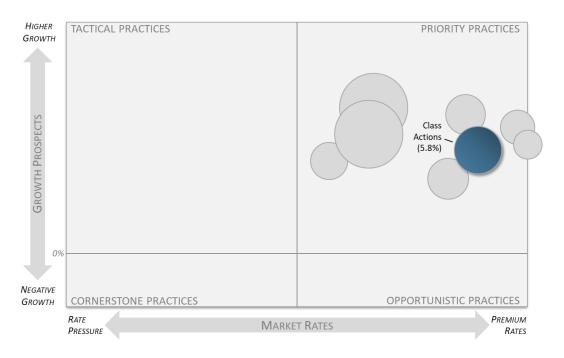
# Commercial Litigation Spending to Jump

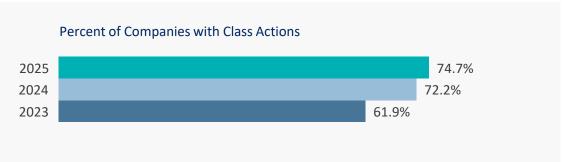


#### **BTI Industry Opportunity Assessment**

Hot Opportunity	Market Neutral	Pressure Points
Consumer Goods	Banking	
Energy	Chemicals	
Food	Financial Services	
Health Care	Pharmaceuticals	
High Tech	Professional Services	
Insurance	Retail Trade	
Manufacturing	Telecom	
Real Estate	Utilities	
Transportation		
Wholesale Trade		

## Class Action Spending Heads Further North





See the following page for:

- A breakdown of Class Actions opportunities by industry
- The history of Class Actions spending

Class actions continue to grow in size and complexity.

Clients are spending more. They blame more claims being certified, a broader variety of claims, bigger awards, courts reticent to dismiss claims, and the volatile political climate driving a litigious state. They indicate it continues to be easier to file a class action claim.

Clients are focusing on the following types of class actions:

- Discrimination

- Wage and hour
- Biological data privacy
- Data privacy
- Subscription pricing
- Securities fraud
- Labor & Employment
- Consumer fraud

False claims

- ESG
- Product liability

The law firms winning the new class actions work offer the following to clients:

- Quick risk assessment and action plans
- Alternatives and options for approaches
- Settlement and full defense strategies
- Aggressive stance
- Industry practice and risks
- Strategies to avoid and manage pile-on litigation from regulators and shareholders

Clients want firms treating class actions as an enterprise risk instead of an isolated litigation.

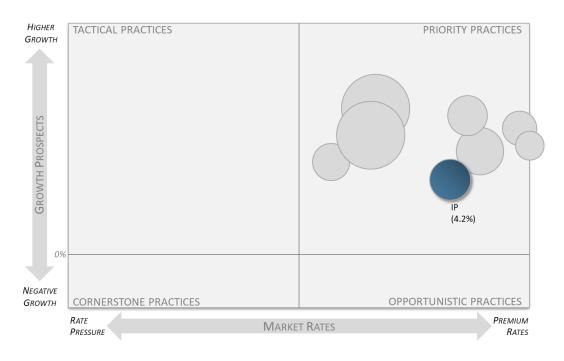
# Class Actions Grows Into a Larger, Lucrative Market: 12 Industries with Most Acute Needs



#### **BTI Industry Opportunity Assessment**

Hot Opportunity	Market Neutral	Pressure Points
Banking	Energy	
Chemicals	Professional Services	
Consumer Goods	Real Estate	
Financial Services	Retail Trade	
Food	Transportation	
Health Care	Wholesale Trade	
High Tech		
Insurance		
Manufacturing		
Pharmaceuticals		
Telecom		
Utilities		

# IP Litigation and IP Complexity Spreads: IP Litigation Spending to Increase





#### See the following page for:

- A breakdown of IP Litigation opportunities by industry
- The history of IP Litigation spending

IP litigation continues to grow with both new and familiar issues. Clients are adopting AI in every facet of their business – creating new issues and unintended IP consequences. Bad actors are trying to exploit blind spots in their products and services. At the same time, companies are more aggressive in pursuing anything resembling infringement.

#### Research reveals several reasons:

- IP leakage from AI
- Cloud and employee mobility
- Ownership of Algenerated material
- Data scraping
- Unauthorized replication of likenesses
- Brand knock-offs

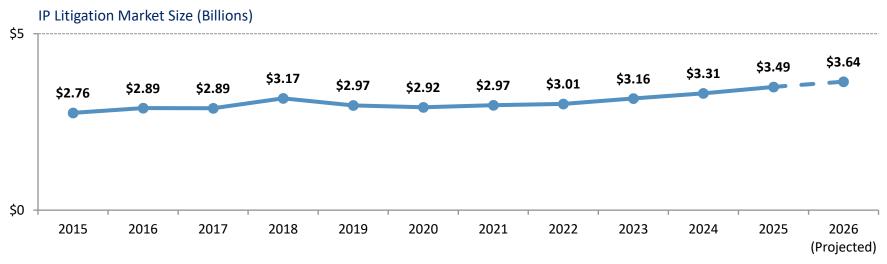
- 3rd party and opensource code used in proprietary offerings
- Al-assisted patent trolls
- Cross-border issues
- Highly aggressive pursuit in Tech
- Growing pursuit in Pharma/Biotech

#### Clients want law firms with:

- Clear confidence in dealing with Al-related issues
- Strategies for all possible scenarios
- Creativity in approach
- Winner takes all attitude
- Industry knowledge
- Ability to articulate connected issues and risks

Skill in dealing with undefined threats has become a key part of client conversations for the foreseeable future.

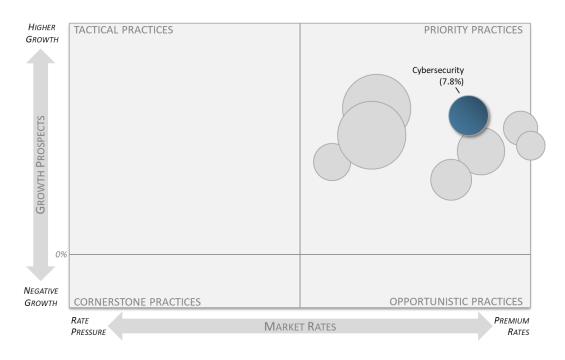
# More Industries to Increase IP Litigation Spending: 5 Industries with Acute Needs

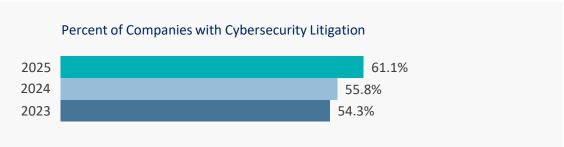


Hot Opportunity	Market Neutral	Pressure Points
Food	Banking	
High Tech	Chemicals	
Manufacturing	Consumer Goods	
Pharmaceuticals	Energy	
Telecom	Financial Services	
	Health Care	
	Insurance	
	Professional Services	
	Real Estate	
	Retail Trade	
	Transportation	
	Utilities	
	Wholesale Trade	



# Needs Abound, Flirts with Record High Cybersecurity Spending Increases





#### See the following page for:

- A breakdown of Cybersecurity Litigation opportunities by industry
- The history of Cybersecurity Litigation spending



The number of breaches in 2024 came within 2% of a record setting 2023. But – the breaches in 2024 were 2 to 3 times larger – meaning an unprecedented number of records were breached. This brings proportionately more litigation and risk in addition to regulatory trouble.

Clients identify the following as top litigation areas they face:

- Ransomware threats
- Misconfigured cloud and systems
- Poorly coded software
- Unauthorized data disclosed through GenAl
- Evermore sophisticated phishing schemes
- Malicious insiders
- Lost and stolen devices
- Non-compliance with a growing body of state and EU laws

- Supply chain data access and protection
- Customer access to data
- Business partners who may have access to sensitive data
- Sale of personal and sensitive data
- Biometric data mishandling

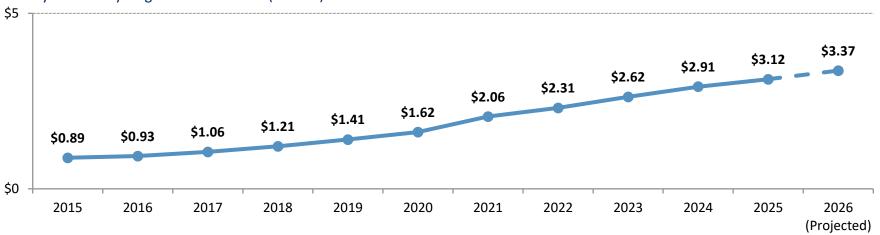
Clients are looking for more from law firms than in the past. They want firms who:

- Identify emerging risks and share intelligence early
- Offer strategies for multiparty claims and regulatory intervention
- Accelerate settlements and reduce exposures
- Bring industry-specific risks and exposures
- Always on education about new risks and regulations

Cybersecurity risk is bigger and more public. This drives demand for firms who can see client's risk profile growing.

