CAFA at a Glance: Kathryn Honecker

KATHRYN HONECKER is a Shareholder at Bonnett Fairbourn Friedman & Balint, PC, in Phoenix, Arizona. Her practice focuses on class actions in federal and state courts throughout the United States, representing plaintiff classes in major consumer fraud, civil rights, employment and insurance sales practices cases and other complex commercial litigation. She is a 1998 graduate of Creighton University School of Law. Kathryn currently serves as co-chair of the ABA Litigation Section’s Class Actions and Derivative Suits Committee.

Introduction: Gregory C. Cook, Jocelyn D. Larkin

GREGORY C. COOK is chair of the Financial Services Litigation Practice Group at Balch & Bingham, L.L.P., a full-service regional firm based in the Southeast, where he has practiced since 1991. He recently served for three years as co-chair of the ABA Class Action and Derivative Suits Committee and is currently chair of the Business Torts and Antitrust Section of the Alabama State Bar. His practice centers on complex commercial litigation, with a concentration on class action defense (involved in defending over 60 class actions). He is a magna cum laude graduate of Harvard Law School where he served as the executive editor of the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy. Mr. Cook is listed in Best Lawyers in commercial litigation, has been rated “AV” by Martindale Hubbell and was selected by Super Lawyers in Business Litigation. He is a member of the Texas and Alabama bars.

JOCELYN D. LARKIN is the executive director of the Impact Fund, a legal foundation in Berkeley, California, that provides funding and representation in support of complex public-interest litigation. Her practice focuses on complex employment discrimination and class action practice on behalf of plaintiffs. Ms. Larkin has served as class counsel in many major class actions, including Dukes v. Wal-Mart Stores, Ellis v. Costco Wholesale Corp., Parra v. Bashas’ Inc., Stender v. Lucky Stores, and
The Class Action Fairness Act: Law and Strategy

Vandell v. Chevron Corp. Ms. Larkin has for many years spearheaded the Impact Fund’s complex litigation training program, including the development of its Class Action Training Institute and its annual Civil Rights Class Action Conference. Ms. Larkin is a frequent speaker and author on issues concerning class actions, employment law, ethics, and civil rights. Ms. Larkin is a graduate of the University of California, San Diego and the UCLA School of Law. Ms. Larkin is the co-chair of the ABA Litigation Section’s Class Actions and Derivative Suits Committee.

Legislative History: Scott L. Nelson
SCOTT L. NELSON is an attorney at Public Citizen Litigation Group in Washington, D.C., where he has a pro bono, public-interest practice including class actions, regulation of hazardous products and substances, administrative law, campaign finance regulation, consumer law, access to government records, and Supreme Court practice. Before joining Public Citizen, Mr. Nelson was a partner at Washington’s Miller, Cassidy, Larroca & Lewin, where he represented, among others, insurance companies, law firms, and former president Richard Nixon. Mr. Nelson is a 1984 graduate of Harvard Law School, where he was president of the Harvard Law Review, and he was a law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Byron R. White from 1984 to 1986.

Class Action: Matthew M.K. Stein, Lin Y. Chan
MATTHEW M.K. STEIN is an associate in the Boston office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, L.L.P., where his practice includes defending class actions in state and federal courts nationwide and handling internal and government investigations. A member of the ABA Litigation Section, Mr. Stein is also an editor of the ABA Litigation Section’s Class Actions & Derivative Suits Committee newsletter, and writes regularly on issues relating to class actions and civil procedure. Mr. Stein received his AB degree from Brown University, and his JD magna cum laude from Boston College Law School, where he was an editor of the Uniform Commercial Code Reporter-Digest.

LIN Y. CHAN is an associate at Lieff, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein, L.L.P., a plaintiff-side class action firm in San Francisco, New York, and
Nashville. Her practice focuses on employment, antitrust, and False Claims Act litigation. She graduated from Stanford Law School, where she served as coeditor in chief for the Stanford Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties.

**Amount in Controversy: B.J. Walker, Catha Worthman**

B.J. WALKER is a partner at Rose Law Firm in Little Rock, Arkansas. He represents clients in civil litigation matters, focusing particularly on defense of class action cases in state and federal courts around the nation. He graduated from Washington and Lee University and the University of Notre Dame.

CATHA WORTHMAN is a shareholder at Lewis, Feinberg, Lee, Renaker & Jackson, P.C., in Oakland, California. She represents employees and retirees in class actions and other multi-plaintiff cases, as well as in individual benefits cases under ERISA. She is the coeditor of the American Bar Association Labor and Employment Law Section, Employee Benefits Committee newsletter, and the author of “Civil Penalties Under the Private Attorneys General Act,” in Continuing Education of the Bar, Employment Damages and Remedies (2013).

