

James W. Clayton

Senior Associate
Washington, D.C.

Biography

Jim Clayton devotes his passion for the law to assisting clients. His clients in the transportation, medical devices, and education industries rely on him to digest and capitalize on the nuances of the law in ways that advance their position in complex litigation before federal and state courts.

Jim has counseled clients and helped craft effective strategies and solutions for class action, products liability, fraud, consumer protection and disclosure, mass torts, warranty, and contract litigation.

Jim's enthusiasm for the law also drives his active pro bono practice, which focuses on reducing the prevalence of executions and gun violence in our community. He has co-authored multiple appellate, amicus briefs on post-conviction review of death penalty sentences and on the contours of the Second Amendment in the wake of the Supreme Court's recent jurisprudence.

Jim clerked for the Honorable Gilbert Merritt with the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in Nashville. While in law school at Vanderbilt University, Jim worked as a summer associate at Hogan Lovells and was Articles Editor of the *Vanderbilt Law Review*.

Representative experience



Phone

+1 202 637 5452

Fax

+1 202 637 5910

Email

james.clayton@hoganlovells.com

Practices

Litigation Services

Commercial Litigation

Products Law

Transportation

Industries

Automotive

Consumer

Education

Areas of focus

Retail and Consumer Goods

Principal author of a Rule 12 motion that won dismissal – before discovery commenced – of a putative nationwide class action alleging that an ongoing automotive recall was ineffective.

Principal author of briefs that convinced two federal judges to deny class certification to three actions involving consumer fraud and warranty claims alleging corrosion-related defects.

Assisted in securing a favorable settlement of a nationwide class action of consumers alleging fraud and other claims.

Assisted in securing dismissal of a number of individual lawsuits brought by U.S. and foreign passengers related to an Italian cruise ship accident.

Assisted in obtaining voluntarily dismissal of federal court claims related to an allegedly defective medical device.

Advised university client on remedial actions to take in response to an incomplete informed consent notice delivered to clinical trial participants.

Counseled multiple university clients on reducing their exposure to breach of contract and other claims.

Awards and rankings

- Transport: Rail and Road (Litigation), *Legal 500 US*, 2019

Latest thinking and events

- Insights
 - COVID-19 class actions against universities
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Blurred boundaries: The latest developments in class actions, multi-claimant actions, and cross-border litigation in the EU and U.S.
- Hogan Lovells Publications

Class Actions and Group Litigation
Automotive Regulatory
Product Litigation

Education and admissions

Education

J.D., Vanderbilt Law School, Order of the Coif, 2011

B.A., Williams College, with honors, 2008

Bar admissions and qualifications

District of Columbia

New York

Court admissions

U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit

U.S. District Court, District of Columbia

- Supreme Court decision in American Express Co. v. Italian Colors Restaurant *Class Action Alert*