



LITIGATION DEPARTMENT OF THE YEAR:  
GENERAL LITIGATION WINNER

GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER



**Q&A** **What are some of the department's most satisfying successes of the past year and why? While Gibson Dunn once again received The American Lawyer "Litigation Department of the Year" honors and remains the only national law firm whose New York office ranks among New York's litigation elite, this has been a particularly banner year for our New York litigators, winning case after case ripped from the headlines, including:**

- For Facebook, we have navigated the tech giant through a firestorm of criticism over its user privacy policies in the wake of the Cambridge



*Responses prepared by  
Randy M. Mastro, co-chair of  
the firm's litigation practice group.*

Analytica controversy, settling an FTC investigation for \$5 billion and already getting securities class action and shareholder derivative actions dismissed.

- For Chevron, we beat back attempts to enforce an \$18-billion foreign arbitration award procured

by fraud eerily reminiscent of a landmark S.D.N.Y. case in which we exposed litigation fraud by Manhattan lawyer Steve Donziger in procuring an \$18-billion Ecuadorian judgment against Chevron.

- For Madison Square Garden, we dunked legendary Knicks star Charles Oakley’s civil suit in the S.D.N.Y. over a high-profile incident in which he resisted being removed from the Garden during a Knicks game, struck security guards, and then got arrested.

We are equally proud of the many recent cases in which we took on the national, state and local governments when they overreached. From compelling the Trump White House to restore journalists’ press passes, to blocking New York’s unconstitutional donor disclosure requirements imposed on not-for-profits, to voiding illegal restrictions imposed by the Cuomo and de Blasio administrations on the title insurance and homesharing industries, we proved you can fight City Hall—and even the White House—and win.

**A prospective client in crisis calls and asks why your team should be retained. What is your answer? We win the cases that, at first, seem like they can’t be won.** And we’ve been doing it here in New York for more than a decade. When the litigation stakes have been highest and clients needed the most creative, tenacious counsel, they have turned to Gibson Dunn time after time. Whether it’s Facebook confronting user privacy imbroglios or facing a forger’s ownership claim, or Chevron saddled with \$18 billion awards procured by fraud or facing potential liability over climate change, or Madison Square Garden contesting former Knicks star Charles Oakley’s civil suit or seeking to derail the city’s Westside Stadium project, or “Diva of Distressed Debt” Lynn Tilton fighting SEC civil fraud charges in the agency’s “home court” where it wins 90% of the time, Gibson Dunn answered the call, delivered spectacular results, and won smashing trial

#### LAW FIRM PROFILE

	<b>\$2.01B</b> GROSS REVENUE LAST YEAR	<b>\$1.82B</b> IN 2018
	<b>#11</b> 2020 AM LAW 200 RANKING	<b>#12</b> IN 2019
	<b>\$3.76M</b> PROFIT PER EQUITY PARTNER	<b>\$1.49M</b> RPL
	<b>1,351</b> ATTORNEYS	
<b>326</b> EQUITY PARTNERS	<b>75</b> NON EQUITY	<b>873</b> ASSOCIATES

victories. That’s why we’ve been dubbed “the Rescue Squad”—because we come to the rescue of clients in crisis.

**What traits do you respect most in opposing firms and lawyers? Being zealous advocates who make compelling arguments,** with intellectual honesty, and who display the highest ethical standards. Also, being a gracious winner but, preferably, a good loser.

**What is the firm doing to ensure that future generations of litigators are ready to take the helm? While we have “star” litigators in New York, we are not a star system.** We function as a team and have a deep bench that one client publicly described as “the Gibson Dunn army.” Moreover, we go to trial as a team, sharing the stage with our colleagues. And we already have generations of great trial lawyers here: More than a dozen of our partners are former federal prosecutors, including our newest lateral partners, Matthew Biben, who joined us from Debevoise, and Zainab Ahmad, who joined us from DOJ and Special Counsel Robert Mueller’s Office. They range in age from 40 to 70, know their way around a courtroom, love to try cases, and are exceptional at it.