Bruce G. Vanyo

Partner and Co-Chair, Securities Litigation Department

Securities Litigation

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Bruce Vanyo is one of the most experienced and accomplished securities litigators in the United States. In the words of one client, he "is the dean of the securities class action defense bar" (*Chambers USA* 2022). In his distinguished career, Bruce has defended over 200 securities class actions and has handled over 80 Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) investigations.

His clients have ranged in size from small cap, emerging growth companies to established Fortune 50 giant companies. The National Association of Corporate Directors noted he has "defended more major securities cases than any other lawyer in America."

Bruce has represented companies in a vast array of industries including life sciences (biotech and medtech); a wide variety of software companies; computers and other high technology; aerospace; airlines; restaurant chains; donuts; a Las Vegas resort; banks; investment banks; venture capital funds; geothermal mining; waste management; electronic devices made from silicon carbide; internet; engineering and construction; insurance; and motion pictures. His clients have been headquartered in 18 different US states, Israel, China, UK, Canada, and Kazakhstan.

A champion in battle against meritless securities claims

Early in his legal career before joining Katten, Bruce positioned himself as champion for corporate America in preventing and defending what he saw as meritless securities cases.

In collaboration with Silicon Valley companies, he advocated to reform the law regarding securities class actions. That collective effort produced the Private Securities Ligation Reform Act of 1995 (known as the Reform Act). Bruce drafted the new pleading standard in the Reform Act which has led to a sea change in the number of cases dismissed at the pleading stage. He also advocated for the widely-used Safe Harbor provisions in the

Practices

- Pharmaceutical and Life Sciences Litigation
- Public Company Advisory
- Securities Litigation
- White Collar and Internal Investigations

Industries

- Pharmaceutical and Life Sciences
- Technology

Education

- JD, Columbia Law School
- BS, Miami University, *summa cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- New York
- California

Court Admissions

- US Court of Appeals, First Circuit
- US Court of Appeals, Second Circuit
- US Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
- US Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit
- US Court of Appeals, Eighth Circuit
- US Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- US Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
- US District Court, Central District of California
- US District Court, Eastern District of California
- US District Court, Northern District of California

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Reform Act. A few years later, Bruce argued the first appellate case to construe the Reform Act's requirement that plaintiffs plead a "strong inference" of intent to defraud and established a high hurdle that appellate courts around the country have largely followed.

Clients rely on Bruce's advocacy to prevent unjust results for public companies. He recently earned the dismissal (affirmed on appeal) of an $800 million securities class action and, in the process, established precedent that broadly limits a company's disclosure requirements with regard to the FDA's drug approval process.

Another prominent example is in the defense of Section 11 cases in California state courts. Starting in about 2018, numerous Section 11 cases were filed in California state court, especially in Northern California. Although defendants were meeting with little success in getting those cases dismissed at the pleading stage, in Bruce's first case there during that wave, he successfully obtained dismissal for his client on the basis of a failure to plead a valid claim. Upheld on appeal, the decision made strong law supporting future such dismissals. Not surprisingly, after the decision, there were far fewer filings in California state court.

An unmatched record at the pleading stage

Bruce is an "old school" lawyer who was trained to get the best result for his clients without maximizing representation fees. Indeed, he strives to minimize fees by a creative strategic approach to every case, bespoke staffing, and leveraging his decades of experience. Clients have praised Bruce's "strengths are his brilliant intellect, extreme creativity and remarkable oral advocacy." (*Chambers USA* 2026, New York, Litigation survey responses). They also praise him for his "calm and reassuring manner." (*Chambers USA* 2022)

In every case, Bruce's first priority is to get the matter dismissed at the pleading stage. He puts tremendous effort and creativity into accomplishing that goal. His approach has met with enormous success. Over the past 22 years, he has won cases at the pleading stage nearly 80 percent of the time.

For decades, Bruce has consistently ranked as one of the top securities litigators in the United States by *Chambers USA*, *Legal 500*, Best Lawyers in America and others. Most recently, he was ranked by *Chambers* in New York and California — the only securities litigator so recognized — and was installed in *Legal 500*'s Hall of Fame, one of only 11 attorneys so honored nationwide.

