

Terance A. Gonsalves

Partner

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Tery Gonsalves is a partner in the Litigation & Trial Practice Group. He is a seasoned trial lawyer who has taken more than 20 jury trials to verdict. He counsels clients across multiple industries and in a variety of matters, including complex litigation and government and internal investigations.

Tery has extensive experience in False Claims Act (FCA) investigations and litigation and has represented clients in these matters across multiple industries. He also represents clients in high-stakes consumer class actions, including claims of consumer fraud, false and deceptive advertising, and unfair trade practices. His practice includes advising clients on related regulatory compliance and best practices, and he is frequently invited to speak on these issues. He also has a nationwide practice defending class actions and individual claims alleging violations of various telemarketing laws, including the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA).

Tery represents clients in front of multiple federal and state agencies, including the Department of Justice, Federal Trade Commission, Department of Education, U.S. Attorneys' Offices, state attorneys general, and various state higher-education agencies and accrediting bodies.

Before joining Alston & Bird, he held a senior in-house counsel litigation position at a publicly traded proprietary education corporation, where he gained an invaluable understanding of the federal, state, and accrediting agency issues facing institutions in this highly regulated space.

Representative Experience

Commercial Litigation

- Represented a publicly traded client in multiple state and federal jurisdictions in nationwide consumer fraud class actions, securities fraud class actions, and derivative litigation arising from alleged advertising misrepresentations.
- National litigation counsel for a publicly traded proprietary education company defending numerous Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) putative class actions, individual lawsuits, and claims.
- Represented a financial services company in a state False Claims Act (FCA) action alleging manipulation of municipal bond pricing.
- Represented a small business loan originator in a TCPA putative class action.

Government & Internal Investigations

- Conducted internal investigations related to alleged compliance violations, whistleblower complaints, employee theft, and other company concerns, including investigations involving senior management and tone at the top.
- Represented a publicly traded client before the Department of Justice and various state attorneys general regarding consumer fraud claims.

- Represented a proprietary education company in connection with an investigation by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).
- Represented a manufacturing company in a federal FCA investigation related to a National Science Foundation research grant.

Colleges and Universities

- Represented a nonprofit institution in a consumer fraud class action arising from alleged regulatory and compliance violations.
- Ongoing counsel for a nonprofit education system regarding regulatory and compliance matters, including corporate governance, accreditation, Title IV, and commercial transactions.
- Represented a publicly traded proprietary education company in several federal FCA actions alleging violations of Title IV regulations.

Professional & Community Engagement

- National Association of College and University Attorneys
- Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, Fellow

Education

- DePaul University (J.D., 2000)
- University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign (B.A., 1991)

Admitted to Practice

- Illinois
- Georgia (Not Admitted)

Related Services

Litigation | White Collar, Government & Internal Investigations | False Claims Act | Commercial | Class Action & Multidistrict Litigation | TCPA Counseling & Litigation | Colleges & Universities