# Cybersecurity a High Need: 11 Industries with Acute Needs

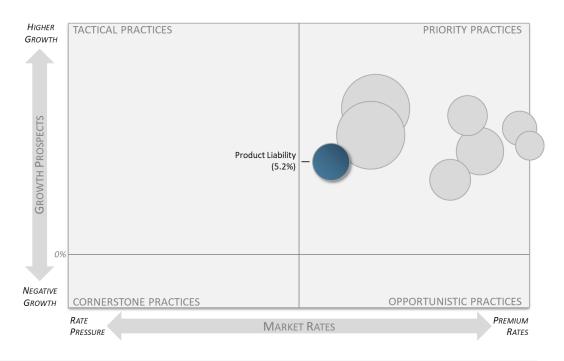




#### **BTI Industry Opportunity Assessment**

Hot Opportunity	Market Neutral	Pressure Points
Banking	Chemicals	
Consumer Goods	Energy	
Financial Services	Food	
Health Care	Manufacturing	
High Tech	Real Estate	
Insurance	Transportation	
Pharmaceuticals	Wholesale Trade	
Professional Services		
Retail Trade		
Telecom		
Utilities		

# New Products Race, Technology Innovation Drive Product Liability Litigation Spending Up





See the following page for:

- A breakdown of Product Liability Litigation opportunities by industry
- The history of Product Liability Litigation spending

Companies are racing to introduce new technologyenabled products. This speed is resulting in product failures, unintended consequences, and innovative new products. This is driving new litigation and damages.

Product recalls are larger than ever – resulting in larger claims as recalls impact global market reach.

Top areas of product liability include:

- Automotive/EV claims
- Pharmaceuticals
- Medical devices
- Forever chemicals
- Children's products
- Consumer electronics
- Building products

Clients want law firms able to assess risk and develop risk appropriate defense strategies. Product liability remains the single most competitive segment of litigation – with more law firms pursuing these cases than others. These clients have no time to weed through all the firms – they relish firms able to propose a clear risk-appropriate solutions.

# Product Liability Litigation Accelerates: 6 Industries with More Acute Needs

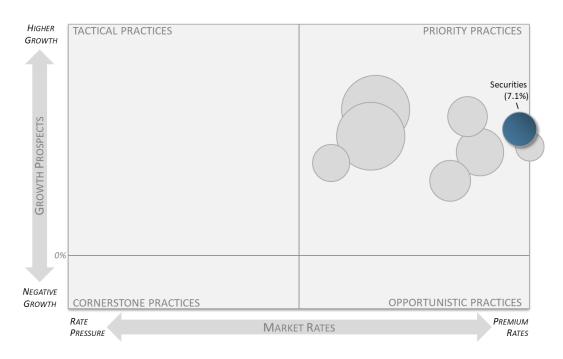




**BTI Industry Opportunity Assessment** 

Hot Opportunity	Market Neutral	Pressure Points
Chemicals	Banking	
Consumer Goods	Energy	
Financial Services	Food	
Health Care	High Tech	
Manufacturing	Insurance	
Pharmaceuticals	Professional Services	
	Real Estate	
	Retail Trade	
	Telecom	
	Transportation	
	Utilities	
	Wholesale Trade	

# Volatility Drives Securities and Finance Litigation Spending Up





See the following page for:

- A breakdown of Securities and Finance Litigation opportunities by industry
- The history of Securities and Finance Litigation spending

Few things light a fire under Securities Litigation than volatile securities markets. Securities prices can gyrate and change with little notice. Steep drops, reporting irregularities, and activists all have their impact. Delayed and failed deals propel the market as well.

Key drivers behind the growth include:

- Activist investors
- Earnings misses

SPAC fallout

Stock price drop

SEC follow on

- Missed earnings and revenue
- Contested acquisition
- Guidance withdrawal
- ESG claims and disclosures

Clients want a seamless integrated team with all relevant skills – including regulatory skills. Clients draw a clear distinction between teams and groups of attorneys working together. Teams share knowledge.

These clients believe time is the enemy. They want quick thinking and settlements.

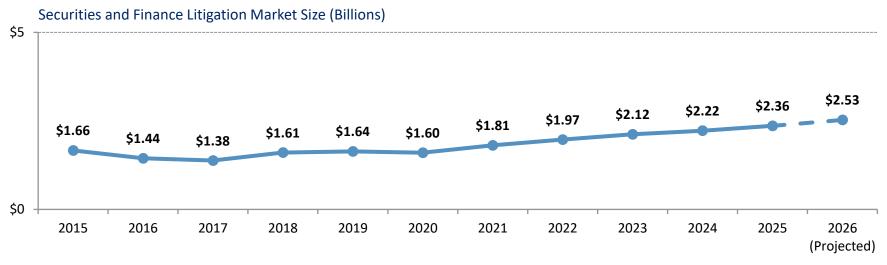
Firms winning the work provide clear counsel and very early assessments. The winning firms quickly educate clients as to top risks and exposure. They know what to say to who, and when.

Ultimately clients want one unified team who can offer:

- Start ready response
- Clear and sobering risk assessment
- Regulatory prowess
- Class Action counsel as a Class Action claim likely follows Securities litigation
- Strategic counsel
- Unmitigated commitment



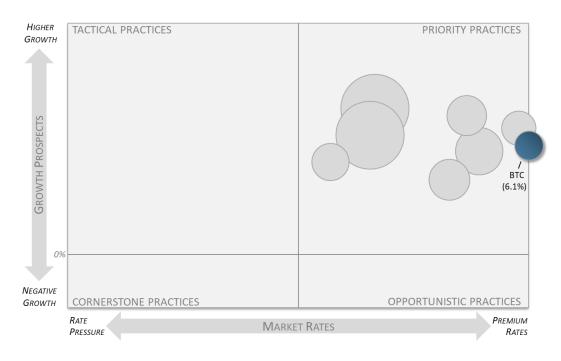
# New Bases Drive Securities and Finance Litigation Up



#### **BTI Industry Opportunity Assessment**

Hot Opportunity	Market Neutral	Pressure Points
Banking	Chemicals	
Consumer Goods	Energy	
High Tech	Financial Services	
Manufacturing	Food	
Pharmaceuticals	Health Care	
Real Estate	Insurance	
Utilities	Professional Services	
	Retail Trade	
	Telecom	
	Transportation	
	Wholesale Trade	

# New Definitions of Bet-the-Company Drive Big Spending Increases and Market Expansion





#### See the following page for:

- A breakdown of Bet-the-Company Litigation opportunities by industry
- The history of Bet-the-Company Litigation spending



Clients expanded their definition for bet-the-company matters; new variables include:

- Hurts stock prices
- Materially damages balance sheets
- Have the potential to be considered criminal acts
- Damages brand
- Undermines investor confidence
- Severely limits revenue streams
- Damages a top executive's reputation
- Dilutes strategic business goals

- Disrupts operations
- Limits access to capital
- Creates a large-scale public or employee backlash
- Offers pathways to a deluge of other litigation
- Large matters coincident with geopolitical unrest
- Enterprise-scale class action
- M&A obstacles

The ever-expanding definition and increased activity result in a growing market at premium rates.

These clients hire law firms immediately understanding the gravitas and the client's risk tolerance. Clients demand the following from their law firms – even those with deep relationships:

- Real time assessment and action plan
- Unfettered resource base
- Smart strategy with dual mandate: settle and defend
- Deep regulatory prowess
- Unmatched commitment to win

Clients expect new bet-the-company matters related to Tech, Media, M&A, IP, Healthcare, Pharma, and globally branded organizations.

# More Companies Face Bet-the-Company Matters Driving Increased Spending





#### **BTI Industry Opportunity Assessment**

Hot Opportunity	Market Neutral	Pressure Points
Consumer Goods	Banking	
Financial Services	Chemicals	
Health Care	Energy	
Manufacturing	Food	
Pharmaceuticals	High Tech	
Professional Services	Insurance	
	Real Estate	
	Retail Trade	
	Telecom	
	Transportation	
	Utilities	
	Wholesale Trade	

**BTI Litigation Outlook 2026** 



# Industry Assessment for 2026 **BTI Opportunity Zone**

## How to Use BTI's Opportunity Zone Chart

The BTI Opportunity Zone chart is a comprehensive look at growth prospects by cross section of industry and litigation segments. This chart is your roadmap for understanding how different client organizations will react to service offerings and rates in the upcoming year. Use this guide to better leverage resources, assemble right-sized pricing structures, and target hot opportunities.

