

Co-Counseling with the National Consumer Law Center (NCLC)

Why Co-counsel With NCLC?

NCLC sets an example for ethical, principled consumer law practices and encourages broader participation in such efforts by directly joining the litigation battle in partnership with new recruits as well as seasoned veterans. We offer a unique set of resources that can play a critical role in providing high quality representation to low income and elderly consumers in select class actions and high-impact cases.

First, NCLC is the leading national expert on legal and policy issues concerning low-income consumers. For over 40 years, NCLC has earned respect for its dedicated, informed, and well-researched consumer law advocacy. The professional integrity of the organization has consistently been recognized by the courts. NCLC will not become involved in a case unless the consumer issues presented are material, significant, and meritorious. Therefore, NCLC's participation in a consumer case will impact the way the action is perceived by adversaries, the court, and the public.

Second, the depth of NCLC attorneys' knowledge of consumer laws, policies, and cases is unparalleled. To prepare and update NCLC's consumer law treatises, NCLC's staff drills down into every detail of the key consumer statutes that litigators enforce, from the details of its legislative history to the latest decisions and issues. Some of the best legal experts in the practice, those that know the most recent trends and theories, are our staff. The edge that this provides, and the savings in research time and effort, are extremely valuable.

Third, NCLC brings a national perspective to the cases it works on, even those with a local focus. Our staff frequently engage in projects with public agencies, community advocates, public interest organizations, private lawyers, and legal services offices from across the country. Our broad consumer practice has afforded us a special cache between, and among, widely disparate groups that might not be natural allies. Yet, NCLC has sufficient credibility and trust among all of these potential partners to create coalitions that are stronger and more effective, than any individual effort could be. Vigorous consumer law advocacy usually results in an equally vigorous, focused, well-financed industry response. To meet this challenge, and to share the cutting edge risks and expenses that often must be undertaken to achieve true, meaningful systemic change on behalf of consumers, we must work together.

Fourth, NCLC's class action litigators, Stuart T. Rossman and Charles M. Delbaum, each have more than 35 years of experience handling complex litigation, including scores of consumer class actions.

Contact Us:

We invite you to review examples of current and past NCLC cases. Attorneys who wish to discuss the possibility of co-counseling a class action or impact case with NCLC should send an email to srossman@nclc.org or cdelbaum@nclc.org.