- US District Court, Southern District of California
- US District Court, District of Arizona
- US District Court, Western District of Texas
- US Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit
- US District Court, District of Colorado
- US District Court, District of Nevada
- US District Court, Northern District of Illinois
- US District Court, District of Oregon
- US District Court, Western District of Washington
- Third Judicial Department, New York State Court of Appeals

"Bruce has a level of sophistication and commercial awareness borne of years of experience, having seen almost every issue at some point in his career." "Bruce is a legend among securities litigators. He is highly sophisticated and creative."

***Chambers USA* 2026 survey response**

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Recognitions

Recognized or listed in the following:

- *Best Lawyers in America*
  - Litigation - Securities, 1987–2027
- *Chambers USA*
  - Litigation: Securities
    - California, 2006–2019, 2021–2026
    - New York, 2021–2026
- *National Law Journal*
  - Litigation Trailblazer, 2018
- *Super Lawyers*
  - Southern California, 2023–2025
- *The Legal 500 United States*
  - Hall of Fame, 2022–2026
  - Leading Partner, 2017–2021
  - Recommended Attorney, 2013–2016

News

- Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2027 *Best Lawyers* Guide (August 20, 2026)
- Katten Earns Top Rankings in the Legal 500 US 2026 Guide (June 10, 2026)
- Katten Climbs in *Chambers USA* 2026 Rankings (June 4, 2026)
- Katten Expands West Coast Securities Litigation Team With Return of Richard Zelichov (February 2, 2026)
- Katten Celebrates 101 Attorneys Honored by *Best Lawyers*® (August 21, 2025)
- Katten Receives High Marks in the Legal 500 US 2025 Guide (June 11, 2025)
- *Chambers USA* 2025 Ranks Katten as Leading Law Firm (June 5, 2025)
- Katten Expands Securities Litigation Team With Gidon M. Caine (March 18, 2025)

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- Katten Attorneys Selected for 2025 Southern California Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (March 14, 2025)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized as *Best Lawyers*® and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*® Award Recipients (August 15, 2024)
- Katten Highly Ranked in Legal 500 United States 2024 (June 12, 2024)
- Katten Receives High Marks in *Chambers USA* Guide 2024 (June 6, 2024)
- Katten Attorneys Distinguished by *Best Lawyers*® (August 17, 2023)
- Katten Lauded in The Legal 500 United States 2023 (June 9, 2023)
- Katten Boosts Rankings in *Chambers USA Guide 2023* (June 1, 2023)
- Katten Attorneys Selected to 2023 Southern California Super Lawyers List (January 11, 2023)
- Katten Expands NYC Securities Litigation Group with Sarah Eichenberger (October 17, 2022)
- Katten Securities Litigation Team Scores a Precedent-Setting Victory in the Second Circuit (October 7, 2022)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized by *Best Lawyers*® (August 18, 2022)
- Katten Awarded Top Ranking in Structured Finance: Securitization in The Legal 500 United States 2022 (June 8, 2022)
- Katten Ranked Leading Law Firm by *Chambers USA* 2022 (June 1, 2022)
- Katten Attorneys Named to 2022 Southern California *Super Lawyers* List (January 27, 2022)
- Katten Attorneys Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® (August 19, 2021)
- Katten Receives High Marks in Derivatives, M&A and Securitization in The Legal 500 United States 2021 Guide (June 10, 2021)
- Katten Boosts Rankings in *Chambers USA* 2021 (May 20, 2021)
- Katten Attorneys Selected to 2021 Southern California Super Lawyers List (January 21, 2021)
- Katten Attorneys Distinguished as Top Legal Talent in the 2021 *Best Lawyers in America* and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch* Lists (August 20, 2020)
- California Court of Appeals Affirmed Securities Class Action Win for Katten Client Natera (March 11, 2020)