#### **BTI Hot Opportunities**

The intersection of industries and litigation segments tagged for prime growth and higher-than-market rates

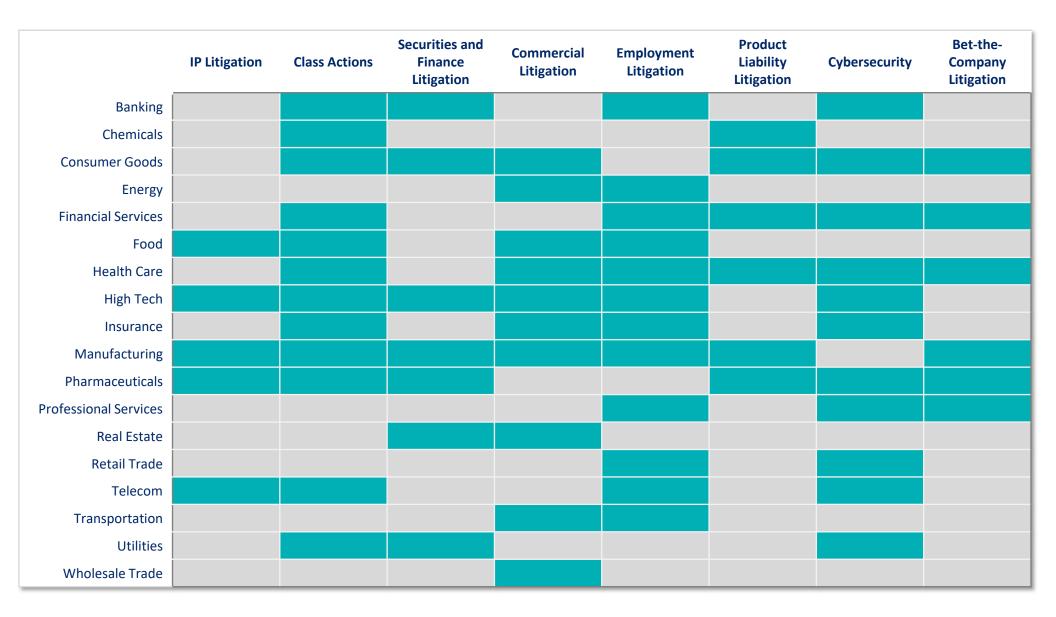
#### **Market Neutral**

The intersection of industries and litigation segments expected to see average or neutral growth

#### **Pressure Points**

The intersection of industries and litigation segments expected to experience price sensitivity or pushback

### BTI Opportunity Zones 2026: Opportunities by Industry and Litigation Segment



BTI Hot Opportunity: Higher Need, Higher Rates

**Market Neutral** 

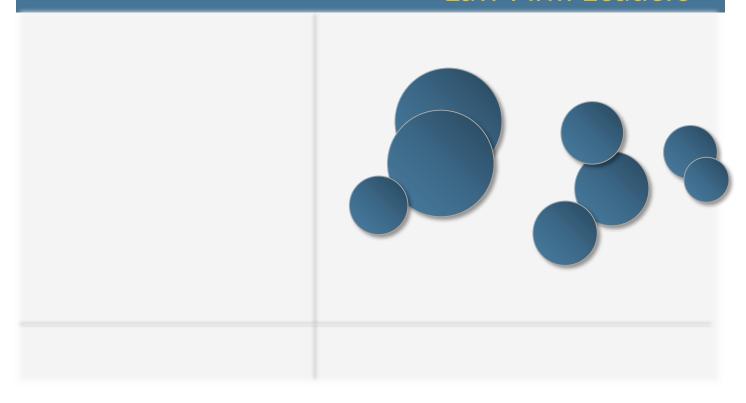
Pressure Point:
Pressure on Rates







# Client Law Firm Preference and Favorites Law Firm Leaders



### Litigation Powerhouses: Law Firms Leading the Litigation Market

As litigation gets more complex and firms become more aggressive – clients are spending more as they reevaluate their options of law firms based on:

- Ideas and approaches
- Client service
- Prior performance
- Prowess in dealing with aggressive counsel

Top legal decision makers identify the firms best suited to meet their most pressing litigation needs.

Congratulations to these 280 firms for this impressive performance – singled out by clients with no prompts or suggested names.

IP Litigation | 39

Class Actions Litigation | 43

**Cybersecurity Litigation | 47** 

**Securities & Finance Litigation | 51** 

**Complex Employment Litigation | 55** 

**Employment Litigation | 59** 

**Product Liability Litigation | 63** 

**Complex Commercial Litigation | 67** 

Commercial Litigation | 71

**Generative AI Litigation | 76** 

The BTI Fearsome Foursome | 79

**BTI Litigation Outlook 2026** 

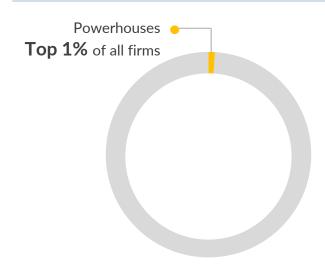
# Litigation Powerhouses: IP Litigation

#### **Powerhouses**

- Arnold & Porter
- Cooley
- Davis Wright Tremaine
- Finnegan
- Fish
- Goodwin
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Orrick
- Quinn Emanuel



IP Litigation Law Firm Ranking





# Litigation Leaders: IP Litigation

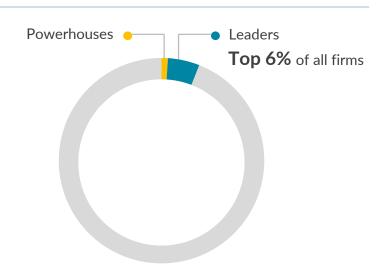
#### Leaders

- Akin
- Alston & Bird
- Baker Botts
- Barnes & Thornburg
- Buchanan
- Carpenter Lipps
- Covington
- Crowell
- Dentons
- Desmarais
- Faegre Drinker
- Hanson Bridgett
- Hogan Lovells
- Honigman
- Husch Blackwell
- Jones Day

- K&L Gates
- Kilpatrick
- King & Spalding
- Knobbe Martens
- Loeb & Loeb
- Mintz
- Morrison & Foerster
- Paul, Weiss
- Perkins Coie
- Ropes & Gray
- Sheppard Mullin
- Skadden
- Susman Godfrey
- Venable
- WilmerHale



#### IP Litigation Law Firm Ranking





# Litigation Distinguished: IP Litigation

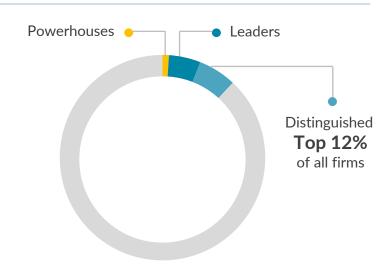
#### Distinguished

- A&O Shearman
- Axinn
- Ballard Spahr
- Blakes
- Brown Rudnick
- Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
- Cowan Liebowitz & Latman
- Debevoise
- Dinsmore
- DLA Piper
- Foley & Lardner
- Fried Frank
- Frost Brown Todd
- Gibson Dunn
- Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani
- Hinshaw & Culbertson
- Irell & Manella
- Jackson Walker

- Jenner & Block
- Kasowitz
- Keker, Van Nest & Peters
- Manatt
- McGuireWoods
- Morgan Lewis
- Paul Hastings
- Polsinelli
- Poyner Spruill
- Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt
- Sidley
- Sterne Kessler
- Thompson Coe
- Troutman Pepper Locke
- Warner Norcross + Judd
- White & Case
- Wilson Sonsini
- Zwillgen



IP Litigation Law Firm Ranking



## Litigation Standouts: IP Litigation

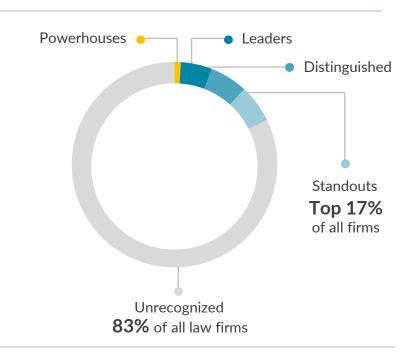
#### **Standouts**

- Ansa Assuncao
- ArentFox Schiff
- Baker McKenzie
- BakerHostetler
- Bartlit Beck
- Bird & Bird
- Cadwalader
- Caldwell Cassady & Curry
- Caldwell
- Cozen O'Connor
- Day Pitney
- Dorsey
- Duane Morris
- Dykema
- Faruki
- Fishman Stewart
- Flaster Greenberg
- Foley Hoag

- Greenberg Traurig
- Harness IP
- Haynes and Boone
- Kelly IP
- Latham & Watkins
- Lewis Brisbois
- Lewis Rice
- Lowenstein Sandler
- Merchant & Gould
- Nelson Mullins
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Nutter
- Ogletree Deakins
- Robins Kaplan
- Steptoe
- Stinson
- Thompson Hine
- Weil



#### IP Litigation Law Firm Ranking



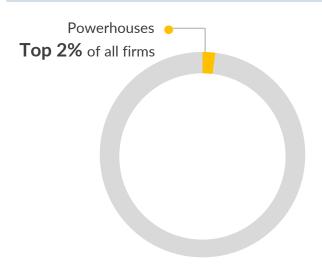
## Litigation Powerhouses: Class Action Litigation

#### **Powerhouses**

- Arnold & Porter
- DLA Piper
- Gibson Dunn
- Jones Day
- King & Spalding
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Morgan Lewis
- Ogletree Deakins
- Orrick
- Quinn Emanuel
- Sidley
- Skadden



Class Action Litigation Law Firm Ranking





## Litigation Leaders: Class Action Litigation

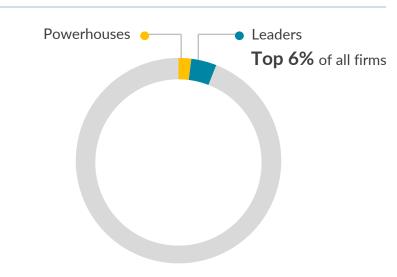
#### Leaders

- ArentFox Schiff
- Carlton Fields
- Coblentz Patch Duffy & Bass
- Cravath
- Dykema
- Faegre Drinker
- Greenberg Traurig
- Hogan Lovells
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Jackson Walker
- Jenner & Block
- K&L Gates
- Kilpatrick Townsend

