## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF TENNESSEE NASHVILLE DIVISION

MINERVA MARTINEZ, SANDRA SCOTT, CARL GRAHAM, ANNE PARYS, DAVID ORTIZ, SEAN CHAMBERS and TIFFANY JAMES, individually and on behalf of similarly situated individuals,

Plaintiffs,

v.

Case No. 3:22-cv-00354

District Judge Eli J. Richardson Courtroom 5C

NISSAN NORTH AMERICA, INC.,

Defendant.

# DECLARATION OF NATALIE FINKELMAN BENNETT IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES, COSTS, AND SERVICE AWARDS

I, Natalie Finkelman Bennett, declare as follows:

1. I am a partner at the law firm of Miller Shah LLP ("Miller Shah" or the "Firm").

I am admitted to practice in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, as well as in multiple federal district

and circuit courts. Miller Shah was appointed as Class Counsel along with other firms by this

Court in its August 17, 2022 Order [ECF 31] preliminarily approving the proposed settlement

("Settlement") of this litigation (the "Litigation").<sup>1</sup>

 I submit this declaration in support of Plaintiffs' Motion for Final Approval of Class Action Settlement and Motion for Attorneys' Fees, Costs and Class Representative Service Awards.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise noted, all capitalized terms herein shall have the same meaning as in the Settlement Agreement ("Settlement Agreement") [ECF 22-2].

3. Miller Shah has a lengthy history of representing consumers, employees,

businesses and other clients in class action and other commercial litigation. Detailed information about the Firm is available at <u>www.millershah.com</u> and a true and correct copy of the Miller Shah firm resume is attached as Exhibit "1."

4. Miller Shah attorneys are serving or have served as Co-Lead Class Counsel in several automobile defect cases, including: *Winnie Clark, et al. v. American Honda Motor Co., Inc.*, Case No: 2:20-cv-03147-AB-MRW (C.D. Cal.)(deceleration defects); *Patlan v. BMW of North America, Inc.*, 2:18-cv-09456-CCC-MF (D.N.J.) (defective blower motors); *BK Trucking Co. v. Paccar Engine Co., et al.*, No. 1:15-cv-02282-RMB-AMD (D.N.J.) (defective diesel emissions control technology); *T.J. McDermott Transportation Co., Inc. v. Cummins, Inc., et al.*, 2:14-cv-04209-MCA-LDW (defective diesel emissions control technology). A representative sample of the Firm's recent automotive class action settlements includes the following matters:

- Co-Lead Counsel in *Weckwerth, et al. v. Nissan North America, Inc.,* No. 3:18cv-00588 (M.D. Tenn., Mar. 10, 2020) (settlement on behalf of millions of Nissan drivers with alleged transmission defects);
- Co-Lead Counsel: *Riaubia v. Hyundai Motor America, Inc.*, 2:16-cv-05150-CDJ (E.D.Pa.) (nationwide settlement of defective Smart Trunks);
- Co-Lead Counsel: *In re: Caterpillar, Inc. C13 and C15 Engine Products Liability Litigation*, MDL No. 2540 (D.N.J.) (Hon. Chief Judge Jerome B. Simandle) (\$60 million common fund settlement of claims involving defective diesel emissions control technology);
- Co-Lead Counsel: *Q+Food v. Mitsubishi Fuso Truck of America, Inc.* (D.N.J.), 3:14-cv-06046 (Hon. Douglas E. Arpert) (\$17.5 million common fund settlement of claims involving defective diesel emissions control technology);
- Co-Lead Counsel: In re: Ford Motor Co. Spark Plug and 3-Valve Engine Products Liability Litigation (N.D. Oh.), 1:12-md-02316 (Hon. Benita Y. Pearson) (nationwide settlement of engine defect claims);

- Co-Lead Counsel: Chandran v. BMW of North America, LLC, et al., Case No. 2:08-CV-02619 (D.N.J.) (Hon. Katharine S. Hayden) (nationwide settlement of tire defect claims); and
- Co-Lead Counsel: *Henderson, et al. v. Volvo Cars of N.A.*, LLC, 2:09-cv-04146 (D.N.J.) (Hon. Claire C. Cecchi) (nationwide settlement of defective transmission claims).

5. Miller Shah's attorneys have frequently served as lead counsel or co-lead counsel in significant complex class actions, as well as led *qui tam* cases of national significance, including in *United States ex rel. Arnstein and Senousy v. Teva Pharmaceuticals USA, Inc.*, No. 1:13-cv-03702-CM-OTW (S.D.N.Y.) (\$54 million settlement of claims that "speaker programs" were used to pay physician speakers unlawful compensation). Miller Shah also has a history of vigorously representing the interests of its clients in all matters, including trials of class actions. Miller Shah has tried, as lead or co-lead, three class action cases in the past several years, including trials in the Northern District of California (*Bowerman, et al. v. Field Asset Services, LLC*, Case No. C13-00057 WHO (N.D. Ca. 2017)), as well as the District of Massachusetts (*Healthcare Strategies, Inc., et al. v. ING Life Insurance and Annuity Company*, Case No. 3:11-cv-00282 (WGY) (D. Conn. 2013) (a Connecticut case that was tried in the District of Massachusetts)), and the District of Colorado (*CGC Holding Company, LLC, et al. v. Sandy Hutchens, et al.* (Civil Action No. 11-cv-01012-RBJ (D. Col. 2017)).

6. Miller Shah has dedicated significant time and resources to prosecuting this Litigation on behalf of the Class. The Firm's legal services were performed on a wholly contingent fee basis. Since its inception, Miller Shah has actively participated in all aspects of the case, including, but not limited to: (1) case investigation; (2) drafting of the complaints; (3) communicating with the representative plaintiffs; (4) discovery; (5) legal research; (6) drafting of motions and briefs; (7) participating in case strategy decisions; (8) communicating with Class Members throughout the course of the Litigation; (9) participating in mediation and Settlement negotiations; (10) communicating with defense counsel; (11) participating in documenting the Settlement; and (12) communicating with the Settlement Administrator. Thus, I am fully familiar with the proceedings and, if called upon, I am competent to testify that the following facts are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief.

7. Along with my co-counsel in this Litigation (Melissa S. Weiner of Pearson Warshaw, LLP, Tarek H. Zohdy of Capstone Law APC, Lawrence Deutsch of Berger Montague and Norberto Cisneros of Maddox & Cisneros, LLP) (collectively, "Counsel"), I have been responsible for the prosecution of this Litigation and for the negotiation of the Settlement Agreement. We have vigorously represented the interests of the Settlement Class Members throughout the course of the litigation and settlement negotiations.

8. Before initiating any action, Counsel conducted a thorough investigation of the claims in the Complaint. Specifically, Plaintiffs thoroughly investigated and researched their claims, which allowed Counsel to better evaluate the claims regarding Nissan's representations and omissions concerning the functioning of the CVTs. Among other tasks, Plaintiffs researched publicly available materials and information provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration concerning consumer complaints about the CVTs, and reviewed and researched consumer complaints and discussions of transmission problems in articles and forums online, in addition to various manuals and technical service bulletins discussing the alleged defect. Finally, Counsel conducted research into the various causes of action and other similar automotive actions.

9. Plaintiffs obtained and reviewed discovery from Nissan that included spreadsheets with thousands of rows of data, including warranty data, as well as sales data,

information about the transmissions in the Class Vehicles and the costs of the necessary repairs for the alleged CVT failures. Prior to filing and over the course of the litigation, Counsel responded to drivers of CVT-equipped Nissan Vehicles who contacted them to report problems with their CVTs. Counsel also conducted detailed interviews with Settlement Class Members regarding their pre-purchase research, purchasing decisions and repair histories; reviewed repair invoices and other documents; and developed a plan for litigation and settlement based, in part, on Settlement Class Members' reported experiences with their Class Vehicles as well as with Nissan dealers.

10. This class action lawsuit was originally filed on December 29, 2021, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of California (No. 3:21-cv-02146-L-DEB). After meeting and conferring with Nissan's counsel regarding the company's current state of incorporation, the initial lawsuit was dismissed without prejudice and refiled in this District.