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- Katten Attorneys Named to 2020 Southern California Super Lawyers List (January 16, 2020)
- Katten Praised in The Legal 500 United States 2019 Guide (June 11, 2019)
- Katten Lauded Top Ranked Law Firm by *Chambers USA* 2019 (April 25, 2019)
- Super Lawyers List Recognized 13 Katten Attorneys in Southern California (January 30, 2019)
- Katten Attorneys Named to 2018 New York *Super Lawyers*, Rising Stars Lists (September 13, 2018)
- Bruce Vanyo Named Litigation Trailblazer by *The National Law Journal* (August 30, 2018)
- Katten Distinguished by *The Legal 500 United States* (June 14, 2018)
- Katten Rated as Leading Law Firm by *Chambers USA* 2018 (May 3, 2018)
- Katten Attorneys in Southern California Honored on Super Lawyers List (February 16, 2018)
- Katten Attorneys Acknowledged in 2017 New York Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (September 20, 2017)
- Katten Distinguished by *The Legal 500 United States* 2017 (May 31, 2017)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2017 Southern California *Super Lawyers* List (March 9, 2017)
- Eighteen Katten Attorneys Distinguished in 2016 New York Metro *Super Lawyers* List (September 21, 2016)
- 79 Katten Attorneys Selected for *Best Lawyers in America*® 2017 (August 15, 2016)
- Bruce Vanyo Named to 2016 NACD Directorship 100 (July 7, 2016)
- Eighteen Katten Practices and 70 Attorneys Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* 2016 (June 17, 2016)
- *Chambers USA* 2016 Distinguishes 22 Katten Practices and 50 Attorneys (May 27, 2016)
- Nineteen Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2016 Southern California *Super Lawyers* List (January 20, 2016)
- Twenty Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2015 New York Metro *Super Lawyers* List (September 16, 2015)

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- 91 Katten Attorneys Recognized in *Best Lawyers in America*® 2016 (August 17, 2015)
- Katten Attains 22 Practice and 58 Attorney Rankings by *Chambers USA* 2015 (May 20, 2015)
- Twenty-One Katten Attorneys Recognized as Top Attorneys in Southern California (January 21, 2015)
- Katten Wins Ruling in Favor of Former Waste2Energy Holdings Executives (January 8, 2015)
- Eighteen Katten Attorneys Named to 2014 New York Metro *Super Lawyers* List (September 23, 2014)
- 85 Katten Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers in America*® 2015 (August 18, 2014)
- Eight Katten Practices and Forty-Two Attorneys Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* 2014 (July 3, 2014)
- *Chambers USA* 2014 Distinguishes 24 Katten Practices and 54 Attorneys (May 23, 2014)
- Twenty-One Katten Attorneys Recognized on Southern California *Super Lawyers* List (February 10, 2014)
- Katten Wins Favorable Ruling for Board of Chinese Company in Nevada Supreme Court (October 15, 2013)
- Seventeen Katten Attorneys Named to 2013 New York Metro *Super Lawyers* List (September 18, 2013)
- 83 Katten Attorneys Lauded in *Best Lawyers in America*® 2014 (August 15, 2013)
- Six Katten Practices and Twenty-Four Attorneys Distinguished by *The Legal 500 United States* 2013 (June 4, 2013)
- *Chambers USA* 2013 Recognizes 24 Katten Practices and 49 Attorneys (May 24, 2013)
- Partner Bruce Vanyo Featured in Law360 Q&A (May 8, 2013)
- Katten Wins Dismissal of Say-on-Pay Lawsuit for AAR Corporation (April 9, 2013)
- Partner Bruce Vanyo Discusses Class Actions Over Equity Compensation with *Daily Journal* (February 5, 2013)
- Partner Bruce Vanyo Discusses Rule 10b5-1 Plans in *Bloomberg* Article (January 23, 2013)
- Twenty-Two Katten Attorneys Included on 2013 Southern California *Super Lawyers* List (January 21, 2013)