- Latham & Watkins
- Mayer Brown
- McGuireWoods
- Morrison & Foerster
- Perkins Coie
- Reed Smith
- Scopelitis, Garvin, Light, Hanson & Feary
- Seyfarth
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Troutman Pepper Locke
- WilmerHale
- Zwillgen



#### Class Action Litigation Law Firm Ranking





## Litigation Distinguished: Class Action Litigation

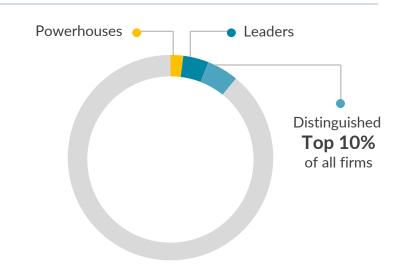
#### Distinguished

- A&O Shearman
- Alston & Bird
- BakerHostetler
- Bondurant Mixson & Elmore
- Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
- Carpenter Lipps
- Cooley
- Covington
- Cozen O'Connor
- Crowell
- Davis Polk
- Davis Wright Tremaine
- Dorsey
- Duane Morris
- Fasken

- Fish
- Fisher Phillips
- Hinshaw
- Hollingsworth
- Jackson Lewis
- Kelley Drye
- Manatt
- Nelson Mullins
- Paul, Weiss
- Poyner Spruill
- Riley Safer Holmes & Cancila
- Sheppard Mullin
- Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell
- Williams & Connolly
- Wilson Sonsini



#### Class Action Litigation Law Firm Ranking





### Litigation Standouts: Class Action Litigation

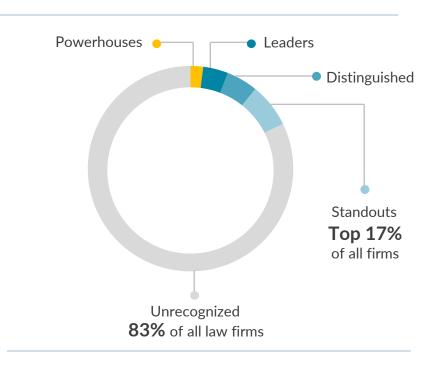
#### **Standouts**

- Akerman
- Akin
- Baker Botts
- Balch & Bingham
- Ballard Spahr
- Barnes & Thornburg
- Bartlit Beck
- Bradley
- Butler Snow
- Carmody
- Dowd Bennett
- Foley Hoag
- Forman Watkins & Krutz
- Fried Frank
- Goodwin
- Keegan Werlin
- Keker, Van Nest & Peters
- Lewis Brisbois
- Littler
- Littleton Joyce Ughetta & Kelly
- McDermott Will & Schulte
- Mintz

- Munger, Tolles & Olson
- O'Melveny
- Paul Hastings
- Payne & Fears
- Pierce Atwood
- Polsinelli
- Porter Wright
- Proskauer
- Quarles
- Ropes & Gray
- Shook, Hardy & Bacon
- Squire Patton Boggs
- Steptoe
- Stinson
- Stradley Ronon
- Susman Godfrey
- Wachtell Lipton
- Weil
- Wiggin and Dana
- Willkie
- Wilson Elser
- Womble Bond Dickinson



#### Class Action Litigation Law Firm Ranking



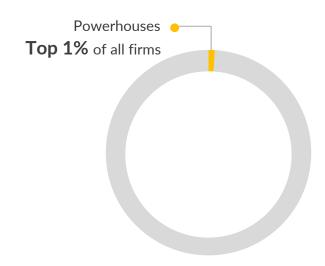
## Litigation Powerhouses: Cybersecurity Litigation

#### **Powerhouses**

- BakerHostetler
- Cooley
- DLA Piper
- Faegre Drinker
- Jones Day
- King & Spalding
- Zwillgen



Cybersecurity Litigation Law Firm Ranking





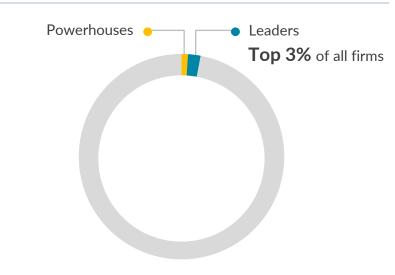
## Litigation Leaders: Cybersecurity Litigation

#### Leaders

- Arnold & Porter
- Baker McKenzie
- Covington
- Hinshaw
- Hogan Lovells
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Latham & Watkins
- Morgan Lewis
- Orrick
- Perkins Coie
- Quinn Emanuel
- Skadden



#### Cybersecurity Litigation Law Firm Ranking





## Litigation Distinguished: Cybersecurity Litigation

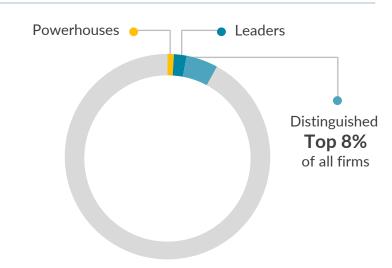
#### Distinguished

- ArentFox Schiff
- Butler Snow
- Carpenter Lipps
- Debevoise
- Dentons
- Duane Morris
- Fieldfisher
- Fried Frank
- Goodwin Procter
- Greenberg Traurig
- Holland & Knight
- Jackson Walker
- Jenner & Block
- K&L Gates
- Kelley Drye
- Manatt

- McDermott Will & Schulte
- McDonald Hopkins
- Morrison & Foerster
- Mullen Coughlin
- Paul, Weiss
- Reed Smith
- Ropes & Gray
- Sidley
- Steptoe
- Troutman Pepper Locke
- Venable
- WilmerHale
- Wilson Sonsini
- Winston & Strawn
- Womble Bond Dickinson
- Wyrick Robbins



Cybersecurity Litigation Law Firm Ranking



## Litigation Standouts: Cybersecurity Litigation

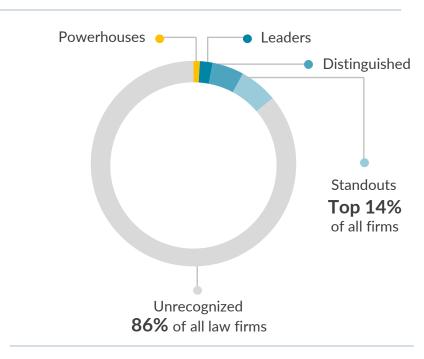
#### **Standouts**

- Axinn
- Baker Donelson
- Ballard Spahr
- Blank Rome
- Buchanan
- Carlton Fields
- Constangy
- Cozen O'Connor
- Cravath
- Crowell
- Davis Graham & Stubbs
- Davis Polk
- FisherBroyles
- Foley Hoag
- Gibson Dunn
- Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani
- Husch Blackwell
- Kilpatrick
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Kutak Rock

- Lowenstein Sandler
- Maynard Nexsen
- McGuireWoods
- McMillan
- Mintz
- Nelson Mullins
- Nicolaides
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Ogletree Deakins
- Osborne Clarke
- Polsinelli
- Poyner Spruill
- Procopio
- Quarles
- Seyfarth
- Stinson
- Thompson Hine
- Tucker Ellis
- Warner Norcross + Judd
- Zarwin Baum



#### Cybersecurity Litigation Law Firm Ranking



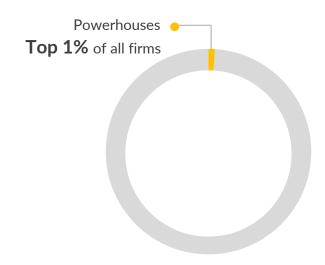
### Litigation Powerhouses: Securities & Finance Litigation

#### **Powerhouses**

- Cooley
- Cravath
- Gibson Dunn
- King & Spalding
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Latham & Watkins
- Skadden
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Wilson Sonsini



Securities & Finance Litigation Law Firm Ranking





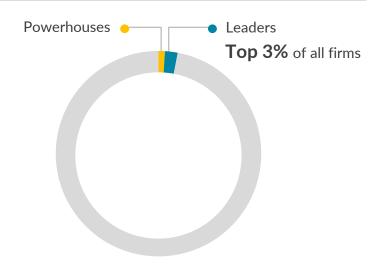
### Litigation Leaders: Securities & Finance Litigation

#### Leaders

- Baker McKenzie
- Bartlit Beck
- Davis Polk
- Hogan Lovells
- Jones Day
- Maynard Nexsen
- Orrick
- Ropes & Gray
- Sidley
- White & Case
- WilmerHale