11. In April 2022, the Parties' counsel traveled to Atlanta, Georgia, to conduct an inperson mediation before Hunter R. Hughes III, Esq., an experienced mediator, who also mediated at least two other cases involving the CVT issues. In preparation for this mediation, Counsel conducted additional research regarding the scope of the alleged defect, the contours of the prospective classes, and research into the claims of the putative class representatives and class members alike. The Parties exchanged additional information and each prepared and submitted detailed submissions to the mediator. The mediation was successful in reaching an agreement on the substance of the Settlement, and a term sheet was signed as an interim step soon thereafter. Following the mediation, via telephone and email, the Parties continued to engage in Settlement negotiations relating to the terms of the Settlement and release and claims administration. 12. In July 2022, the Parties were able to document the formal terms of their Settlement to resolve the Litigation. All of the terms of the Settlement were (1) the result of extensive good faith and hard-fought negotiations between knowledgeable and skilled counsel; (2) entered into after extensive factual investigation and legal analysis; and (3) in the opinion of experienced class counsel, fair, reasonable, and adequate. Miller Shah has spoken with Settlement Class Members to answer their questions and will continue to do so. Counsel believes the Settlement Agreement is in the best interests of the Settlement Class Members and should be approved by the Court.

13. Miller Shah was involved in the negotiations and documenting of the Settlement, participating in hundreds of communications with co-counsel, as well as multiple calls involving defense counsel and the Settlement Administrator, and making meaningful substantive contributions at all phases of the process. The Settlement is an excellent result, as it provides the Class with meaningful monetary relief. The Parties did not negotiate attorneys' fees or expenses until they reached an agreement on Class relief.

14. Plaintiffs remain convinced their case has merit but recognize the substantial risk that comes along with continued litigation. Based on extensive investigation and confirmatory discovery, Plaintiffs believe they could obtain class certification, defeat all dispositive motions filed by Defendant, and proceed to trial on the merits.

15. Nonetheless, all complex class actions are uncertain in terms of ultimate outcome, difficulties of proof and duration, and this case is no different. There is always the possibility that Plaintiffs may not prevail if the Litigation continues. Plaintiffs and Counsel recognize the expense and length of continued proceedings necessary to prosecute the claims through trial and appeal. They have considered the uncertain outcome and risk of litigation, as well as difficulties

and undue delay inherent in such litigation. Further litigation would be costly, complex, and time consuming. Such litigation could include dispositive motions, contested class certification proceedings and appeals, costly merits and class certification expert reports and discovery, and trial. Each step towards trial would likely be subject to Defendant's vigorous opposition and appeal. Further litigation presents no guarantee for recovery, let alone a recovery greater than that provided by the Settlement. The Parties would likely spend significant time and resources on damage calculations. Furthermore, both Parties would spend significant additional resources in expert discovery, producing competing damage analyses. The costs and risks associated with continuing to litigate the Action would require extensive resources and court time. Counsel believes the Settlement confers substantial benefits upon the Settlement Class Members, and have determined the Settlement is fair, reasonable, adequate, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class.

16. All of the terms of the Settlement are the result of extensive, adversarial, and arms'-length negotiations between experienced counsel for both sides.

17. Throughout the course of investigation, pleadings, mediation, and filing of the Settlement Agreement with the Court, Counsel have devoted significant time and resources to the investigation, development, and resolution of the Litigation.

18. Counsel is not representing clients with interests at odds with the interests of the Settlement Class Members.

19. Counsel have vigorously and competently represented the Settlement Class Members' interests in this Litigation and will continue to fulfill their duties to the Class. Based on work in prior cases, Miller Shah conservatively estimates that it will devote dozens of more hours during the administration of the Settlement.

20. Each of the Class Representatives has given their time and accepted their responsibilities, participating actively in this litigation as required and, in a manner, beneficial to the Class generally.

21. I have reviewed a summary of Miller Shah's billing records for this Litigation, which are maintained during the regular course of business and billed contemporaneously. Miller Shah's bill for attorneys' fees is summarized in the chart below.

| Timekeeper        | Title     | Hours | Rate     | Fees         |
|-------------------|-----------|-------|----------|--------------|
| Christine Mon     | Paralegal | 2.5   | \$215.00 | \$537.50     |
| Elena DiBattista  | Paralegal | 9.4   | \$250.00 | \$2,115.00   |
| James Shah        | Partner   | 15.2  | \$975.00 | \$14,820.00  |
| Kolin Tang        | Partner   | 39.2  | \$725.00 | \$28,420.00  |
| Marialisa Samo    | Paralegal | 2.3   | \$250.00 | \$575.00     |
| Natalie Finkelman | Partner   | 159.4 | \$950.00 | \$151,430.00 |
| Sue Moss          | Paralegal | 18.3  | \$250.00 | \$4,575.00   |
| Sidney Finlay     | Associate | 43.1  | \$400.00 | \$17,240.00  |
| TOTAL             |           | 289.4 |          | \$219,712.50 |

22. While adjusting our rates to track market increases, Miller Shah's rates have steadily remained reasonable and competitive, and have been consistently approved by many federal and state courts over the past several years. See, e.g., Weckwerth, et al. v. Nissan North America, Inc., No. 3:18-cv-00588 (M.D. Tenn., Mar. 10, 2020) (approving fee request with hourly rates up to \$875 for experienced class counsel); Caves v. Walgreen Co., Case No. 2:18cv-02910-MCE-DB (E.D. Cal. Jan 5, 2023) (approving fee request with hourly rates up to \$875 for experienced class counsel); Riaubia v. Hyundai Motor America, Inc., 2:16-cv-05150- CDJ (E.D. Pa. Dec. 20, 2019) (approving fee request with hourly rates up to \$875 for experienced

class counsel) [Dtk. 65]; In re Comcast Corp. Set-Top Cable Television Box Antitrust Litig., No. CV 09-MD-2034, 2019 WL 4645331 (E.D. Pa. Sept. 24, 2019) (approving fee request with hourly rates up to \$950 for experienced class counsel); In re: Caterpillar, Inc. C13 and C15 Engine Products Liability Litigation, MDL No. 2540 (D.N.J.) [Dkt. 54]; Q+Food v. Mitsubishi Fuso Truck of America, Inc. (D.N.J.), 3:14-cv-06046 [Dkt. 70]; In re: Ford Motor Co. Spark Plug and 3-Valve Engine Products Liability Litigation, Case No. 1:12-md-02316-BYP (N.D. Oh. 2016) [Dkt. 122]; Heba v. Comcast Corp., Case No. 000471 (C.C.P. Phila 2016) (finding in final approval order the fees and then current hourly rates of up to \$750 for partners was reasonable); Corson v. Toyota Motor Sales U.S.A., Inc., Case No. 1:12-cv-8499-JGB (C.D. Ca. 2016) [Dkt. 107]; Allison Gay v. Tom's of Maine, Inc., Case No. 0:14-cv-60604-KMM (S.D. Fl. 2016) [Dkt. 43]; Trewin v. Church and Dwight, Inc., Case No. 3:12-cv-01475-MAS-DEA (D.N.J. 2015) [Dkt. 68]; Golden Star, Inc. v. Mass Mut. Life Ins. Co., Case No. 3:11-30235- MGM (D. Mass. 2015) [Dtk. 55]; Butler National Corp. v. The Union Central Life Insurance Co., Case No. 1-1:12-cv-00177-SJD-KLL (S.D. Oh. 2014) [Dkt. 55]; In re Whirlpool Corp. Front Loading Washer Products Liability Litigation, Case No. 1:08-WP-65000 (N.D. Oh. 2016) [Dkt. 656]; and Henderson v. Volvo Cars of North America, LLC, 2013 WL 1192479 (D.N.J. March 22, 2013).

