



## David D. Burnett

Partner

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### Overview

David Burnett is a partner in DiCello Levitt's Washington, D.C., office. His practice includes commercial litigation, product liability mass torts, securities class actions, and environmental cases.

For sixteen years, David has represented plaintiffs of all kinds—Fortune 100 companies, U.S. states and counties, classes of shareholders, and individuals—against Wall Street banks, pharmaceutical companies, and technology companies in cases alleging fraud, negligence, breach of contract, securities fraud, public nuisance, and other corporate wrongdoing.

During a decade at one of the world's largest business litigation law firms, David represented Allstate, Prudential, and other insurance companies in litigation against Wall Street banks arising from the 2007-2008 financial crisis. The cases alleged fraud in the sale of mortgage-backed securities and collateralized debt obligations. As part of a small team, he helped recover hundreds of millions of dollars in dozens of favorable settlements for investors.

David recently represented U.S. states, counties, and cities in litigation arising from the nationwide opioid crisis, taking and defending dozens of depositions of experts and government employees and working closely with epidemiologists and economists to quantify the cost of social services programs to abate the epidemic. He also has represented investors in complex securities fraud class actions against Amazon, AbbVie, Alexion, Qualcomm, and the NYSE, Nasdaq, and BATS stock exchanges. He has worked with victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks to tell their stories of being injured at Ground Zero, helping them obtain tens of millions of dollars in monetary judgments through a victims' compensation fund.

David also previously worked as a vice president of underwriting at a leading litigation finance firm, where he evaluated the legal and economic merits of potential investments in lawsuits and

monitored active litigation investments.

Outside of work, David volunteers as the president of the Abenaki Tower and Trail Association, a century-old conservation organization in New Hampshire. He has served on the Board of Advisors of the Appalachian Mountain Club, the nation's oldest conservation nonprofit, since 2014. Before law school, David worked with at-risk youths for Outward Bound, worked in a hut on the Appalachian Trail, interned at the Wilderness Society, and bicycled across the country for charity. He was born in the Philippines, the son of a Navy lawyer. David lives in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia, with his wife, Taylor.

## **Practice Areas**

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CLASS ACTION LITIGATION

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

ENVIRONMENTAL LITIGATION

PRODUCT LIABILITY

PUBLIC CLIENT

SECURITIES AND FINANCIAL SERVICES LITIGATION

## **Education**

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University of Virginia, B.A. University of Texas at Austin, M.A., American Studies University of Virginia School of Law, J.D.

## **Representative Matters**

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Represented the States of West Virginia, Rhode Island, and Washington and MDL plaintiffs in litigation against opioid manufacturers and distributors and pharmacies.

Represented investors in securities class actions against Amazon, AbbVie, Alexion, Qualcomm, and the stock exchanges NYSE, Nasdaq, and BATS.

Represented Allstate, Prudential, MassMutual, MBIA, AIG, and Lehman Brothers in litigation against Wall Street banks arising from the 2007-08 financial crisis.

Represented consumers in class action against Volkswagen and Audi arising from engine defects'.

Represented the State of New Jersey in Superfund cost-recovery case against industrial polluter.

Represented individual in In re: Proton Pump Inhibitor Products Liability Litigation alleging that stomach-acid drugs cause kidney injuries.

Represented first responders and office workers at Ground Zero in litigation against Iran.

Represented citizen of Chad in pro bono asylum and green-card applications.

Represented Quinn Emanuel in litigation against former client.

## **Publications & Presentations**

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### **Presentations and Articles**

"The Importance of Data and Data Analysis in Litigation," Continuing Legal Education program for the District of Columbia Bar, May 3, 2023

"The Importance of Data and Data Analysis in Litigation," *Law360*, June 16, 2022

"The Emerging Market for Litigation Funding," *The Hedge Fund Journal*, June 2013 (John Pierce and David Burnett)

"Implications of Statute-of-Limitations Rulings on Mortgage-Backed-Securities Cases," *Westlaw Journal Derivatives*, August 3, 2012 (Daniel L. Brockett, Jeremy Andersen, and David Burnett)

Note, "Judging the Aesthetics of Billboards," 23 *Journal of Law and Politics* 171 (2007)

Note, "Fast-Food Lawsuits and the Cheeseburger Bill: Critiquing Congress's Response to the Obesity Epidemic," 14 *Virginia Journal of Social Policy and the Law* 357 (2007)

## **Admissions & Memberships**

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### **Bar Admissions**

New York

District of Columbia

### **Court Admissions**

U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York

U.S. District Court, District of Columbia

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois