ALSTON & BIRD



Elizabeth Helmer

Partner

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Related Services

Antitrust • Litigation • Commercial • Privacy, Cyber & Data Strategy • Insurance Litigation & Regulation • High Exposure Claims, Coverage & Bad Faith Defense • Insurance Regulatory Guidance • Insurance-Related Antitrust Defense • Policy Drafting and Product Development • Policyholder Class Action Defense • Industrials & Manufacturing

Elizabeth Helmer is a partner in the Litigation & Trial Practice Group. Elizabeth represents both plaintiffs and defendants in high-stakes business litigation throughout the country, from inception through trial. Her clients range from startups to Fortune 100 companies, and she has significant experience with multi-party cases and MDLs.

Elizabeth focuses her practice on cases involving unfair competition, antitrust, intellectual property and trade secrets, false advertising, insurance, and complex contractual disputes where hundreds of millions of dollars are at stake. She also represents clients in defamation and First Amendment matters. She was a core member of the defense team in an eightweek, \$5 billion jury trial and has helped recover hundreds of millions in settlements on behalf of plaintiffs.

Elizabeth has first- and second-chair trial experience and has also worked on numerous state and federal court appeals.

Representative Experience

Antitrust Litigation

- Representing a national pharmaceutical company as the plaintiff in an antitrust case. (D.N.J.).
- Defended a major automobile insurance company in 30 consolidated antitrust and RICO cases in an MDL proceeding. (M.D. Fla.).
- Obtained a dismissal of all claims against a major automobile insurance company defending an antitrust action brought by the Louisiana attorney general.
- Trial counsel on behalf of a major automobile insurance company defending 30 consolidated antitrust and RICO cases in an MDL proceeding in the Middle District of Florida; obtained dismissal of all claims.
- Member of the trial counsel team of a major automobile insurance company defending an antitrust action brought by the Louisiana attorney general; won motion to dismiss.
- Defended a national insurance company in a case involving an alleged conspiracy among insurance companies and a standard-setting organization to underinsure homeowners; The plaintiff asserted more than 20 state-law, antitrust, and RICO claims. Obtained a complete dismissal of all claims. (D. Colo.).
- Obtained the dismissal of antitrust claims against a technology company in Louisiana state court in which the plaintiff was seeking \$400 million.
- Trial counsel on behalf of a major technology company prosecuting a series of price-fixing antitrust lawsuits in the Northern District of California.

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• Core member of the trial team in an antitrust case for a technology company, securing more than \$300 million in settlements from the defendants. (N.D. Cal.).

Commercial Litigation

- Represented a national pharmaceutical company as plaintiff in a case against a competitor for false advertising under the Lanham Act. (C.D. Cal.).
- Represented a national paper company as the plaintiff in a products liability case in Washington state.
- Trial counsel representing a consumer products distributor in a case involving the Lanham Act, design patent infringement, and unfair competition claims in the Southern District of New York.
- Obtained preliminary injunction on behalf of manufacturing company against former employees and contractors who stole trade secrets. (N.D. Ala.).
- Represented a national appliance manufacturer in a multimillion-dollar contractual dispute. (S.D. Ga.).
- Represented an international baby products company in breach of contract and unfair competition claims in Louisiana state court.
- Represented a Fortune 50 technology company in a trade secrets and unfair competition jury trial where plaintiffs sought in excess of \$5 billion.
- Represented a Fortune 50 technology company in case involving an alleged conspiracy to steal trade secrets, antitrust
 and RICO claims, and various other intentional torts.
- Represented a major technology company in a \$90 million royalty dispute.
- Represented a consumer products distributor in a case involving Lanham Act, design patent infringement and unfair competition claims. (S.D.N.Y.).
- Defended a national insurance carrier in Arkansas class action involving subrogation practices; obtained a favorable class settlement before class certification.
- Represented a national insurer in a case involving business interruption insurance related to COVID-19 pandemic.
- Defended a national insurer in a class action in Pennsylvania involving claim arising out of high-performance driving events; obtained a favorable settlement before class certification.
- Represented a health care provider in antitrust case involving alleged conspiracy with insurance providers and market allocation scheme.
- Represented a startup company in a shareholder dispute in Delaware Chancery Court.
- Represented a law firm and lawyers in fiduciary and legal malpractice cases.
- Represented a Chinese American citizen in an economic espionage case.
- Represented a medical payments company in an FTC investigation related to methodology for collecting HIPAA authorizations and electronic consent forms.
- Represented the owner of a major sporting enterprise in North Carolina trial and appellate proceedings involving the right of privacy and access to court proceedings.
- Represented the sanctioning body of a large sports enterprise in a licensing dispute in the Middle District of Florida.

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Core team member on numerous federal class actions representing national insurance companies. In many, all claims
were thrown out at the motion to dismiss stage. Two cases were appealed to the Eleventh Circuit and dismissals in
favor of the client were affirmed.

Media Litigation

- Represented a client in a defamation case in which we obtained dismissal of claims under Georgia's revised anti-SLAPP statute, including claims for abusive litigation, defamation, false light, tortious interference, and intentional infliction of emotional distress.
- Trial counsel representing a national publisher accused of defamation.
- Represented an online media company accused of defamation; the Court of Appeals found that the plaintiff's claims were barred by the Communications Decency Act.
- Represented numerous clients seeking corrections and/or retractions of defamatory content.

Publications & Presentations

Publications

- "Examining the Application of RICO in Trade Secret Cases," Intellectual Property & Technology Law Journal, Vol. 34, No. 3, March 2022.
- "Setting the Boundaries for Georgia's Revised Anti-SLAPP Statute," The Daily Report, May 4, 2017.

Professional & Community Engagement

- Atlanta Volunteer Lawyer Foundation, board member
- United Way Cole Advisory Panel
- International Association of Defense Counsel (IADC)

Accolades

- The Best Lawyers in America® Commercial Litigation (2023)
- Georgia Super Lawyers 2018 Rising Stars (Business Litigation)

Education

- The University of North Carolina (J.D., 2007)
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (B.A., 2003)

Admitted to Practice

Georgia