23. Miller Shah has expended \$5,851.87 in unreimbursed expenses which were reasonable and necessary for the prosecution of this matter. These expenses, which are accurately reflected in the Firm's books and records, were created contemporaneously during the pendency of the litigation of this Litigation, and include following:

| Cost & Expense Categories  | Amount     |
|--|------------|
| Computer Research (Pacer, Westlaw)                               | \$215.94   |
| Filing Fees for filing of complaint and service and pro hac vice |            |
| motion   | \$915.00   |
| Mediation Fees   | \$4,090.00 |
| Travel-related costs   | \$630.93   |
| Total  | \$5,851.87 |

24. Plaintiffs deserve service awards for their time and effort to support a case in which they had a modest personal interest, but which provided considerable benefits to Class Members—a commitment undertaken without any guarantee of recompense. Each Plaintiff provided documents to, and consulted with, Counsel about the claims and assisted throughout the course of the litigation. Plaintiffs reviewed the allegations and kept in contact with their Counsel regarding the status of the Litigation. Plaintiffs have also stayed abreast of Settlement negotiations, reviewed the Settlement terms, and approved the Settlement on behalf of the Class.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 10th day of January, 2023, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

/s/Natalie Finkelman Bennett

Natalie Finkelman Bennett

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned attorney hereby certifies that he caused a copy of the foregoing to be served upon the following counsel of record by the Court's ECF system, this DECLARATION OF NATALIE FINKELMAN BENNET IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR FINAL APPROVAL OF CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT AND MOTION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES, COSTS, AND SERVICE AWARDS, on the 12th day of January, 2023.

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<u>/s/ Gregory F. Coleman</u> Gregory F. Coleman

# **Exhibit 1**

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# Serving Our Clients Worldwide

Miller Shah LLP ("Miller Shah" or the "Firm") is a results driven law firm that is focused on delivering the highest level of service possible to our clients throughout the globe. Miller Shah believes that approaching the representation of our clients with considered judgment and candor, as well as the highest degree of courtesy, professionalism and zeal possible, provides the best opportunity for our clients to achieve and exceed their goals in any given matter. Miller Shah is a full-service firm that is able to meet its clients' needs in virtually any matter. The Firm maintains a number of offices in the United States that are strategically located to serve our clients. In addition, through a highly respected, global network of independent law, fiduciary trust and accounting firms, as well as affiliate offices, Miller Shah is able to effectively meet the needs of its clients throughout the world. Miller Shah retains the culture of a boutique law firm with attorneys and staff working in an interdisciplinary, team-based manner across and between different offices.

## Focused On Results

As part of our mission statement, the Firm ensures that every client receives our best judgment and a clear recommendation in every matter. In other words, although we always discuss and fully describe the array of alternatives available to our clients, we understand the importance of advocates being plain spoken, willing to challenge convention and strategic in their thinking. That is why we make certain that, without mincing words, Miller Shah always provides specific recommendations to each client in clear and straightforward terms regarding the Firm's judgment as to the best way to achieve the goal at hand.

# Motivated by Challenging Issues

The attorneys, other professionals and staff of Miller Shah are a diverse and accomplished group of individuals who value the professional rewards and other benefits of working in a collegial, team-oriented environment. The attorneys at Miller Shah have earned degrees from a variety of highly-respected colleges and law schools, including the University of California at Berkeley, University of Chicago, Cornell University, Duke University, Emory University, Fordham University, George Washington University, Hastings College of Law, the University of Maryland, the University of Oregon, University of Oxford, the University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State University, Temple University, Trinity College, University of Pittsburgh, Villanova University and Yale University. Many graduated with distinction and were members and editors of their respective schools' law reviews, moot courts or honor fraternities. Most have served federal or state judicial clerkships, and others hold graduate degrees in law, tax or other disciplines.



Our professional staff also is highly experienced and accomplished. At Miller Shah, we believe strongly that the competence and commitment of our non attorney staff is critical to achieving the excellent client service that we always seek to deliver. We pride ourselves on working collegially together as a Firm while eschewing artificial hierarchy and stilted interactions in favor of a team oriented environment that fosters creativity and a commitment to excellence.

Comprised of attorneys and staff that are almost exclusively alumni of large firms, Miller Shah team members have a keen understanding of the benefits of working in a bouti ue environment in which the opinions and contributions of all attorneys and staff are considered and valued. The Firm's clients also recognize these benefits and regularly comment upon Miller Shah's responsiveness and the efficiencies achieved in specific engagements, where the attorneys and staff are clearly and unselfishly committed to the simple goal of achieving an excellent result for the client, while enjoying the opportunity to collaborate with peers in a workplace environment that maximizes the potential of all team members and values the contributions of all.

At Miller Shah, we understand that it is best to approach any case, transaction, trial or other client challenge by obtaining a full understanding of the issues at hand and then engaging in strategic thinking, as well as hard work, to establish, and then meet and exceed, our clients' established goals. At Miller Shah, we are motivated by, and relish, the opportunity to confront challenging issues. That is why we consider it a privilege to work cooperatively with our clients to meet their goals and overcome the inevitable challenges created by complicated transactions and the disputes that clients regularly confront.

## Socially Committed and Responsible

Although superior client service is our overriding aim, at Miller Shah, we also are committed to approaching our practice in a socially responsible manner, while making meaningful contributions to support the communities in which we work, the world at large and the social justice system. The attorneys of Miller Shah have recovered over 2 billion for our clients in litigation and similar matters, and have been responsible for charitable donations of more than 100 million in the form of *cy pres* and other donations and gifts to assist those in need, as well as supporting the arts, education and other philanthropic causes. The Firm and its attorneys are also actively involved in *pro bono* cases, having successfully assisted clients in a variety of diverse matters, including civil matters for indigent clients, death penalty appeals, immigration asylum matters and court appointed prisoner rights cases.



## Areas of Expertise

Although Miller Shah is not organized into formal departments or practice areas and, instead, believes that our clients are best served by an interdisciplinary approach ensuring that the best attorneys for a given matter are assigned to meet the client's needs, the following constitute the Firm's more significant practice areas

- Antitrust, Competition and Trade Regulation
- Business Counseling and Corporate Transactions
- Employee Benefits and Fiduciary Compliance
- Insurance Coverage and Practices
- International Business and Trade
- Private Client Services
- Representative and Collective Litigation

- Arbitration, Mediation and Other ADR Procedures
- Commercial and Other Complex Litigation
- Institutional Investor Services
- Intellectual Property
- Labor and Employment
- ui Tam, False Claims and Whistleblower Proceedings
- Securities Regulation and Corporate Governance

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## Antitrust, Competition and Trade Regulation

Miller Shah attorneys have broad experience in dealing with the complex legal and economic issues that antitrust, competition and trade regulation uestions can present. We offer clients significant litigation and counseling experience in virtually all aspects of antitrust and trade regulation litigation. Our lawyers have successfully represented plaintiffs and defendants in major civil antitrust matters throughout the United States. Miller Shah attorneys also have extensive experience representing parties involved in related criminal, administrative and other regulatory proceedings. In such matters, our team members have extensive experience working with the Department of Justice, the Federal Trade Commission and various State Attorneys General, as well as, upon occasion, international regulatory bodies, including the European Union. Miller Shah also has worked with and represented governmental entities, including the State of Connecticut, in unfair trade practice and related matters. Finally, Miller Shah has represented a number of clients, both businesses and consumers, in unfair trade practice and consumer protection cases throughout the United States in a wide variety of jurisdictions, including in scores of individual and Multi District Litigation proceedings, in cases arising under the Consumer Legal Remedies Act, the Lanham Act, the Magnuson Moss Warranty Act, the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act and the Unfair Competition Law, as well as similar statutes and state laws in over 35 states and the District of Columbia.

The Firm is actively involved in litigation concerning antitrust and unfair competition issues relating to, among other matters, vertical and horizontal price agreements, market allocations, concerted refusals to deal, monopolization, covenants not to compete, price fixing and tying arrangements, as well as unfair and deceptive trade practice, false advertising and commercial disparagement. Our attorneys, with extensive experience in antitrust law and economics, as well as knowledge of market realities, have represented businesses and individual consumers in antitrust cases in state and federal courts in the United States, as well as related criminal and regulatory proceedings. The Firm's attorneys have successfully prosecuted and defended antitrust cases, including price discrimination cases under the Robinson Patman Act and price fixing and tying cases under federal and state antitrust laws, to successful jury verdict.

In antitrust, competition, consumer protection and trade regulation cases, Miller Shah has been appointed lead counsel in over 75 cases in the United States, in recognition of its broad range of experience and the excellent results that it has obtained for its clients in previous engagements.



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#### Arbitration, Mediation and Other ADR Proceedings

Miller Shah considers the use of arbitration, mediation and other alternative dispute resolution ADR devices to be an integral part of the practice of law and the advice that we provide to our clients. The Firm's arbitration and mediation practice, and the other ADR strategies that we employ, enable us to achieve results that promote our clients' goals, reduce the expense and delay associated with resolving disputes, and avoid the distractions that more protracted proceedings may impose upon clients.