#### Securities & Finance Litigation Law Firm Ranking





## Litigation Distinguished: Securities & Finance Litigation

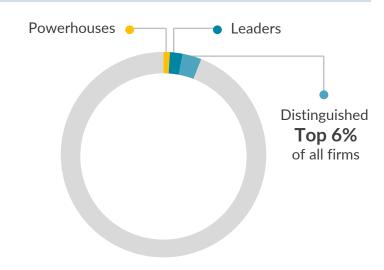
#### Distinguished

- Alston & Bird
- Carpenter Lipps
- Cleary Gottlieb
- DLA Piper
- Faegre Drinker
- Fenwick & West
- Fried Frank
- Holland & Knight
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Jackson Walker
- Jenner & Block
- K&L Gates
- McKool Smith
- Mintz
- Morgan Lewis
- Morrison & Foerster
- O'Melveny
- Thompson Coe
- Weil





Securities & Finance Litigation Law Firm Ranking



### **Litigation Standouts:** Securities & Finance Litigation

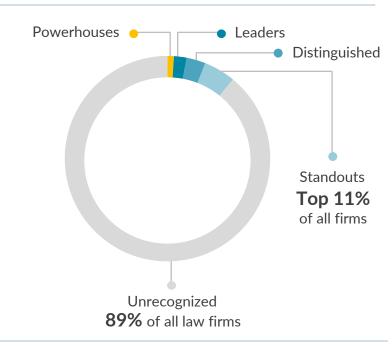
#### **Standouts**

- A&O Shearman
- ArentFox Schiff
- Arnold & Porter
- Barnes & Thornburg
- Blank Rome
- Bradley
- Clifford Chance
- Covington
- Crowell
- Debevoise
- Dorsey
- **Duane Morris**
- Fasken
- Goodwin
- Hinshaw
- Kasowitz
- Littler

- McDermott Will & Schulte
- McGuireWoods
- Osborne Clarke
- Paul, Weiss
- Perkins Coie
- Poyner Spruill
- Quinn Emanuel
- Reed Smith
- Sheppard Mullin
- Simpson Thacher
- Steptoe
- Troutman Pepper Locke
- Wachtell Lipton
- Williams Mullen
- Willkie
- Winston & Strawn



#### Securities & Finance Litigation Law Firm Ranking



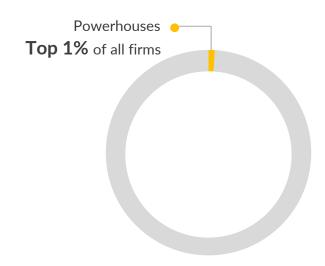
## Litigation Powerhouses: Complex Employment Litigation

#### **Powerhouses**

- Fisher Phillips
- Jackson Lewis
- Jones Day
- Littler
- Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp
- Morgan Lewis
- Ogletree Deakins
- Orrick
- Seyfarth



Complex Employment Litigation
Law Firm Ranking





## Litigation Leaders: Complex Employment Litigation

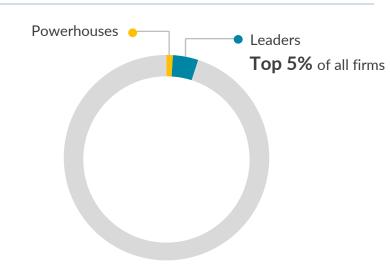
#### Leaders

- Alston & Bird
- Arnold & Porter
- Baker McKenzie
- BakerHostetler
- Barnes & Thornburg
- Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
- Cooley
- Crowell
- Dinsmore
- Duane Morris
- Faegre Drinker
- Fox Rothschild
- Gibson Dunn

- K&L Gates
- King & Spalding
- McDermott, Will & Schulte
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Paul Hastings
- Perkins Coie
- Pillsbury
- Porter Wright
- Proskauer
- Quarles
- Reed Smith
- Sheppard Mullin



## Complex Employment Litigation Law Firm Ranking





## Litigation Distinguished: Complex Employment Litigation

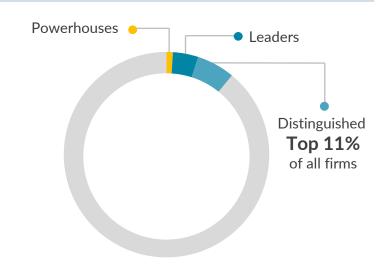
#### Distinguished

- Akin
- Baker Donelson
- Benesch
- Cozen O'Connor
- Davis Wright Tremaine
- Day Pitney
- Dentons
- Dorsey
- Epstein Becker Green
- Fasken
- Fried Frank
- Gallo Vitucci Klar
- Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani
- Hinshaw
- Holland & Knight
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Husch Blackwell
- Jackson Walker

- Katten
- Kilpatrick
- Kullman
- Maynard Nexsen
- McGuireWoods
- Nyemaster
- Poyner Spruill
- Quinn Emanuel
- Reminger
- Thompson Coe
- Thompson Hine
- Warner Norcross + Judd
- Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell
- White & Case
- Wilson Sonsini
- Winston & Strawn
- Woods Rogers
- Wyrick Robbins



Complex Employment Litigation
Law Firm Ranking



## Litigation Standouts: Complex Employment Litigation

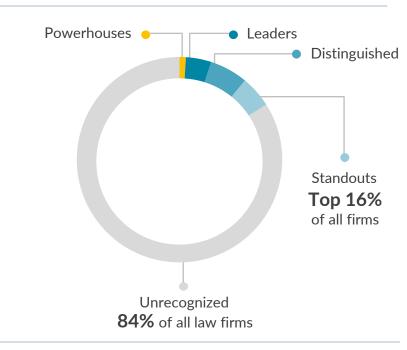
#### **Standouts**

- ArentFox Schiff
- Ballard Spahr
- Bartlit Beck
- Belin McCormick
- Bradley
- Brooks Wilkins Sharkey & Turco
- Butler Snow
- Carlton Fields
- Carmody
- Carpenter Lipps
- DLA Piper
- Dowd Bennett
- Foley & Lardner
- Foley Hoag
- FordHarrison
- Greenberg Traurig
- Hogan Lovells

- Jones Walker
- Kelley Drye
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Kutak Rock
- Latham & Watkins
- Mintz
- Morgan, Brown & Joy
- Morrison & Foerster
- Nelson Mullins
- Paul, Weiss
- Sidley
- Stinson
- Troutman Pepper Locke
- Vinson & Elkins
- Vorys
- Weil



## Complex Employment Litigation Law Firm Ranking



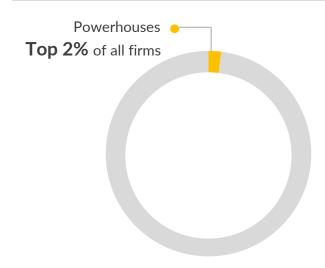
## Litigation Powerhouses: **Employment Litigation**

#### **Powerhouses**

- Arnold & Porter
- Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
- Epstein Becker Green
- Fox Rothschild
- Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani
- Jackson Lewis
- Littler
- Ogletree Deakins
- Seyfarth
- Sheppard Mullin



#### **Employment Litigation Law Firm Ranking**





## Litigation Leaders: **Employment Litigation**

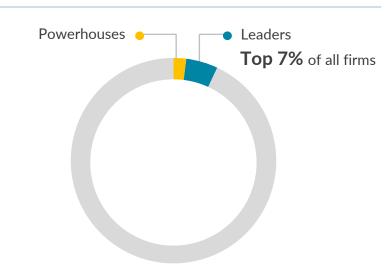
#### Leaders

- Alston & Bird
- ArentFox Schiff
- Barnes & Thornburg
- Buchanan
- Butler Snow
- Constangy
- Coolev
- Davis Wright Tremaine
- Dentons
- **Dinsmore**
- DLA Piper
- **Duane Morris**
- Fisher Phillips
- Gibson Dunn
- Hinshaw
- Jackson Walker
- Jones Walker
- King & Spalding

- Kullman
- Lewis Brisbois
- Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp
- Morgan Lewis
- Nyemaster
- O'Melveny
- Orrick
- Perkins Coie
- Pillsbury
- Proskauer
- Quarles
- Thompson Coe
- Thompson Hine
- Warner Norcross + Judd
- Wilson Sonsini
- Womble Bond Dickinson
- Wyrick Robbins



#### **Employment Litigation Law Firm Ranking**





## Litigation Distinguished: Employment Litigation

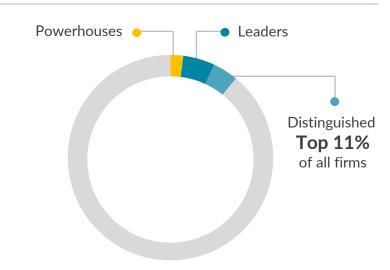
#### Distinguished

- Baker Donelson
- Baker McKenzie
- Bell Nunnally & Martin
- Blank Rome
- Carlton Fields
- Cozen O'Connor
- Day Pitney
- Faegre Drinker
- Fasken
- Foley Hoag
- FordHarrison
- Greenberg Traurig
- Hanson Bridgett
- Holland & Hart
- Holland & Knight

- K&L Gates
- McElroy Deutsch
- McGuireWoods
- Michael Best
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Payne & Fears
- Porter Wright
- Poyner Spruill
- Reed Smith
- Reminger
- Taft
- Vorys
- Weil
- Woods Rogers