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- Attorneys Bruce Vanyo, Richard Zelichov and Christina Costley Discuss Say-on-Pay Lawsuits in *Business Law Today* (November 19, 2012)
- Attorneys Bruce Vanyo, Richard Zelichov and Christina Costley Author Article in *The D&O Diary* on "Say on Pay" Compensation (October 31, 2012)
- 80 Katten Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers in America*® 2013 Guide (August 24, 2012)
- *Chambers USA* 2012 Distinguishes 19 Katten Practices and 45 Attorneys (June 7, 2012)
- 75 Katten Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers in America*® 2012 Guide (September 12, 2011)
- Katten Earns Recognition for 17 Practices and 44 Attorneys in 2011 *Chambers USA* Guide (June 10, 2011)
- Katten's Bruce Vanyo Named Among 100 Most Influential People in Corporate Governance (September 14, 2010)
- Partner Bruce Vanyo Recognized in Directorship 100 (September 2010)
- Partner Bruce Vanyo Quoted in NACD Directorship on Securities Class Actions (September 1, 2010)
- 70 Katten Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers in America*® 2011 (August 9, 2010)
- Katten Lands 16 Practices and 39 Attorneys in *Chambers USA* Guide (June 24, 2010)
- 12 Katten Partners Named Among Nation's Leading Lawyers by Lawdragon (May 19, 2010)
- Six Katten Partners Recognized as Leading Litigators by *Benchmark* (October 7, 2009)
- Six Katten Partners Recognized as Leading Litigators by *Benchmark* (September 17, 2009)
- 66 Katten Attorneys Named to 2010 List of *Best Lawyers in America*® (August 5, 2009)
- Katten Lands 14 Practices and 37 Attorneys in *Chambers USA* Guide (June 12, 2009)
- Katten Names Bruce Vanyo Co-Chair of New York Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice (March 3, 2009)

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- 50 Katten Attorneys Named to 2009 List of *Best Lawyers in America*® (September 23, 2008)
- Katten Lands 14 Practices and 32 Attorneys in *Chambers USA* Guide (June 13, 2008)
- 46 Katten Attorneys Named to 2008 List of *Best Lawyers in America*® (October 31, 2007)
- Bruce Vanyo, Co-Chair of National Securities Litigation Practice, and Mark Conley, Co-Chair of Los Angeles Corporate Practice, Published in *California Lawyer* (October 2007)
- 13 Katten Partners Named Finalists for Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America (September 27, 2007)
- Bruce Vanyo, Co-Chair of National Securities Litigation Practice, and Los Angeles Corporate Co-Chair Eric Klein Published in *8K Magazine* (June 27, 2007)
- Katten Lands 15 Practices and 28 Attorneys in *Chambers USA* Guide (June 15, 2007)
- Partner Bruce Vanyo Quoted in Law360 on Recent Trend Toward Dismissals of Backdating Derivative Suits (May 29, 2007)
- Partner Bruce Vanyo Interviewed in *Corporate Counsel* on General Counsel Responsibilities (March 2007)
- Gail Migdal Title and Bruce Vanyo of Katten Named Among California's Top 100 Lawyers (September 21, 2006)
- 13 Katten Partners Named Among Top 3,000 Attorneys in America by Lawdragon (September 15, 2006)
- Katten Muchin Rosenman's Bruce Vanyo to Discuss Key Securities Litigation Issues at Upcoming Conference (August 31, 2006)
- Partners Herbert Wander and Bruce Vanyo Interviewed by *Corporate Board Member Magazine* on Backdated Stock Options (August 10, 2006)
- Two Katten Attorneys Named Among 100 Most Influential Lawyers in America (June 22, 2006)
- Katten Lands 12 Practices and 24 Attorneys in *Chambers USA* Guide (June 7, 2006)

Publications

- Securities Litigation Co-Chairs Author *Law360* Article About AI-Related Civil Litigation Risks (March 27, 2025)

- Ninth Circuit Invokes Lorenzo to Revive Scheme Liability Claims (June 29, 2021)
- SEC Chairman Announces Plans for Further Regulation of Rule 10b5-1 Plans (June 21, 2021)
- Section 11: Cases in State Court Post-*Cyan* – Is the Tide Turning? (May 18, 2020)

Presentations and Events

- Paradigm Shift? Mandatory Securities Arbitration and the Impact of the SEC's Recent Policy Statement for Companies and Investors (December 11, 2025)
- Speaking of AI: What Can You Do to Avoid Trouble in Disclosures, Litigation, and Regulatory Scrutiny (April 3, 2025) | *Co-Presenter*
- Governing Through Regulatory Activism (December 2, 2021)
- Supreme Court Roundup: The Most Impactful Decisions for Corporations from the 2017–18 and 2018–19 Terms (July 18, 2019) | *Participant*