Miller Shah lawyers have a broad range of ADR experience in the fields of domestic and international arbitration, direct negotiation, mediation and other customized ADR options, including dispute review boards, med arbs, mini trials, private judging and summary jury trials in the fields of antitrust, commercial transactions, construction, consumer and financial transactions, corporate and contract law, employment and labor disputes, intellectual property, insurance, and securities and corporate governance. In addition to regularly representing our clients in these ADR proceedings, Miller Shah attorneys have extensive experience acting as arbitrators, mediators, private judges and settlement counsel.

Members of the Miller Shah team have acted as advocates and/or neutrals in proceedings before the American Arbitration Association, the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority f/k/a as the National Association of Securities Dealers and New York Stock Exchange, the Grain and Feed Trade Association in London, the International Centre for Dispute Resolution, the International Chamber of Commerce, Judicial Arbitration and Mediation Services, Inc., both domestically and internationally, and the London Court of International Arbitration, as well as in a number of uasi public and private ADR proceedings.

#### **Business Counseling and Corporate Transactions**

Miller Shah attorney have extensive experience counseling their business clients in a variety of matters. The Firm's attorneys have experience in significant transactional work, as well as vast experience providing corporate and business counseling to our clients, including in the areas of business formations, capital markers, contract drafting, sales or purchases of businesses, mergers and consolidations, joint ventures, employee and independent contractor agreements, confidentiality agreements, public and private offerings, stock sale, transfer and other arrangements, severance packages, third party agreements and corporate governance matters. On the rare occasions when a corporate or business matter re uires even greater expertise from a transactional, taxation or other perspective, we work with our clients to identify the best co counsel with which to work on that particular matter and with whom we maintain relationships around the world, and then supervise the work of such counsel to ensure that the client's needs are being met in cost effective and efficient manner.



Miller Shah acts as outside general counsel for a number of small to mid size businesses, as well as certain subsidiaries of overseas corporations. Since the Firm uses a multi disciplinary, team oriented approach to staffing all business counseling and corporate transactional work, Miller Shah is able to provide high uality, cost effective representation for the clients that choose to so engage us. In fact, certain clients have apprised us that, based upon the efficient and business minded manner in which we approach such matters, it often makes sense for them to engage Miller Shah, even though the Firm may, at times, bill at higher hourly rates than other law firms. Since Miller Shah approaches every engagement based upon the principles of value billing and seeks to reward productivity and outcomes, as opposed to time spent on an engagement, the Firm consistently is informed by its corporate clients that it provides higher uality and lower cost services than many of its competitors, both large and small, that work exclusively or predominantly in the area of business counseling and corporate transactions.

#### **Commercial and Other Complex Litigation**

Miller Shah attorneys have extensive experience handling a wide variety of commercial litigation matters. The attorneys at Miller Shah have decades of experience representing large national and international corporations, as well as smaller businesses and other entities in such matters. The broad range of commercial litigation matters that Miller Shah lawyers have handled include contract disputes, breach of duty claims, abuse of trust cases, business torts, trade disputes, unfair competition claims and related issues, including risk assessment and litigation avoidance. We represent clients in diverse industry sectors, including large publicly traded and international companies, as well as smaller business enterprises in connection with their complex commercial litigation matters. In addition to handling such matters in federal and state courts in the United States, Miller Shah attorneys also have significant experience handling claims in international arbitration forums and with co counsel in courts outside of the United States. In representing clients in commercial litigation matters, Miller Shah attorneys have recovered hundreds of millions of dollars, including recoveries from governments and state trading entities. Miller Shah attorneys regularly appear in federal and state courts throughout the United States, as well as bankruptcy and appellate courts. In fact, on the appellate front, as a result of our track record of winning many significant and groundbreaking appeals over the last decade, other practitioners regularly approach us and re uest that we assist them in pursuing or defending appeals in federal and state courts.

The Firm handles commercial litigation pursuant to traditional hourly billing arrangements and, on an increasingly fre uent basis, has been retained to handle litigation for corporate plaintiffs on a contingent fee basis. We have found that, while many corporate counsel tend to be reluctant to deviate from tried and true hourly billing procedures, in appropriate circumstances, a contingent fee structure ensures the proper incentives and often works to further the client's interests, while providing desirable incentives to litigate efficiently, maximize recoveries and minimize the length of pretrial proceedings.



#### **Employee Benefits and Fiduciary Compliance**

Miller Shah handles a variety of employee benefits and fiduciary litigation, as well as compliance issues, for our clients most of which arise under the Internal Revenue Code and the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. Miller Shah attorneys have represented employee benefit plan fiduciaries, including plan trustees, as plaintiffs and defendants in a wide variety of employee benefits and fiduciary compliance matters. The Firm's attorneys also have experience working with independent fiduciaries in certain cases. The attorneys at Miller Shah also have represented clients in a number of cases involving Taft Hartley fund delin uent contributions and similar matters. The Firm has handled a number of novel and ground breaking ERISA cases, including issues regarding revenue sharing practices, cash balance and cross tested plans, common stock declines and stock options with regard to ualified retirement plans, including 401 k , 403 b , 457, profit sharing, money purchase pension, cash balance, annuity, and defined benefit plans.

Most of the employee benefits and fiduciary compliance litigation that Miller Shah handles involving employee benefits and fiduciary compliance occurs in federal district courts in the United States. In such litigation, Miller Shah has significant experience working with the U.S. Department of Labor, as well as the Department of Justice. Miller Shah attorneys also have experience representing the interest of our clients in bankruptcy court and related proceedings in connection with both employee benefits and fiduciary compliance matters.

#### **Institutional Investor Services**

Miller Shah provides a variety of compliance, litigation, monitoring, regulatory and transactional services to institutional investors, including educational and endowment based funds, hedge funds, public and private pension funds and private e uity firms. Among the other services that it provides to institutional clients, the Firm performs corporate governance and securities investment monitoring for virtually all of its institutional clients pursuant to which it advises clients when they should consider legal action to protect their rights as shareholders in a corporation. In connection with its Miller Shah Tracker<sup>ss</sup> service, Miller Shah offers the following portfolio services to institutional investor clients a the development of guidelines and policy statements regarding securities and other shareholder litigation, as well as other corporate governance initiatives, to meet fiduciary obligations b the monitoring of securities and related litigation that affects the client's investments c the investigation and evaluation of potential and pending litigation to evaluate the appropriate role, if any, for the client d the preparation of presentations for institutional clients regarding the status of potential and pending litigation and other corporate governance initiatives e provision of updates regarding the settlement or other resolution of litigation, disputes and other initiatives f assistance to clients in completing appropriate claim forms and other documentation to maximize recoveries and g coordination of the holding of certain securities in custodial accounts with a financial institution pursuant to a specialized agreement that Miller Shah was instrumental in crafting to protect offlineclient interests in appropriate circumstances.



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#### **Insurance Coverage and Practices**

Miller Shah attorneys have significant experience in handling legal issues related to insurance coverage and practices. Miller Shah attorneys have experience negotiating and litigating with many major U.S. insurance companies, as well as Lloyd's, the London Market and other international insurers. The Firm has achieved outstanding results for our clients across a wide variety of issues and forums. Miller Shah attorneys have handled insurance coverage matters related to business interruption, defamation, health insurance, privacy, advertising, personal injury claims, Directors' and Officers' liability, employment practices liability, environmental cleanup and toxic tort' liability, fidelity bonds and crime policies, financial insurance, intellectual property copyright, trademark and patent infringement, product liability, professional errors and omissions malpractice liability, property and valuable articles coverage, self insurance' and workers' compensation insurance. In such matters, Miller Shah attorneys have experience with all principal coverage issues that arise under standard liability and first party property policies, as well as many specialty coverages, have addressed many of the procedural aspects of insurance coverage litigation, including choice of law, forum non conveniens, party joinder and case management issues, duty to defend disputes, and independent counsel and fee rate limitation issues. Firm members also have extensive experience in handling claims regarding insurance marketing, settlement and payment practices, as well as insurance practices regarding the calculation of benefits. Miller Shah attorneys have played a substantial role in litigating major insurance practice related claims with respect to automobile insurance loss adjustment practices, burial insurance, health insurance and continuation of benefits issues, title insurance charges and vanishing premium insurance policies.