#### **Employment Litigation Law Firm Ranking**





## Litigation Standouts: Employment Litigation

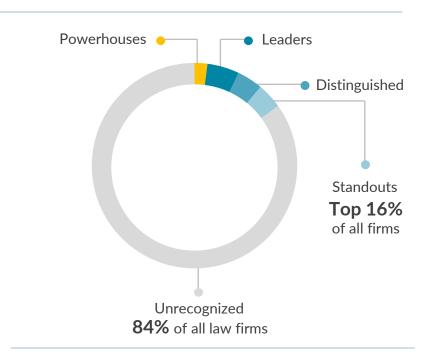
#### **Standouts**

- Akin
- Ballard Spahr
- Bartlit Beck
- Belin McCormick
- Brooks Wilkins Sharkey & Turco
- Carmody
- Cassiday Schade
- Cole Pedroza
- Eckert Seamans
- Foley & Lardner
- Hoover Hull Turner
- Husch Blackwell
- Ice Miller
- Keating Muething & Klekamp

- Kutak Rock
- Lowenstein Sandler
- McLane Middleton
- Miller & Chevalier
- Mintz
- Morgan, Brown & Joy
- Morrison Mahoney
- Nelson Mullins
- O'Hagan Meyer
- Paul Hastings
- Stinson
- Troutman Pepper Locke
- Vinson & Elkins
- Winston & Strawn



#### **Employment Litigation Law Firm Ranking**



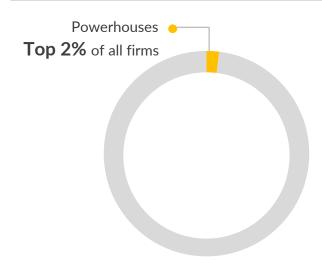
## Litigation Powerhouses: Product Liability Litigation

#### **Powerhouses**

- Arnold & Porter
- DLA Piper
- Jones Day
- King & Spalding
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Nelson Mullins
- Perkins Coie
- Quinn Emanuel
- Shook, Hardy & Bacon
- Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell



Product Liability Litigation Law Firm Ranking





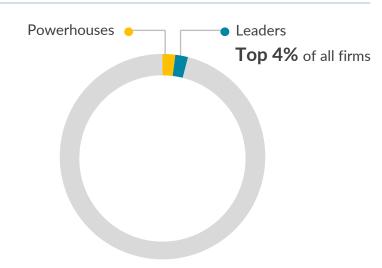
## Litigation Leaders: Product Liability Litigation

#### Leaders

- Carpenter Lipps
- Dentons
- Fox Rothschild
- Gibbons
- Gibson Dunn
- Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani
- Greenberg Traurig
- Hinshaw
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Husch Blackwell
- K&L Gates
- O'Melveny
- Quarles
- Sidley
- Swift Currie



Product Liability Litigation Law Firm Ranking





# Litigation Distinguished: Product Liability Litigation

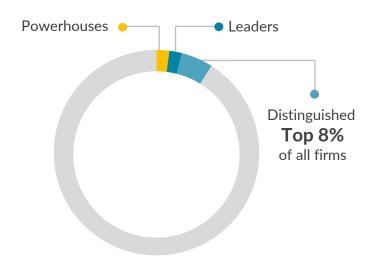
#### Distinguished

- Akin
- Alston & Bird
- Baker McKenzie
- BakerHostetler
- Barnes & Thornburg
- Butler Snow
- Cooley
- Davis Polk
- Dykema
- Germer
- Goldberg Segalla
- Greene Espel
- Hollingsworth
- Jackson Walker
- Jenner & Block

- Kasowitz
- Kelley Drye
- Littler
- Manatt
- Manning Kass
- McDowell Heatherington
- Morrison & Foerster
- Ropes & Gray
- Skadden
- Swanson, Martin & Bell
- Vorys
- Warner Norcross + Judd
- Williams & Connolly
- Wilson Elser
- Wilson Sonsini



Product Liability Litigation Law Firm Ranking





## Litigation Standouts: Product Liability Litigation

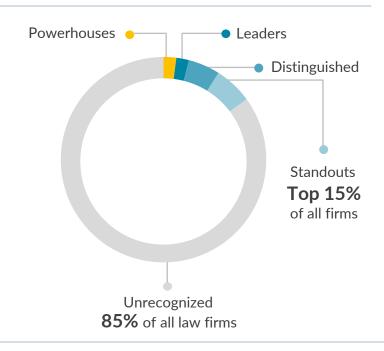
#### **Standouts**

- ArentFox Schiff
- Blakes
- Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
- Clyde & Co
- Covington
- Cozen O'Connor
- Crowell
- Dechert
- Devine Millimet
- Dowd Bennett
- Faegre Drinker
- Fasken
- Foley & Lardner
- Frost Brown Todd
- Goodwin Procter
- Hogan Lovells
- Keating Muething & Klekamp
- Kennedys
- Kilpatrick
- Lewis Brisbois

- Mayer Brown
- McGlinchey Stafford
- McGuireWoods
- Mintz
- Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp
- Munger, Tolles & Olson
- Patterson Belknap
- Pietragallo
- Polsinelli
- Poyner Spruill
- Riley Safer Holmes & Cancila
- Saul Ewing
- Susman Godfrey
- Thompson Hine
- Vinson & Elkins
- Wachtell Lipton
- WilmerHale
- Womble Bond Dickinson
- Yukevich | Cavanaugh
- Zarwin Baum



Product Liability Litigation Law Firm Ranking



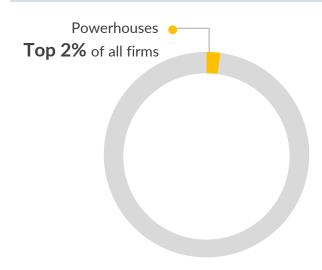
## Litigation Powerhouses: Complex Commercial Litigation

#### **Powerhouses**

- Alston & Bird
- Arnold & Porter
- Gibson Dunn
- Hogan Lovells
- Jenner & Block
- Jones Day
- King & Spalding
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Nelson Mullins
- Orrick
- Skadden
- Troutman Pepper Locke



Complex Commercial Litigation
Law Firm Ranking





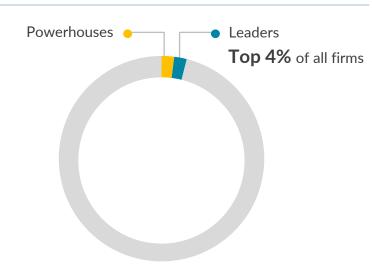
## Litigation Leaders: Complex Commercial Litigation

#### Leaders

- Baker McKenzie
- Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
- Cravath
- DLA Piper
- Faegre Drinker
- K&L Gates
- Latham & Watkins
- McGuireWoods
- Mintz
- Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp
- Morgan Lewis
- Perkins Coie
- Quinn Emanuel
- Sheppard Mullin
- Sidley
- WilmerHale



## Complex Commercial Litigation Law Firm Ranking





## Litigation Distinguished: **Complex Commercial Litigation**

#### Distinguished

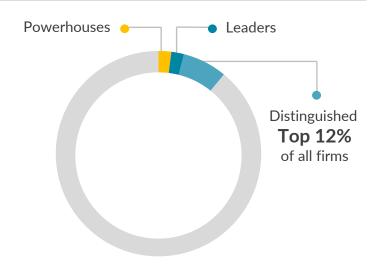
- Akin
- ArentFox Schiff
- **Baker Botts**
- BakerHostetler
- **Bartlit Beck**
- Benesch
- **Butler Snow**
- Cooley
- Crowell
- **Davis Polk**
- **Dentons**
- **Duane Morris**
- Dykema
- Eimer Stahl
- Foley & Lardner
- Fried Frank
- Goodwin Procter
- Greenberg Traurig
- Holland & Knight
- Hollingsworth
- Hueston Hennigan
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Jackson Walker
- Jones Walker



- Keker, Van Nest & Peters
- Kelley Drye
- Kilpatrick
- Manatt
- Mayer Brown
- Morrison & Foerster
- O'Melveny
- Patterson Belknap
- Paul Hastings
- Paul, Weiss
- Quarles
- Reed Smith
- Ropes & Gray
- Saul Ewing
- Spencer Fane
- Steptoe
- **Tonkon Torp**
- Warner Norcross + Judd
- White & Case
- Williams Mullen
- Wilson Sonsini
- Wyrick Robbins



#### **Complex Commercial Litigation** Law Firm Ranking





## Litigation Standouts: Complex Commercial Litigation

#### **Standouts**

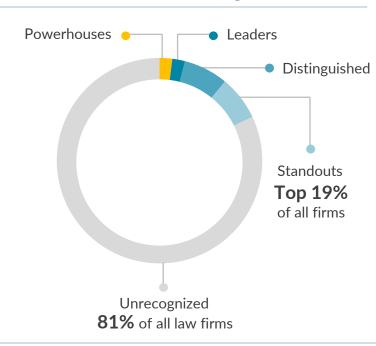
- Akerman
- Baker Donelson
- Ballard Spahr
- Blank Rome
- Bradlev
- Carlton Fields
- Carmody
- Clifford Chance
- Covington
- Day Pitney
- Dechert
- Dorsey
- Dowd Bennett
- Fabiani Cohen & Hall
- Fox Rothschild
- Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani
- Hinckley Allen
- Hinshaw
- Jackson Lewis
- Kennedys
- Maynard Nexsen
- McDermott Will & Schulte
- Nicolaides
- Nixon Peabody



