

James A. Harrod

Partner, New York
212.554.1502
jim.harrod@blbglaw.com



With two decades of experience prosecuting complex litigation in federal courts, Jim Harrod's practice focuses on representing the firm's institutional investor clients in securities fraud-related matters. He also leads the firm's Global Securities and Litigation Monitoring Team, which monitors securities class and group actions around the world, and advises BLB&G's institutional clients on potential avenues for recovery in those actions.

Over the course of his career, he has obtained over \$3 billion on behalf of investor classes. Most recently, he played a key role on the BLB&G team that recovered over \$2 billion for 35 institutions that invested in the Allianz Structured Alpha Funds. Jim's other high-profile cases include *In re Motorola Securities Litigation*, in which he was a key member of the team that represented the State of New Jersey's Division of Investment and obtained a \$190 million recovery three days before trial. Recently, Jim represented the class of investors in the securities litigation against General Motors arising from GM's recall of vehicles with defective ignition switches, and recovered \$300 million for investors – the second largest securities class action recovery in the Sixth Circuit.

Jim represented institutional investors in several cases concerning the issuance of residential mortgage-backed securities prior to the financial crisis. He worked on the team that recovered \$500 million for investors in *In re Bear Stearns Mortgage Pass-Through Certificates Litigation*, which brought claims related to the issuance of mortgage pass-through certificates during 2006 and 2007. In a similar action, *Plumbers' & Pipefitters' Local #562 Supplemental Plan & Trust v. J.P. Morgan Acceptance Corp. I*, he recovered \$280 million on behalf of a class of investors. Other mortgage-backed securities cases that Jim worked on include *In re Lehman Bros. Mortgage-Backed Securities Litigation* (\$40 million recovery), and *Tsereteli v. Residential Asset Securitization Trust 2006-A8* (\$10.9 million recovery).

Jim has been active in prosecuting claims against foreign issuers and actions brought under foreign law, including the Israeli securities law claims currently being prosecuted in the *Perrigo* securities litigation. He currently serves as lead counsel in a class action led by Union Asset Management AG—a large German asset manager—in litigation against Equifax related to its 2017 data breach. He also served as lead counsel in litigation on behalf of investors in *Volkswagen AG American Depository Receipts* (ADRs), relating to the automaker's alleged misrepresentations concerning its "clean diesel" cars, which claims involved significant international discovery, foreign jurisdictional issues and overlapping litigation in Europe.

Among his other notable recoveries are *The Department of the Treasury of the State of New Jersey and its Division of Investment v. Cliffs Natural Resources Inc.* (class recovery of \$84 million); *Anwar, et al., v. Fairfield Greenwich Limited* (settlement valued at \$80 million); *In re Service Corporation International* (\$65 million recovery); *Danis v. USN Communications, Inc.* (\$44.6 million recovery); *In re Tower Group International, Ltd. Securities Litigation* (\$20.5

million recovery); *In re Navistar International Securities Litigation* (\$13 million recovery); and *In re Sonus Networks, Inc. Securities Litigation-II* (\$9.5 million recovery).

In connection with his representation of institutional investors, he is a frequent speaker to public pension fund organizations and trustees concerning fiduciary duties, emerging issues in securities litigation and the financial markets.

Jim is recognized as a "Litigation Star" by *Benchmark Litigation*, and is regularly named to lists of leading practitioners by *Lawdragon*, and Thomson Reuters' *Super Lawyers* for his professional achievements. More recently, he was named a Plaintiffs' Lawyers Trailblazers by *The National Law Journal*.

Education

- George Washington University Law School, J.D.
- Skidmore College, B.A.

Admissions

- New York
- United States District Court for the Southern District of New York
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

News

- October 16, 2020 - BLB&G Allianz Structured Alpha Funds Team Announces New Case Filing

Awards

- April 8, 2024 - Seven BLB&G Partners Named to 2024 *Lawdragon* "500 Global Plaintiff Lawyers" List
- October 24, 2023 - *Benchmark Litigation* Names BLB&G One of the Top Firms in the Nation in 2024 Guide
- May 26, 2023 - *Lawdragon* Names BLB&G Partners to the 2023 Edition of the "500 Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyers" List
- October 3, 2022 - *Benchmark Litigation* Names BLB&G One of the Top Firms in the Nation in 2023 Guide
- September 6, 2022 - *Law360* Names James Harrod a 2022 MVP for Securities
- July 11, 2022 - *Lawdragon* Names BLB&G Partners to the 2022 Edition of the "500 Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyers" List
- October 5, 2021 - *Benchmark Litigation* Again Names BLB&G One of the Top Firms in the Nation in 2022 Guide

- August 18, 2021 - *Lawdragon* Names BLB&G Partners to The 2021 Edition of the "500 Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyers" List
- May 6, 2021 - *The National Law Journal* Names Avi Josefson and Jim Harrod 2021 Plaintiffs' Lawyers Trailblazers
- October 7, 2020 - *Benchmark Litigation* Again Names BLB&G One of the Top Firms in the Nation in 2021 Guide
- September 20, 2020 - 20 BLB&G Attorneys Named by *Super Lawyers* to its 2020 New York Metro Edition
- August 2020 - *Lawdragon* Names BLB&G Partners to The 2020 Edition of the "500 Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyers" List
- September 2019 - *Lawdragon* Names 20 BLB&G Attorneys Among its "500 Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyers" list
- September 2019 - 20 BLB&G Attorneys Named by *Super Lawyers* to its 2019 New York Metro Edition
- October 2018 - 20 BLB&G Attorneys Named by *Super Lawyers* to its 2018 New York Metro Edition
- October 2018 - *Benchmark* Again Names BLB&G One of the Top Firms in the Nation
- October 2018 - *Benchmark* Names Seven BLB&G Partners as Litigation Stars
- September 20, 2017 - *Super Lawyers* Names 21 BLB&G Attorneys to its 2017 New York Metro Edition
- October 2016 - *Super Lawyers* Names 20 BLB&G Attorneys to its 2016 New York Metro Edition
- September 16, 2015 - 19 BLB&G Attorneys Selected to 2015 Super Lawyers New York Metro Edition

Events

- April 30, 2024 - BLB&G Partner Jim Harrod to Serve as Panelist at the ABA 2024 ILS Annual Conference
- April 23, 2024 - BLB&G's Catherine van Kampen, Jim Harrod, and Lauren Ormsbee to Speak at the ABA 2024 ILS Annual Conference
- April 18, 2024 - BLB&G's Salvatore Graziano, Jim Harrod, Rebecca Boon, and Lauren Ormsbee to Speak at Columbia Law School Securities Litigation Conference
- October 18, 2023 - BLB&G Partner Jim Harrod to Serve as Panelist at PLI Program, "Securities Offerings 2023: A Public Offering From Start to Finish"
- November 12, 2021 - BLB&G Partner Jim Harrod Will Serve as a Panelist at The George Washington University Law School's *Second Annual Class Action Case Law and Practice Review Conference*
- October 19, 2021 - BLB&G Partner Jim Harrod Serves as Panelist at the Practising Law Institute (PLI) Program, *Securities Offerings 2021: A Public Offering from Start to Finish*
- October 25, 2019 - James Harrod Participates in PLI's Securities Offerings 2019: A Public Offering from Start to Finish