#### Intellectual Property

Miller Shah attorneys have significant experience providing an array of legal services in the areas of patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret, outsourcing, software, technology, restrictive covenants and franchise law. These services include obtaining protection, registrations, amendments and renewals with respect to patents, copyrights, trade secrets, service marks and trademarks. Miller Shah also counsels its clients on licensing, marketing, distribution and other commercial transactions regarding products, services and technologies protectable under international, federal, state or local intellectual property laws. Miller Shah attorneys also have litigated and provided advice about disputes involving the protection and enforcement of rights in patents, trademarks, copyrights, confidential information and trade secrets, technology, covenants not to compete, and other intellectual property. Miller Shah attorneys have significant experience in prosecuting and defending copyright, trademark and patent infringement cases, unfair competition actions, Internet and technology disputes including those involving software and computer technology, franchise disputes, false advertising claims, litigation concerning trade secrets and restrictive covenants, and other claims relating to intellectual property. Miller Shah attorneys also are well versed not only on the substance of intellectual property law, but also on federal and state court procedural issues, including obtaining and defending against temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctions that often are sought in intellectual property actions. Finally, Miller Shah attorneys are proficient in resolving intellectual property disputes through alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, such as arbitration and mediation.



#### International Business and Trade

Miller Shah represents companies and other business entities based in the United States and overseas in a variety of international business and trade matters. The Firm's attorneys have assisted our foreign and United States clients with organizing foreign subsidiaries, joint ventures, mergers, ac uisitions and recapitalizations, manufacturing agreements, sales, leasing and supply agreements, international distribution of goods and services, cross border technology licensing, licensing agreements and registration of U.S. and foreign trademarks, copyrights and patents, privacy and data protection, as well as Foreign Corrupt Practices Act compliance. Miller Shah attorneys also assist our clients in addressing immigration matters, international estate planning, and real estate ac uisition issues to the extent that those needs arise. In addition, the Firm regularly represents a number of clients based overseas in arbitration, mediation, other ADR proceedings and litigation matters.

Miller Shah's International Business and Trade practice works with local counsel in many countries to help clients understand and manage risks posed by different legal systems. As an active member of IAG Global Integrated Advisory Group , <u>https //iag.global/</u>, a consortium of independent law, fiduciary trust and accounting firms in Asia, Canada, Central America, Europe, the Middle East, South America and the United States, Miller Shah is able to effectively meet the needs of its clients on a global basis. As part of its growing international practice, Miller Shah actively encourages its more junior lawyers to actively participate in AIJA the International Association of Young Lawyers , <u>http www.aija.org</u>, since we understand that, by building and maintaining professional relationships throughout the globe, Miller Shah is able to provide a service level in international matters that is infre uently matched by other bouti ue firms.

Miller Shah has attorneys fluent or proficient in Cantonese Chinese, Mandarin Chinese, Japanese, French, Italian and Spanish, and many have spent substantial time working outside the United States. Miller Shah attorneys are experienced working internationally and counsel Miller Shah clients on the cultural and legal norms of doing business in various foreign jurisdictions. We also assist our clients to achieve their goals with our team approach and a thorough understanding of their international business needs. Miller Shah attorneys have experience in many areas throughout the world, including Argentina, Australia, Bermuda, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Chile, China, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Dubai, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Mexico, the Netherlands, Russia, Singapore, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, the United Kingdom and Yemen.



#### Labor and Employment

Miller Shah has a significant and eclectic practice in the field of labor and employment matters. The Firm has represented individuals, companies, governmental entities and other employers, as well as labor organizations, in a wide range of employment and labor litigation, as well as other matters. Miller Shah attorneys have extensive experience counseling and representing their clients in litigation, as well as other disputes and challenges, regarding ERISA and employment benefits, federal and state wage and hour laws, uestions regarding H1N1 swine flu workforce resources, immigration, international employment, labor management relations, noncompetition agreements and trade secrets, occupational safety and health, e ual employment and affirmative action matters, workplace safety, changes, reductions in force and training.

The Firm's attorneys have negotiated collective bargaining agreements, appeared before the National Labor Relations Board, the E ual Employment Opportunity Commission and other fair employment practice agencies, as well as before various mediation and arbitration panels that specialize in employment and labor issues. Miller Shah has vast experience working on a diverse array of employment and labor cases, including cases involving age, defamation, gender, gender dysphoria, race and sexual orientation discrimination, ERISA and benefits matters, breach of contract claims, and wage/hour claims. Miller Shah and its attorneys also have served as lead counsel in a number of wage/hour class actions, as well as discrimination and other employment class actions. In those cases in which the Firm has represented plaintiffs, it has recovered millions of dollars for its clients. Finally, the Firm serves as national labor counsel for several select employers and also is pleased to count a number of local and international labor organizations among its clients.

#### **Private Client Services**

Miller Shah also provides private client services to existing and select clients with respect to domestic and international estate planning, charitable planned giving, trust and estate administration, family law matters, executive compensation, real estate and federal and state tax issues. In addition, upon occasion, the Firm will represent existing clients in personal litigation. In these areas, Miller Shah has a broad range of expertise, having assisted clients in the United States and overseas with significant estate planning issues, having negotiated executive compensation packages, as well as severance packages, for senior executives at U.S. and international concerns, and having assisted existing clients in custody, divorce, guardianship and separation matters arising from family crises or disputes. The Firm also has experience assisting our clients in negotiating and closing real estate transactions, both in the commercial and non commercial fields. Miller Shah regularly works with accountants and auditors to address federal, state and local tax issues for its clients and has significant experience handling offers in compromise and defending tax proceedings initiated by government entities, including the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Justice. Miller Shah believes strongly that, when the need arises, its attorneys and other professionals must and should be prepared to assist our clients in these important private matters.



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#### Qui Tam, False Claims and Whistleblower Proceedings

Miller Shah attorneys have broad experience in handling legal issues related to false claims, whistleblower and ui tam cases under the federal False Claims Act and similar state laws, as well as assisting clients in internal investigations. The federal False Claims Act has proven to be an effective, powerful and, sometimes, frightening tool in fighting Medicare and Medicaid fraud, defense contractor fraud and other types of fraud perpetrated against federal and state governments. The ui tam' provisions, which allow whistleblowers to file False Claims Act lawsuits against companies and individuals that allegedly defraud the government with the opportunity to obtain a

bounty, have been a key ingredient in the False Claims Act's success, as the federal government has recovered more than 15 billion as a result of ui tam lawsuits since 1986, with whistleblowers' rewards totaling more than 2.5 billion. Miller Shah attorneys have represented clients in a number of significant cases under the False Claims Act. In addition, the Firm has significant experience representing clients in ui tam cases brought under similar state laws against companies and individuals accused of defrauding state and local government agencies. The Firm currently is representing clients in a number of ui tam actions under the False Claims Act and state law, many of which, including several large prosecutions, are under seal' and, therefore, cannot be publicly disclosed. Miller Shah similarly has significant experience handling ui tam, false claims and whistleblower cases under the Dodd Frank Act for alleged securities fraud and related misconduct, as well as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, related to alleged bribery of foreign officials and others to secure business preferences overseas. Finally, the Firm's attorney have represented clients performing internal investigations arising from whistleblower complaints and has developed effective, methodological tools to address such matters.

#### **Representative and Collective Litigation**

Miller Shah has a broad range of experience in representing clients in class action and other representative/collective litigation. The attorneys at Miller Shah have been appointed lead counsel in scores of class action and similar cases, and the courts that have appointed Miller Shah in such litigation have consistently recognized the excellent representation provided by Miller Shah in such engagements. Miller Shah attorneys have extensive experience representing the interests of their clients in antitrust, consumer protection, employment discrimination/civil rights, employee benefits, ERISA, fiduciary compliance, housing practices, insurance coverage/practices, securities fraud/breach of fiduciary duty, and wage and hour class action litigation.

In such litigation, Miller Shah attorneys have represented a variety of private and public plaintiffs, including institutional and other significant investors, private companies, officers and directors, other fiduciaries and labor organizations. In such litigation, Miller Shah has been successful in recovering hundreds of millions of dollars for our clients and, in addition, has procured tens of millions of dollars in charitable cy pres donations to worthy organizations as a result of the outcomes that we have achieved. Unlike certain lawyers who exclusively handle class action litigation, we know how to prosecute cases to trial and have extensive experience trying cases. In federal and state courts, as well as arbitral forums, Miller Shah attorneys have tried such cases for both plaintiffs and defendants to successful jury verdict, judgment and award.



#### Securities Regulation and Corporate Governance

Miller Shah has significant experience in the fields of securities regulation and corporate governance. In such matters, Miller Shah has represented a variety of private and public entities, including institutional and other investors, investment managers, hedge funds, public and private pension funds, as well as private companies, officers and directors, and labor organizations. In addition to counseling our clients on matters related to securities regulation and corporate governance, Miller Shah attorneys have litigated complex securities and directors' and officers' liability cases in federal and state courts across the country. Our securities litigation practice is one of the largest and strongest practice areas of the Firm. We have significant trial and appellate experience in the following areas shareholder class actions significant shareholder opt out cases derivative/director and officer cases and investigations corporate control contests regulatory enforcement and criminal prosecution matters. Our attorneys have worked with and against the SEC, Department of Justice and various self regulatory organizations, including FINRA, in representing our clients. Miller Shah attorneys also have experience with a variety of securities registration and regulation issues under federal and state law and have worked with clients with respect to Blue Sky and other compliance issues. Finally, the Firm has served as lead counsel in a number of securities class action and other corporate governance matters and, in such representations, Miller Shah has recovered tens of millions of dollars for our clients, while achieving important corporate governance reforms.



### **Representative Clients**

At Miller Shah, we place our clients' interests first. We strive to provide our clients with thoughtful, comprehensive and high uality legal services at all times. Our diverse client base includes

Start up and other smaller companies

Multi national corporations

Biotechnology and life science concerns

Construction companies

Educational institutions

Healthcare and manufacturing concerns

Hospitality and leisure businesses

Individuals, including significant shareholders, highly compensated employees, consumers, small business owners and professionals

Labor organizations, including local and international labor unions

Private pension funds

Public pension funds

Multi employer and Taft Hartley pension funds

Large and mid size financial institutions

Hedge funds and money managers

International and other significant investors

State and local governmental entities

Technology companies and entrepreneurs



#### Pro Bono, Community Service and Charitable Work

Miller Shah believes that our attorneys should provide *pro bono* and public interest legal services, as a matter of professional responsibility and in recognition of both the overwhelming need for, and positive outcomes arising from, the provision of such services. Miller Shah attorneys regularly accept unpopular and challenging cases, participating in *pro bono* activities that range from political asylum and death penalty litigation to civil rights, housing, constitutional and mortgage foreclosure class actions to individual civil and criminal matters for low income, disabled and other people who are disadvantaged and in need. Miller Shah also has represented certain non profit organizations in *pro bono* assignments.

Miller Shah attorneys have contributed thousands of hours of professional time to pro bono matters. We believe that our work benefits the clients we serve, the public at large, and our attorneys who develop additional skills and enjoy the great professional fulfillment derived from performing such public service. The Firm actively encourages partners and associates to accept pro bono legal assignments and to treat such assignments as matters of the highest priority. In addition to being committed to pro bono work, Miller Shah attorneys and staff are highly committed to community services. Miller Shah representatives regularly and actively work on behalf of a number of community organizations, including the Special Olympics, and serve on boards and commissions, including in elected roles, to support the communities in which we work and live. Miller Shah also is committed to charitable work and regularly provides financial support to a number of community and charitable organizations, including YMCA camps and organizations supporting the underprivileged, arts, education and culture. In addition, the Firm is actively engaged in working to promote the donation of cy pres funds from representative proceedings and other litigation. As a direct result of the efforts of Miller Shah attorneys in such matters, more than 100 million has been donated to charities, public schools, colleges and other educational institutions, and non profit institutions promoting the social justice system and other good works. The Firm also actively supports the credit internship program of the Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations. At any given time, Miller Shah typically employs one or more full time interns from the Cornell ILR School to provide these students with practical experience in the workplace related to their chosen field of study. Finally, the Firm actively encourages its attorneys to contribute to the profession through professional writings, service on American Bar Association and state bar committees and support for the bar organizations that assist indigent and other clients obtain access to the justice system.

If you have a uestion about the Firm's *pro bono*, community service or charitable work or would like us to consider a specific *pro bono* assignment or a community service/charitable work or donation re uest, please send us an email or other correspondence regarding the same at <u>probono@millershah.com</u>. If you would like to make arrangements for a cy pres donation with the assistance of Miller Shah or would like to be considered for a cy pres award, please send us an email or other correspondence regarding the same at <u>cypres@millershah.com</u>. The appropriate Miller Shah representative will respond to your in uiry as promptly as possible.



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# The Members of our Firm

As described above, the members of our Firm are an accomplished and diverse group of individuals. On the pages that follow, we have provided individual biographical pages for the members of the Miller Shah team that we anticipate being most significantly devoted to this engagement. If you have any uestions or re uire additional information, please contact us at info@millershah.com.

Attorneys Admitted to Practice Law Before the State and Federal Appellate and Trial Courts of Arizona, California, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, as well as the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court

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## James E. Miller Connecticut Office Telephone: 860-526-1100 Facsimile: 866-300-7367 Email: jemiller@millershah.com

James E. Miller formed Miller Shah in 2021. Prior to starting Miller Shah, Jim had worked at Shepherd, Finkelman, Miller Shah, LLP since 2002. Jim is admitted to practice law in the States of California, Connecticut and New Jersey, as well as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and numerous federal courts, including the United States District Courts for the Southern District of California, District of Connecticut, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, District of New Jersey, Eastern District of Wisconsin, the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit and Ninth Circuit and the United States Supreme Court. In addition to these courts and jurisdictions, Jim has worked on cases with local and co counsel nationwide and internationally.

Jim concentrates his practice on whistleblower and securities and corporate governance litigation, as well as significant employment, ERISA, employment benefits, defamation and wage/hour cases. He also has significant experience representing clients in a wide variety of consumer and antitrust class actions and other complex commercial litigation, as well as unsuitable trading, churning and trade disputes in FINRA arbitrations/mediations and before international tribunals. Finally, having begun his career working for the labor movement after majoring in Industrial and Labor Relations at Cornell, Jim serves as labor counsel for certain select clients of the Firm.

Jim earned his undergraduate degree from Cornell University B.S. 1988 and his law degree from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law J.D. 1991. While at Penn Law School, he was awarded the Edwin R. Keedy Cup and was Editor of the Comparative Labor Law Journal. Following graduation, he served as Law Clerk to the Honorable Daniel H. Huyett, 3rd, United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Jim began his law practice in 1992 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where his practice concentrated on labor and employment litigation, as well as other complex commercial litigation. In 2000, he relocated with his family to Connecticut where he served in a lead role in several consumer and securities class actions, while also representing both institutional and individual investors in major unsuitable trading and churning cases. In 2002, Jim joined the Firm to open its office in Connecticut. Jim is a member of the National Association of Securities and Consumer Attorneys, National Employment Lawyers Association, the American Bar Association, the Connecticut Bar Association, the New Jersey Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Association. He resides with his family in Chester, Connecticut, where he holds elected office, and is active in community, political and charitable activities.

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James C. Shah Pennsylvania Office Telephone: 610-891-9800 Facsimile: 866-300-7367 Email: jcshah@millershah.com

James C. Shah formed Miller Shah in 2021. Prior to forming Miller Shah, Jim had worked at Shepherd, Finkelman, Miller Shah, LLP since 2000. Jim is admitted to practice law in the States of California, New Jersey, New York, Wisconsin, as well as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and numerous federal courts, including the United States District Courts for the Southern District of California, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, District of New Jersey, Eastern District of Wisconsin and the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. In addition to these courts and jurisdictions, Jim has worked on cases with local and co counsel nationwide and internationally.

Jim concentrates his practice on antitrust, consumer and insurance litigation, as well as complex commercial and employment matters. He also has significant experiencing representing clients in a wide variety of corporate governance, securities, construction defect, employment and wage/hour cases. Finally, Jim has represented clients in a number of FINRA arbitrations and other proceedings, as well as in a variety of United States and international arbitral and other alternative dispute resolution forums.