- Ogletree Deakins
- Osborne Clarke
- Osler
- Polsinelli
- Porter Wright
- Poyner Spruill
- Proskauer
- Riker Danzig
- Seyfarth
- · Shook, Hardy & Bacon
- Simmons & Simmons
- Stradley Ronon
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Thompson Hine
- UB Greensfelder
- Vinson & Elkins
- Wachtell Lipton
- Weil
- Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell
- · White and Williams
- Willkie
- Winston & Strawn
- Womble Bond Dickinson



## Complex Commercial Litigation Law Firm Ranking



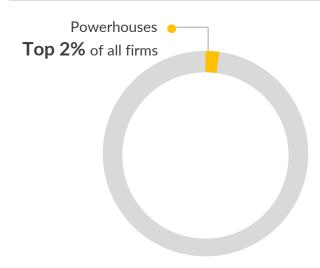
### Litigation Powerhouses: Commercial Litigation

#### **Powerhouses**

- Alston & Bird
- Arnold & Porter
- DLA Piper
- Duane Morris
- Faegre Drinker
- Gibson Dunn
- King & Spalding
- Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp
- Morgan Lewis
- Nelson Mullins
- Perkins Coie
- Troutman Pepper Locke
- Womble Bond Dickinson



Commercial Litigation Law Firm Ranking





# Litigation Leaders: Commercial Litigation

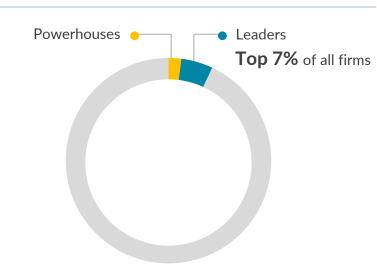
# Leaders

- Baker Donelson
- Baker McKenzie
- Benesch
- Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
- Carlton Fields
- Cooley
- Dentons
- Dykema
- Foley & Lardner
- Fox Rothschild
- Frost Brown Todd
- Gibbons
- Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani
- Hinshaw
- Hollingsworth
- Husch Blackwell
- Jenner & Block
- Jones Day

- Jones Walker
- K&L Gates
- Kilpatrick
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Kutak Rock
- Loeb & Loeb
- McGuireWoods
- Mintz
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Ogletree Deakins
- Quarles
- Reed Smith
- Riley Safer Holmes & Cancila
- Saul Ewing
- Sheppard Mullin
- Steptoe
- Warner Norcross + Judd



#### Commercial Litigation Law Firm Ranking





# Litigation Distinguished: Commercial Litigation

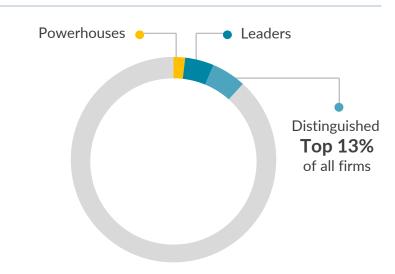
# Distinguished

- Axinn
- BakerHostetler
- Barnes & Thornburg
- Buchanan
- Clyde & Co
- Coblentz Patch Duffy & Bass
- Cravath
- Crowell
- Dinsmore
- Dorsey
- Fimer Stahl
- Eversheds Sutherland
- GrayRobinson
- Greenberg Traurig
- Hogan Lovells
- Holland & Knight
- Hughes Hubbard & Reed
- Jackson Walker
- Keker, Van Nest & Peters

- Kelley Drye
- Latham & Watkins
- Mayer Brown
- McGlinchey Stafford
- Morrison & Foerster
- Nyemaster
- O'Melveny
- Osler
- Pillsbury
- Poyner Spruill
- Procopio
- Pryor Cashman
- Tonkon Torp
- Weil
- Wheeler Trigg O'Donnell
- Williams Mullen
- Wilson Sonsini
- Wyrick Robbins



#### Commercial Litigation Law Firm Ranking





# Litigation Standouts: Commercial Litigation

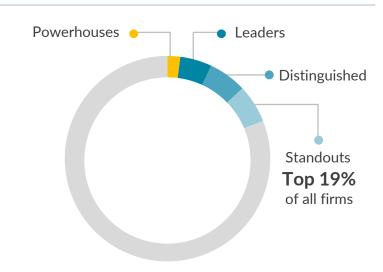
# **Standouts**

- ArentFox Schiff
- Baker Botts
- Bradley
- Bressler, Amery & Ross
- Buchalter
- Carmody
- Carpenter Lipps
- Constangy
- Davis+Gilbert
- Day Pitney
- Dowd Bennett
- Fabiani Cohen & Hall
- Genova Burns
- Gowling WLG
- Hall Render
- Hanson Bridgett
- Hinckley Allen
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Ice Miller

- Kenney & Sams
- Manatt
- Marshall Dennehey
- Miller & Chevalier
- Miller Barondess
- Morrison Mahoney
- Orrick
- Polsinelli
- Proskauer
- Robins Kaplan
- Ropes & Gray
- Seyfarth
- Shapiro Arato Bach
- Shook, Hardy & Bacon
- Shutts & Bowen
- Sidley
- Vorys
- White & Case



#### Commercial Litigation Law Firm Ranking





# Litigation Noteworthy: **Commercial Litigation**

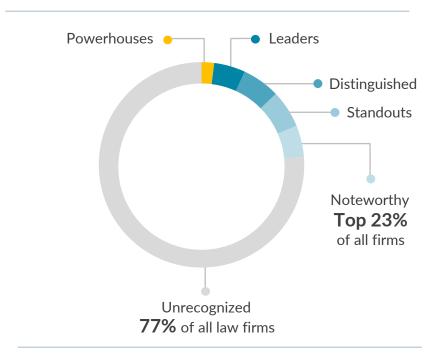
# Noteworthy

- Armstrong Teasdale
- Baird Holm
- **Ballard Spahr**
- Blank Rome
- **Butler Snow**
- Chambliss
- Choate
- Clark Hill
- Cozen O'Connor
- Davis Polk
- Goodwin Procter
- Henson Efron
- Herrick
- Keating Muething & Klekamp
- Kennedys

- McKool Smith
- Nicolaides
- Nixon Peabody
- Osborne Clarke
- Paul, Weiss
- Porter Wright
- Riker Danzig
- Shipman & Goodwin
- Susman Godfrey
- Swanson, Martin & Bell
- Thompson Hine
- UBGreensfelder
- Venable
- Willkie
- WilmerHale



#### Commercial Litigation Law Firm Ranking



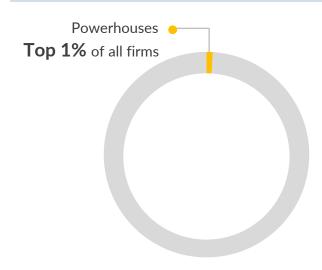
# Litigation Powerhouses: Generative Al Litigation

# **Powerhouses**

- Cooley
- DLA Piper
- Faegre Drinker
- Latham & Watkins
- Orrick
- Wilson Sonsini



Generative AI Litigation Law Firm Ranking





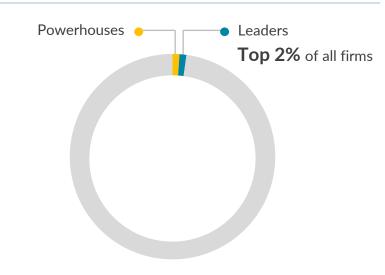
# Litigation Leaders: Generative Al Litigation

# Leaders

- Arnold & Porter
- Axinn
- Goodwin Procter
- Hogan Lovells
- Jenner & Block
- WilmerHale



### Generative AI Litigation Law Firm Ranking





# Litigation Distinguished: Generative AI Litigation

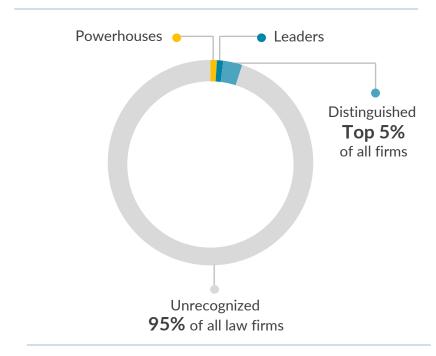
# Distinguished

- Akin
- ArentFox Schiff
- Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
- Cleary Gottlieb
- Covington
- Cowan Liebowitz & Latman
- Debevoise
- Dentons
- **Duane Morris**
- Husch Blackwell

- Jackson Walker
- King & Spalding
- Morgan Lewis
- Osler
- Poyner Spruill
- Sidley
- Steptoe
- Warner Norcross + Judd
- Womble Bond Dickinson
- Zwillgen



#### Generative AI Litigation Law Firm Ranking



# The BTI Fearsome Foursome

Contentious. Mean. Aggressive. Chaotic. Inventive. Complicated: How corporate counsel managing litigation describe the state of litigation. Corporate counsel demand for more fearsome law firms is growing; it is the only way to keep ahead of the aggressive nature of the claims. Outside counsel able to strike fear in the hearts of their opponents see a winning advantage. They also believe their cases will be settled faster with a more fearsome law firm.