**Numerosity: Matthew M.K. Stein, Rachel E. Brill, Lin Y. Chan**

MATTHEW M.K. STEIN is an associate in the Boston office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, L.L.P., where his practice includes defending class actions in state and federal courts nationwide and handling internal and government investigations. A member of the ABA Litigation Section, Mr. Stein is also an editor of the ABA Litigation Section’s Class Actions & Derivative Suits Committee newsletter, and writes regularly on issues relating to class actions and civil procedure. Mr. Stein received his AB degree from Brown University, and his JD degree magna cum laude from Boston College Law School, where he was an editor of the Uniform Commercial Code Reporter-Digest.

RACHEL E. BRILL is an industrial relations counsel at the Workers’ Compensation Appeals Board, a division of the California Department of Industrial Relations. She assists the commissioners of the board in drafting opinions in appeals from workers’ compensation hearings. Previously, Ms. Brill litigated class actions involving wage-and-hour disputes,
employment discrimination, and access to public accommodations on behalf of workers and people with disabilities at Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund (as an Equal Justice Works Fellow), Schneider Wallace Cottrell Brayton Konecky, and Goldstein Borgen Dardarian & Ho. She graduated from the Georgetown University Law Center, where she was the Current Developments editor at the *Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics*, and Bryn Mawr College.

LIN Y. CHAN is an associate at Lieff, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein, L.L.P., a plaintiff-side class action firm in San Francisco, New York, and Nashville. Her practice focuses on employment, antitrust, and False Claims Act litigation. She graduated from Stanford Law School, where she served as coeditor in chief for the *Stanford Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties*.

Diversity: Julia Campins, Robert J. Herrington

JULIA CAMPINS is a founding partner of Campins Benham-Baker, where she represents plaintiffs in employment, employee benefits, and civil rights matters. She is a coeditor of the ABA Section of Litigation Class Actions and Derivative Suits newsletter. She is a graduate of Columbia Law School, where she was a managing editor of the *Columbia Law Review*.

ROBERT J. HERRINGTON is co-chair of Greenberg Traurig’s National Products Liability and Mass Torts Practice. His practice focuses on complex consumer products litigation, including class actions in the areas of false advertising, unfair competition, food and beverage, insurance, and products liability. Mr. Herrington is the author of the best-selling book *Verdict for the Defense* (Sutton Hart Press 2011), which provides a blueprint for business leaders to defend their companies against the growing risk of class action liability. He also was the only attorney in the country named to two different sections (class action and products liability) of Law360’s “Top Attorneys under 40” in 2013.

Exceptions: Dean M. Harvey, Ben Seessel, W. Glenn Merten, Jordan Elias

DEAN M. HARVEY is a partner of Lieff, Cabraser, Heimann & Bernstein, L.L.P., in its San Francisco office. Dean represents plaintiffs in class actions and other complex commercial litigation involving primarily antitrust,
employment, and consumer claims. Dean’s practice focuses on repre-
senting individuals and small companies in antitrust litigation against
monopolists and cartels. Dean received his JD from the University of
California, Berkeley, School of Law, where he was an articles editor of
the Law Review.

BEN SEESSEL is a partner at Jorden Burt, L.L.P., and a member of the
firm’s National Trial, Class Action, and SEC/FINRA Practice Teams. He
focuses his practice on complex civil litigation and the defense of financial
institutions and other sophisticated businesses. Mr. Seessel regularly liti-
gates class action cases, punitive damages cases, and other high-exposure
matters. He is an editor of the ABA Section of Litigation’s Class Actions
and Derivative Suits Committee newsletter.

W. GLENN MERTEN is a partner at Jorden Burt, L.L.P., based in Wash-
ington, D.C., where he represents insurance carriers, financial institutions,
and other corporate clients in a wide range of matters, including complex
litigation and class actions, administrative investigations, enforcement
actions, and compliance issues. He has extensive experience litigating
consumer fraud claims, statutory and regulatory violations, ERISA claims,
suitability determinations, and employment discrimination claims, and
has guided clients through market conduct investigations, congressional
subpoenas, and other administrative proceedings. Glenn is a 1994 gradu-
ate of the University of Richmond, and a 1997 cum laude graduate of the
George Washington University School of Law. He is the vice chair of the
Jorden Burt’s Health Care Industry Group, and co-chair of the Employ-
ment and ERISA Practice Team.