Jim earned his undergraduate degree in Political Science from the University of Oregon and his law degree from Temple University School of Law. Jim was a member of Temple s nationally acclaimed Trial Team and also participated on Moot Court. Before joining the Firm, Jim practiced as a litigator in Philadelphia with Pelino Lentz, P.C., where he concentrated his practice on employment and labor law, securities disputes and general commercial litigation. In 2000, Jim joined forces with Scott Shepherd at which time the Firm was created and, since that time, has been involved in all aspects of the Firm s practice.

Jim is a member of the New Jersey and Pennsylvania Bar Associations, as well as the American Association for Justice, the National Association of Securities and Consumer Attorneys. He resides with his family in Collingswood, New Jersey and is active in community, political and charitable activities.

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Natalie Finkelman Bennett Pennsylvania Office Telephone: 610-891-9800 Facsimile: 866-300-7367 Email: <u>nfinkelman@millershah.com</u>

Natalie Finkelman Bennett joined Miller Shah in 2021. Prior to joining Miller Shah, Natalie had worked at Shepherd, Finkelman, Miller Shah, LLP since 2000. Natalie is admitted to practice law in the State of New Jersey, as well as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and numerous federal courts, including the United States District Courts for the United States District Courts for the District of New Jersey and Eastern District of Pennsylvania, and in the United States Courts of Appeal for the Third and Ninth Circuit. In addition to these courts and jurisdictions, Natalie has worked on cases with local and co counsel across the country and worldwide.

Natalie concentrates her practice on antitrust, consumer and insurance litigation, as well as complex commercial matters. She also has significant experiencing representing clients in a wide variety of corporate governance, securities, employment benefit, wage/hour and unfair trade practices cases. In addition, Natalie represents clients in whistleblower cases brought under the United States False Claims Act. Finally, Natalie has significant experience representing physicians and physician groups in a wide variety of matters.

Natalie earned her undergraduate degree magna cum laude from the Pennsylvania State University in 1986 and was elected a member of Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. Natalie earned her law degree magna cum laude from the Temple University School of Law in 1989. She served as the Managing Editor of the Temple Law Review. After clerking for former Chief Judge Farnan of the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, Natalie began working in private practice at Schnader Harrison Segal Lewis in 1990. At Schnader, she practiced in many areas of complex commercial litigation, including product liability, insurance coverage and defense, antitrust, contract and commercial lease matters. In 1996, Natalie became an associate at the law firm of Mager Liebenberg White, a well known firm that specialized in class actions, where her practice was concentrated in antitrust and consumer protection class action litigation. In 1998, Natalie became a Partner in the law firm of Liebenberg White.

Natalie is a member of the American Bar Association, Pennsylvania Bar Association, Philadelphia Bar Association and the National Association of Consumer Advocates. She also is a former member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession and the Temple American Inn of Court. She resides in Wallingford, Pennsylvania with her family and is active in community affairs and charitable activities.

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Nathan C. Zipperian Florida Office Telephone:954-515-0123 Facsimile: 866-300-7367 Email: <u>nczipperian@millershah.com</u>

Nathan C. ipperian joined Miller Shah in 2021. Prior to joining Miller Shah, Nathan had worked at Shepherd, Finkelman, Miller and Shah, LLP since 2005. Nathan is admitted to practice law in the States of Arizona, Florida, New Jersey and Oregon, as well as in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and numerous federal courts, including the United States District Courts for the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida, the District of Arizona and the United States Court of Appeal for the Second Circuit. In addition to these courts and jurisdictions, Nathan has worked on cases with local and co counsel throughout the country and worldwide.

Nathan concentrates his practice on antitrust, consumer and insurance litigation, as well as complex commercial and employment matters. He also has significant experiencing representing clients in a wide variety of corporate governance, securities, construction defect, employment and wage/hour cases. Finally, Nathan has represented clients in a variety of personal injury and medical malpractice litigation.

Nathan earned his undergraduate degree in Political Science from the University of Oregon and his law degree from the Temple University School of Law. While at Temple, Nathan was an Editor of the Environmental Law and Technology Journal. Before joining Shepherd, Finkelman, Miller Shah, LLP, Nathan was a litigator in Oregon at Bailey Pinney and Associates, where his practice focused on employee rights, and in Arizona with Martin Hart Fullerton, where he litigated a wide variety of cases including personal injury, medical malpractice and product liability cases.

Nathan is a member of the American Bar Association, Oregon Bar Association, and Arizona Bar Association. He resides with his family in Weston, Florida and is active in the South Florida community.

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Laurie Rubinow joined Miller Shah in 2005. She is admitted to practice law in the State of Connecticut, as well as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and numerous federal courts, including the United States District Courts for District of Connecticut and the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. In addition to these courts and jurisdictions, Laurie has worked on cases with local and co coursel nationwide and internationally.

Laurie focuses her practice on representing the Firm's clients in whistleblower cases, as well as antitrust, consumer, complex commercial and insurance litigation. Laurie also has significant experience handling employment, intellectual property and real estate matters. Finally, Laurie is active in the Firm's probono work and has represented a number of probono clients in federal and state matters.

Laurie earned her undergraduate degree from the University of California at Berkeley, where she was Phi Beta Kappa, graduated summa cum laude, and earned her law degree from Temple University School of Law. She also completed certain of her undergraduate studies at McGill University and, while at Temple Law School, she served as a legal intern with the United States Attorney's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office and for United States Magistrate Judge Powers. In addition, Laurie has received a Certificate in Negotiation, Mediation and Conflict Resolution from the Seton Hall University School of Law. Laurie has a diverse legal background, having worked in private practice as an Associate at a law firm and as a solo practitioner for approximately five years before beginning a career as an in house attorney at a nationally recognized insurance company, where she worked for approximately eleven years, rising to the position of National Manager. In that position, she was responsible for the management of five regional field offices responsible for defending complex insurance related litigation, including toxic tort and environmental actions. She also has served as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Sociology at Central Connecticut State University. Laurie joined the Firm's Connecticut office in 2005, where she represents clients in a variety of antitrust, consumer, securities and insurance litigation. Laurie also was actively involved in the Firm's representation of the State of Connecticut in complex litigation against six different pharmaceutical manufacturers.

Laurie is a member of the Chester Bar Association and the Connecticut Bar Association. She resides in Chester, Connecticut with her family and is active in community affairs. Laurie also holds an elected office as a member of the local school board.

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Jayne A. Goldstein Florida Office Telephone: 954-515-0123 Facsimile: 866-300-7367 Email: jgoldstein@millershah.com

Jayne Arnold Goldstein joined Miller Shah in January 2017 in the firm's Ft. Lauderdale, Florida office. She brings to Miller Shah her expertise in representing individuals, businesses, institutional investors and labor organizations in a variety of complex commercial litigation, including violations of federal and state antitrust and securities laws and unfair and deceptive trade practices. Jayne was lead counsel in *In re Sara Lee Securities Litigation*, and has played a principal role in numerous other securities class actions that resulted in recoveries of over 100 million.

Jayne began her legal career, in 1986, with a wide ranging general practice firm in Philadelphia. In 2000, she was a founding shareholder of Mager White, P.C. and opened its Florida office, where she concentrated her practice on securities, consumer and antitrust litigation. In 2002, the firm became Mager White Goldstein, LLP. In 2005, Jayne was a founding partner of Mager Goldstein LLP. Most recently, she was a partner at Pomerantz LLP. Jayne, a registered nurse, received her law degree from Temple University School of Law in 1986 and her Bachelor of Science highest honors from Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science. Jayne is a member the Florida Public Pension Trustees Association and the Illinois Public Pension Fund Association. Since 2010, Jayne served as co chair of P.L.I.'s Class Action Litigation Strategies Annual Conference held in New York. In January 2017 Jayne will chair P.L.I.'s new program Women Lawyers in Leadership, a program she developed. Jayne has been a fre uent speaker at Public Pension Trustees' Association and Illinois Public Pension Fund Association.