The BTI Fearsome Foursome are the firms clients tell us they least want to see on the other side of the table in litigation. The Fearsome Foursome define new rules to play by, are relentless, cunning, aggressive, very smart, and play to win – and win big.

Only 4 of the 98 law firms clients don't want to litigate against standout as the most Fearsome. Congratulations to The BTI Fearsome Foursome of 2026 for their intense approach and fierce tactics in today's ever-evolving, complex and dynamic litigation market.

Special congratulations to Quinn Emanuel for its 4th year in a row as the Number 1 Most Feared Law Firm in 2026.

**Quinn Emanuel** 

**Kirkland & Ellis** 

Skadden

Gibson Dunn



See pages 80-82 for the full list of law firms legal decision makers say they want to steer clear of during disputes.



# The BTI Feared: The Most Feared Law Firms in Litigation

# **Feared**

- Boies Schiller Flexner
- Cravath
- Greenberg Traurig
- Husch Blackwell
- Jones Day
- Latham & Watkins
- Susman Godfrey
- Troutman Pepper Locke
- Wachtell Lipton
- Weil
- Williams & Connolly
- WilmerHale



# The BTI Awesome Opponents: The Most Feared Law Firms in Litigation

# **Awesome Opponents**

- Ahmad, Zavitsanos & Mensing
- Alston & Bird
- ArentFox Schiff
- Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo
- Bartlit Beck
- Bondurant Mixson & Elmore
- Clare Locke
- Cooley
- Covington
- Debevoise
- Dentons
- Duane Morris
- Faegre Drinker
- Fish
- Fried Frank
- Glaser Weil
- Hogan Lovells
- Hueston Hennigan
- Irell & Manella
- Jackson Lewis
- Jenner & Block
- Jones Walker

- Kasowitz
- King & Spalding
- Littler
- Manning Kass
- Maynard Nexsen
- McKool Smith
- Morgan Lewis
- Morrison & Foerster
- Nelson Mullins
- O'Melveny
- Orrick
- Paul Hastings
- Paul, Weiss
- Perkins Coie
- Robins Kaplan
- Ropes & Gray
- Sidley
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Venable
- · White & Case
- Wilson Elser
- Wilson Sonsini
- Womble Bond Dickinson



# The BTI Intimidating Opponents: The Most Feared Law Firms in Litigation

# **Intimidating Opponents**

- Akin
- Anderson Kill
- Arnold & Porter
- BakerHostetler
- Ballard Spahr
- Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann
- Carpenter Lipps
- Cleary Gottlieb
- Davis Wright Tremaine
- Dechert
- **Desmarais**
- DLA Piper
- Dowd Bennett
- Fasken
- Finnegan
- Foley Hoag
- Goodwin
- Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani

- Goulston & Storrs
- Hecker Fink
- Jackson Walker
- Manatt
- McGuireWoods
- Mintz
- Motley Rice
- Osler
- Pillsbury
- Proskauer
- Quarles
- Robinson+Cole
- Sheppard Mullin
- Slaughter and May
- Vinson & Elkins
- Warner Norcross + Judd
- Wiley
- Winston & Strawn
- Zarwin Baum







# BTI Litigation Outlook 2026 Methodology

# Our Methodology and Approach

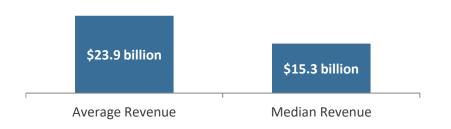
#### INDEPENDENT, ORGANIC, UNBIASED RESEARCH, BASED SOLELY ON CLIENT FEEDBACK

# Survey Participant Demographics Research More than 350 in-depth surveys Time Frame Primarily between February 2025 and August 2025 Incentives Respondents receive a complimentary report of benchmarks and metrics

#### **Legal Decision Makers Responsible for Litigation**

- Head of Litigation
- · Chief and Vice President of Litigation
- · General Counsel/Chief Legal Officer
- Direct report to General Counsel

#### **Organizations with Highest Levels of Legal Spending**



# Representative of more than 15 Industry Segments

- Banking
- Chemicals
- Consumer Goods
- Energy
- Financial Services
- Food & Agricultural
- Health Care
- High Tech
- Insurance
- Manufacturing
- Pharmaceuticals
- Professional Services
- Retail Trade
- Real Estate
- Telecom
- Transportation
- Utilities
- Wholesale Trade

solely on in-depth surveys and telephone interviews with leading legal decision makers. This comprehensive analysis trends data from more than 30,000 corporate counsel client interviews conducted over the span of 24 years.

This research is independent and unbiased – no law firm or organization other than BTI sponsors this study.

Each year, BTI reaches out to a strategically designed group of top legal decision makers at large organizations with \$1 billion or more in revenue. We target the decision makers in the industries who spend the most on legal affairs as well as thought leaders and innovative Chief Legal Officers. Our survey also includes Chief Legal Operating Officers and business executives who hire and influence the selection and hiring of law firms.

Participants are granted confidentiality at the individual and organizational level.





# What We Do

For more than 30 years, we've successfully helped our clients strategically drive revenue, boost performance, attract and retain clients, develop more business in new and existing markets, and create enduring relationships with our data-driven customized programs and solutions tailored to meet each client's specific and unique needs. We examine the market from your client's perspective with a measurable, innovative, and high-impact approach.

From in-depth independent research to one-on-one interviews with C-suite executives, top legal decision makers, and market leaders, our expertise and insight will help you understand – as well as benchmark – how clients acquire, manage, and evaluate their professional services providers.



#### **Client Feedback Programs**

We help you reveal powerful, defining client insights you simply can't get anywhere else through innovative, world-class feedback.



#### **Business Development Training**

We help you and your firm catapult your business development skills, culture, and mindset, fast.



#### **Client Service Excellence**

We help you redefine how clients think about you and your firm for the short- and long-term.



#### **Market Research and Insightful Client-Centric Reports**

Authoritative, innovative, and practical advice from our research. BTI's client service rankings, brand health assessments, market forecasts and more are the industry gold standard.

# Market Research, Expertise, and Insights

#### AUTHORITATIVE, INNOVATIVE, AND PRACTICAL ADVICE FROM OUR RESEARCH

Law firms who would otherwise have little insight into corporate counsel hiring decisions, goals, law firm preferences, market positions, and detailed recommendations can now gain access to the same research used by the largest and best performing firms in the world. The data and insight found in BTI's reports are used to train attorneys, guide business development, inform strategy, and calibrate market trends against firm tactics. In short, you get many of the benefits of a custom study commissioned for your firm, at a fraction of the cost. These insights are proven to drive growth and client retention and protect fees.

All of our reports come with a 100% satisfaction guarantee and complete telephone support to help you maximize the value from our publications.

Order today at bticonsulting.com

#### BTI Client Service A-Team 2025



Long considered the gold standard in measuring client service performance by clients and law firms alike, the *BTI Client Service A-Team 2025* is the only source for measuring client service solely from the client perspective. Now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year – this is the most important edition ever with more than 350 new, in-depth interviews.



# BTI Most Recommended Law Firms 2025



The most enduring, longest-lasting relationships started with a simple, unsolicited suggestion from one legal decision maker to another. BTI Most Recommended Law Firms 2025: Unlocking the #1 Source of Law Firm Growth shares the names of the firms earning these recommendations above all others.



# BTI Benchmarking Law Firm LinkedIn Performance 2025



LinkedIn is all grown up — is your LinkedIn strategy? BTI Benchmarking Law Firm LinkedIn Performance 2025 delineates how law firms are performing along 9 key metrics — including rankings of law firms' performance by name — and includes detailed recommendations on improving your position.



# Questions? Comments?



Michael B. Rynowecer, President

For questions, research inquiries, and information on BTI's client feedback programs, market insight research, seminars, training, or workshops, please contact us via email or by calling **+1 617 439 0333**.

mrynowecer@bticonsulting.com

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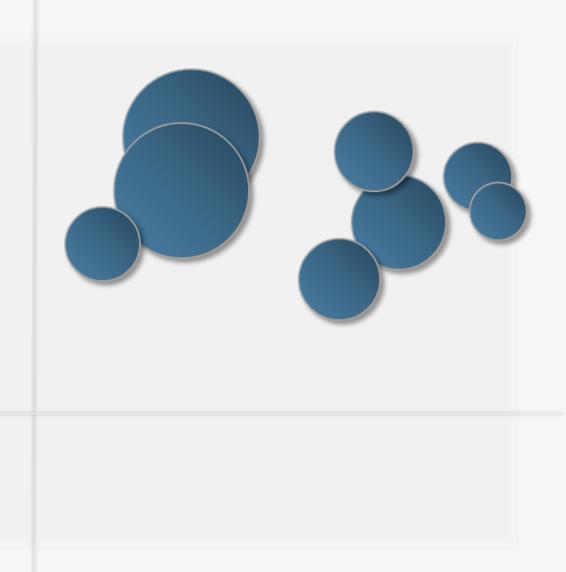




**BTI Litigation Outlook 2026** 

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