JORDAN ELIAS is an associate at Lieff, Cabraser, Heimann & Bern-
stein, L.L.P., a plaintiffs’ class action firm in San Francisco. Jordan focuses
on consumer protection, representing victims of fraud and other types
of corporate wrongdoing. Jordan graduated magna cum laude from Yale,
where he received the Field Prize, Yale University’s highest writing award.
He went on to Stanford Law School, serving on the Stanford Law Review,
and subsequently clerked for the late jurist Cynthia Holcomb Hall of
the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Since 2009, Jordan has arbitrated dis-
putes over attorneys’ fees under the auspices of the Bar Association of
San Francisco. He is a contributing author to the California State Antitrust
The Class Action Fairness Act: Law and Strategy

and Unfair Competition Law treatise and the California Class Actions and Coordinated Proceedings treatise.

Mass Actions: Rudy Perrino
RUDY PERRINO is a partner with the law firm of Walsworth, Franklin, Bevins & McCall, L.L.P., where he heads its Environmental practice. Recently, he was co-chair of the ABA Section of Litigation’s Mass Tort Committee (2009–2012). He currently serves as co-chair of the ABA Section of Litigation’s Commercial and Business Litigation Committee.

Removal: Julia Campins, Robert J. Herrington
JULIA CAMPINS is a founding partner of Campins Benham-Baker, where she represents plaintiffs in employment, employee benefits, and civil rights matters. She is a co-editor of the ABA Section of Litigation Class Actions and Derivative Suits newsletter. She is a graduate of Columbia Law School, where she was a managing editor of the Columbia Law Review.

ROBERT J. HERRINGTON is co-chair of Greenberg Traurig’s National Products Liability & Mass Torts Practice. His practice focuses on complex consumer products litigation, including class actions in the areas of false advertising, unfair competition, food and beverage, insurance, and products liability. Mr. Herrington is the author of the best-selling book Verdict for the Defense (Sutton Hart Press 2011), which provides a blueprint for business leaders to defend their companies against the growing risk of class action liability. He also was the only attorney in the country named to two different sections (Class Action and Products Liability) of Law360’s “Top Attorneys under 40” in 2013.

Appeals: Karen Precella, Kelli Bills, Nicholas Even, Matt McGee
KAREN PRECELLA is a partner in the Fort Worth, Texas, office of Haynes and Boone, L.L.P., where her practice focuses on civil appeals and legal support for all phases of complex federal and state commercial litigation. She co-chairs the firm’s appellate practice group. Karen received her law degree from Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law.
Bios

KELLI BILLS is an associate in the appellate group at Haynes and Boone, L.L.P., practicing in the firm’s Dallas, Texas, office. Prior to joining the firm, Ms. Bills received her JD from the University of Texas School of Law and served as a judicial clerk for the Honorable Catharina Haynes of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

NICHOLAS EVEN is a partner in the Dallas, Texas, office of Haynes and Boone, L.L.P. He co-chairs the firm’s national Securities and Shareholder Litigation and Class Action Defense practices and has extensive experience with class litigation in a variety of contexts. Mr. Even graduated from Harvard Law School.

MATT McGEE is an associate at Haynes and Boone, L.L.P., in Dallas, Texas. His practice focuses on securities litigation, class action defense, and fiduciary disputes. Mr. McGee graduated from the Duke University School of Law.

Settlement: Laura M. Reich, James M. Finberg
LAURA M. REICH is a senior associate at White & Case, L.L.P., in its Miami office. She represents businesses and individual clients in complex commercial litigation and consumer class action defense in the state and federal courts, as well as in domestic and international arbitration. Ms. Reich graduated with honors from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, where she was the galleys editor of the Florida Law Review and a member of Florida Blue Key.

JAMES M. FINBERG is a partner at Altshuler Berzon, L.L.P., in San Francisco, where he specializes in employment discrimination and wage-and-hour class actions. Mr. Finberg received a BA in 1980 from Brown University and a JD in 1983 from the University of Chicago Law School, where he was executive editor of the University of Chicago Law Review. In 2005, he served as president of the Bar Association of San Francisco. From 2008 to 2010 and from 1997 to 1998, he served as co-chair of the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights of the San Francisco Bay Area. He is a fellow of the American College of Labor and Employment Lawyers. Mr. Finberg has been listed as one of the Top 100 “Super Lawyers” in Northern California since 2005. Since 2005, he has also been listed in “The Best Lawyers in America” for labor and employment law. In the spring semester of 2008,
he served as an adjunct professor at University of California Hastings College of the Law, where he taught Employment Discrimination Law. In 2009, he was named a California Lawyer of the Year by California Lawyer magazine in the field of civil rights.