Jayne is admitted to practice law in the Supreme Court of the United States, the State of Florida, as well as in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, State of Illinois and numerous federal courts, including the United States District Courts for the Southern, Northern and Middle Districts of Florida, the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the Northern District of Illinois, the United States Courts of Appeal for the First, Second, Third and Eleventh Circuits. In addition to these courts and jurisdictions, Jayne has worked on cases with local and co counsel throughout the country and worldwide.

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Bruce D. Parke Pennsylvania Office Telephone: 610-891-9800 Facsimile: 866-300-7367 Email: <u>bdparke@millershah.com</u>

Bruce D. Parke joined Miller Shah in 2008. Bruce is admitted to practice law in Pennsylvania as well as the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Bruce represents clients in complex commercial litigation, including securities, antitrust, and consumer protection. In addition, he has experience representing clients in employment and ERISA cases. Bruce has participated in some historic class action recoveries including In re AOL Time Warner, Inc. Securities Litigation 2.65 billion, In re McKesson Securities Litigation 1.04 billion, In re Broadcom Corporation Securities Litigation 150 million, In re Motorola Securities Litigation 190 million, In re Raytheon Securities Litigation 460 million, and In re Automotive Refinishing Paint Antitrust Litigation 105 million.

Bruce earned his undergraduate degree in Administration of Justice from the Pennsylvania State University and his law degree from the Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University J.D. 2002 . Prior to joining the firm he was an associate for the law firms of Mager White Goldstein LLP and Mager Goldstein LLP where he practiced securities, antitrust, and consumer protection litigation.

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Ronald S. Kravitz joined Miller Shah in 2014. He is admitted to practice law in the States of California and Texas and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and numerous federal courts, including the United States District Courts for all Districts of California, the Middle District of Florida, the Northern District of Illinois, the Eastern District of Michigan, the Northern District of Ohio, Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the Northern and Southern Districts of Texas, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, Fifth Circuit, Ninth Circuit and Eleventh Circuit and the United States Supreme Court. In addition to these courts and jurisdictions, Ron has worked on cases with local and co counsel nationwide and internationally. Ron began his legal career as an Attorney Advisor for the U.S. Department of Justice.

With more than 25 years of experience as legal counsel in complex business litigation matters, his practice has been focused primarily on ERISA, employment, intellectual property, and securities related matters since 1992. He has represented numerous fiduciaries, third party plan administrators, broker dealers, and registered representatives in connection with plan administration and investment matters. Ron has served as lead or co lead class counsel in numerous ERISA class actions throughout the country.

Ron is a past Chairman of the Integrated Advisory Group IAG, current co chair of IAG s Litigation Specialist Group, a regional board member of the Anti Defamation League and the co chair of the ABA Employee Benefits Committee Fiduciary sub committee. In addition, Ron is a Lifetime Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and is active in the University of San Francisco Inn of Court.

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Kolin C. Tang California Office - Newport Beach Telephone: 323-510-4060 Facsimile: 866-300-7367 Email: <u>kctang@millershah.com</u>

Kolin C. Tang joined Miller Shah is 2009. He is admitted to practice law in the State of California.

At Miller Shah, Kolin concentrates his work on securities and commercial litigation throughout the United States. Kolin plays a key role on the Miller Shah Tracker<sup>SM</sup> team, a group within the Firm that is dedicated to working with attorneys, computer programmers, investment analysts and other staff members to ensure that clients' investment portfolios are appropriately monitored to identify losses arising from corporate fraud and other misconduct, as well as to recommend the level of participation a given situation re uires and recover funds obtained on clients' behalf through appropriate action. In addition to his work in securities and commercial litigation, Kolin also performs significant work in the Firm's growing whistleblower practice, on both cases arising in the United States and overseas.

Kolin received his undergraduate degree in Economics and History with honors from the University of California at Berkeley, and earned his law degree from The George Washington University Law School in 2011, where he was a member of The George Washington International Law Review. As a summer associate with Miller Shah in 2009 and 2010, Kolin worked on antitrust, consumer fraud, and securities cases. He has also worked as a legal intern at the Federal Trade Commission, where he was involved with antitrust and consumer protection issues. Currently, Kolin's practice is focused on representing clients in securities, complex litigation and whistleblower matters.

Kolin is a member of the American Bar Association and currently resides in Santa Ana, California.

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Chiharu G. Sekino joined Miller Shah in 2008. She is admitted to practice law in the State of California. At Miller Shah, she concentrates her work on securities litigation throughout the country and other matters pending in California courts. Chiharu plays a key role on the Miller Shah Tracker<sup>SM</sup> team, a group within the Firm that is dedicated to working with attorneys, computer programmers, investment analysts and other staff members to ensure that clients' investment portfolios are appropriately monitored to identify losses arising from corporate fraud and other misconduct, as well as to recommend the level of participation a given situation re uires and recover funds obtained on clients' behalf through appropriate action. Her work as an Associate focuses primarily on securities litigation, class action cases and other litigation. Chiharu also handles all aspects of discovery, including in conducting surveys, and assists in preparing and filing pleadings. Finally, Chiharu is involved in a variety of whistleblower cases around the world.

Chiharu earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California at San Diego, where she double majored in Political Science and Japanese Studies. She also is a graduate of Independence High School San Jose, CA and received a Diploma from the Grossman Academy, where she pursued special studies in Japanese to English translations. Chiharu is Bilingual Japanese/English , resides in San Diego and is active in community affairs. She tutors elementary school children and also is a volunteer for CASA the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program , an organization that advocates for children who have been abused and/or neglected and are under the protection of the court system.

While working for the Firm, she concurrently received her law degree from California Western School of Law, graduating cum laude, and a Masters in Social Work from San Diego State University in 2015. She was a member of The California Western Law Review and served as a Law Clerk for the San Diego Public Defender's Office, Juvenile Division and San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program. She also provided individual counseling to students as a social work intern at Monroe Clark Middle School.

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Michael began working as an attorney for Miller Shah in August 2018 and is admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. After earning his Bachelor of Science from Cornell University in 2014, where he majored in Industrial and Labor Relations, Michael graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Notre Dame Law School in May 2018. At Notre Dame, Michael was Executive Editor of the Journal of Law, Ethics, and Public Policy and served as a Judicial Extern to Federal Magistrate Judge Michael G. Gotsch in the Northern District of Indiana.

Michael currently works on various litigation matters including ui tam suits, consumer litigation, and employment related matters including ERISA and wage/hour issues.

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Tina M. Coutavas joined Miller Shah in 2019. Tina concentrates her practice on complex commercial litigation, including antitrust, securities, and consumer protection class actions. She is admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the State of New Jersey, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the District of New Jersey, and in the United States Courts of Appeal for the Third Circuit. Prior to joining Miller Shah, Tina was an attorney with Law Offices Bernard M. Gross, PC, where she participated in a wide array of class actions that resulted in favorable results on behalf of plaintiffs.

Tina earned her undergraduate degree from Ursinus College and earned her law degree from the Dickinson School of Law of the Pennsylvania State University. During law school, Tina was a member of the Dickinson Law Review and a student attorney for the Dickinson Family Law Clinic which provided legal services to indigent clients.

Tina is a member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association. She also serves as President of her condominium association and is a local Volunteer Advocate for a national non profit organization that promotes medical research, education and awareness of hereditary breast cancer. As a first generation American, Tina strives to maintain the traditions of her Hellenic heritage and is an active steward of her Greek Orthodox church.

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Alec began working for Miller Shah as a project analyst in 2015 and joined as an attorney for the firm in August 2019. Alec is admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Alec earned his Bachelor of Science from Cornell University and graduated with honors from the George Washington University Law School, where he served as an Articles Editor of the George Washington International Law Review and Research Associate with the Center for Law, Economics

Finance. While at GW Law, Alec was named a Paul A. Volcker Scholar, an award for excellence in the study of financial regulatory law and commitment to public service.

Additionally, Alec interned in the Enforcement Division of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. With Miller Shah, Alec focuses on securities, ERISA, and federal false claims matters.

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John began working for Miller Shah as a project analyst in 2015 and joined as an attorney for the firm in August 2019. John graduated from The George Washington University Law School in May 2019, where he was a member of the Federal Communications Law Journal and the Labor and Employment Law Society. He earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Cornell University in 2016, where he majored in Industrial and Labor Relations.

At Miller Shah, John works on various litigation matters including False Claims Act cases, consumer litigation, and wage/hour issues.

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