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Eric M. Robinson

Shareholder

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Areas of Focus

Practice

Litigation Finance and Alternative Funding
Litigation

Industry

Financial Institutions
Insurance

Eric helps clients win consequential civil disputes. He serves as a strategic ally in achieving exceptional results at trial, in private arbitration, and on appeal. Eric routinely collaborates with lawyers and non-lawyers to serve clients, and understands that smart advocacy often allows for earlier success.

Eric frequently represents financial services firms, pharmaceutical companies, investors, entertainers and broadcasters, executives, creatives and non-profit entities including religious institutions and organizations.

Representative Cases

- The Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York in a federal civil rights lawsuit against the Village of Old Westbury. The Diocese was prevented for 20 years from developing a sacred ministry – a Catholic cemetery – on a former estate in a famous Long Island community. Eric framed and led the pursuit of First Amendment and Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act claims. The Diocese obtained its full entitlement. Its ministry directly will serve up to 200,000 persons. Millions of acts of religious exercise will be possible into the twenty-second century.
- Princeton Theological Seminary, in a lawsuit against Rider University involving ownership of the Westminster Choir College campus.
- The former CFO of AIG, against self-interested or related party transaction claims based on businesses with overlapping directors; in a Martin Act lawsuit by the New York Attorney General; and in shareholder lawsuits filed in Delaware and New York.

- International investment funds in an audit malpractice case against a top-five accounting firm for failing to ascertain during multiple audit years that its feeder fund client's sole investment was in a Ponzi scheme.
- Foreign insurers in liquidation in their defense against judicial and arbitral claims in multiple jurisdictions, and in response to regulatory enforcement litigation arising from rehabilitation activities by a domestic regulator.
- A new bank, in a lawsuit against it and its founding executives. The former bank sought to enjoin the new one. The injunction was denied. The new bank later was sold at a substantial gain.
- A Hall of Fame baseball player, against civil rights and tort claims. See, e.g., *Priore v. The New York Yankees, et al.* 761 N.Y.S.2d 608 (1st Dep't 2003).
- The world's largest concert promoter against federal civil rights, conspiracy, and antitrust claims by African-American promoters who claimed they improperly were excluded from the business.
- A professional athlete representation agency, in post-acquisition securities law and employment claims by its founders.
- National outside employment counsel for a top-five radio broadcaster with stations in 21 states. In part, designed and helped implement a uniform mandatory arbitration agreement for at-will employees, and defended it. See, e.g., *Matter of Ball (SFX Broadcasting, Inc.)*, 665 N.Y.S.2d 444 (3d Dep't 1997).
- Pro bono: A movie director, resolving claims that freed him to direct an acclaimed film starring Willem Dafoe. A clubhouse employee during a federal investigation, then as a witness in *U.S. v. Roger Clemens*.

Education

- Temple University School of Law, J.D.
- Carleton College, B.A.

Bar Admissions

- New York
California

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Central District of California
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit