



JENNIFER L. JOOST

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FOCUS AREAS

Securities Fraud

EDUCATION

Washington University in St. Louis
B.A. in History with Honors 2003

Temple University Beasley School of Law
J.D. 2006, *cum laude*, Special Projects Editor,
Temple International and Comparative Law
Journal (2005-2006)

ADMISSIONS

Pennsylvania

California

USCA, Second Circuit

USCA, Fourth Circuit

USCA, Ninth Circuit

USDC, Eastern District of Pennsylvania

USDC, Northern District of California

USDC, Central District of California

USDC, Southern District of California

USDC, Northern District of Illinois

Jennifer L. Joost, a partner in the Firm's San Francisco office, has devoted her practice to representing plaintiffs in large-scale complex class actions. Ms. Joost has represented individual and institutional investors in a variety of securities class actions including some of the largest class actions to arise out of the most recent financial crisis. Ms. Joost received her law degree, *cum laude*, from Temple University Beasley School of Law, where she was the Special Projects Editor for the Temple International and Comparative Law Journal. Ms. Joost earned her undergraduate degree (B.A.) in History with honors from Washington University in St. Louis. She is licensed to practice in Pennsylvania and California.

Ms. Joost was part of the team who litigated *In re Bank of America Corp. Securities, Derivative, and Employee Retirement Security Act (ERISA) Litigation*, No. 09 MDL 2058 (S.D.N.Y.), which settled on the eve of trial for \$2.425 billion and *In re Citigroup, Inc. Bond Litig.*, No. 08 Civ. 9522 (SHS) (S.D.N.Y.), which settled for \$730 million. Ms. Joost also was part of the team that litigated *Luther, et al. v. Countrywide Financial Corp.*, No. BC 380698, which settled for \$500 million in 2013. Ms. Joost likewise was part of the team that successfully litigated claims on behalf of a class of investors in *In re Ocwen Financial Corp. Sec. Litig.*, No. 14-cv-81057-WPD in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. The case ultimately settled for \$56 million on the eve of trial. Most recently, Ms. Joost was part of a team that successfully litigated claims in the United States District Court for the Central District of California on behalf of a class of investors in *In re Snap Inc. Sec. Litig.*, No. 17-cv-03679-SVW-AGR. The case settled in January 2020 for \$154 million.

two months before trial. Ms. Joost has led discovery in or otherwise been involved in all aspects of pre-trial proceedings for more than 20 settled or pending actions, including: *In re JPMorgan Chase & Co. Sec. Litig.*, No. 12-cv-03852-GBD (S.D.N.Y.) (\$150 million recovery); *Minneapolis Firefighters' Relief Association v. Medtronic, Inc.*, No. 08-cv-06324-PAM-AJB (D. Minn) (\$85 million recovery); *In re MGM Mirage Sec. Litig.*, No. 2:09-cv-01558-GMN-VCF (D. Nevada) (\$75 million recovery); and *In re Weatherford Int'l Sec. Litig.*, No. 11 Civ. 1646 (LAK) (S.D.N.Y.) (\$52.5 million recovery).

Current Cases

- Apple, Inc.

Defendant Apple Inc. is a global technology company that designs and markets the iPhone, Mac, iPad, and other technology products, and offers a variety of web services. This securities class action arises out of Apple's materially false and misleading statements concerning two of the Company's central sources of revenue: the iPhone and the App Store.

On January 28, 2026, Plaintiff filed a 215-page complaint on behalf of a putative class of investors alleging that Defendants Apple Inc., Chief Executive Officer Tim Cook, current Chief Financial Officer Kevan Parekh, former Chief Financial Officer Luca Maestri, Senior Vice President of Software Engineering Craig Federighi, and Senior Director of AI and Machine learning Kelsey Peterson, violated Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act.

As alleged, Defendants made false and misleading statements touting the release of highly anticipated artificial intelligence-enabled upgrades to Apple's digital assistant, Siri, while at the same time misrepresenting Apple's compliance with a nationwide injunction issued against the Company as a result of anticompetitive App Store restrictions. The injunction, issued in *Epic Games, Inc. v. Apple Inc.*, Case No. 4:20-cv-05640-YGR (N.D. Cal.), enjoined the Company from preventing developers from using external purchase links to steer customers to alternate purchase options, and therefore had significant implications for Apple's App Store revenue.

On the first day of the Class Period, Apple filed its quarterly report with the SEC, which represented that Apple was in compliance with the injunction. Just one month later, on June 10, 2024, with pressure from the market mounting for Apple to make a major announcement of artificial intelligence offerings, Apple held its annual Worldwide Developers Conference. During the event, Defendants announced a suite of new AI features under the banner of Apple Intelligence, which included major AI-powered upgrades to Siri. Defendants claimed these features would launch with the iPhone 16 in the fall of 2024.

In truth, Defendants' purported compliance with the injunction

consisted of host of anticompetitive measures designed to preserve Apple's supracompetitive App Store revenue stream, and the purported Apple Intelligence-powered Siri features were nowhere near ready for market. As the Complaint alleges, Defendants internally modeled the negative financial impact of actual compliance with the injunction and so deliberately crafted a plan to reduce the revenue impact, knowing full well that their plan subverted the letter and spirit of the injunction. At the same time Defendants misrepresented Apple's compliance with the injunction, they were also publicly touting the new Siri features announced in June 2024. However, behind the scenes, the Company barely possessed a working prototype, and had in fact announced the features using video mock-up demonstrations of technology that did not exist.

The truth regarding Apple's violations of the injunction and the non-existence of the much-touted Siri upgrades came to light through a series of corrective disclosures between February and May 2025. During a multi-day hearing in February 2025, the testimony of Apple executives revealed that Apple knew its response to the injunction carried a significant risk of non-compliance and that Apple fashioned its response to the Injunction to avoid the financial impact of the injunction. In early March 2025, Apple announced that its heavily advertised Apple Intelligence-powered Siri upgrades would be indefinitely delayed. Morgan Stanley then downgraded Apple based on the Company's delay in releasing an updated Siri, citing consumer survey data indicating that the delay would negatively impact the rate that users upgraded to the iPhone 16. This news, which had obviously implications for Apple's iPhone sales, caused a sharp stock price decline and erased billions in Apple's market capitalization. Then, on April 30-May 1, 2025, when the presiding judge in the *Epic Games* litigation issued an order finding that Apple had willfully violated the injunction, Defendants failed to provide any specifics on the timing of Apple's release of the AI-enhanced Siri, and Defendant Cook acknowledged that the ongoing *Epic Games* litigation posed a risk to the Company. These disclosures caused additional drops in Apple's stock price.

Defendants moved to dismiss the Complaint on February 25, 2026. Briefing on the motion to dismiss is complete.

[Read Consolidated Class Action Complaint Here](#)

- CytoDyn, Inc.

This securities fraud class action arises out of Defendants' public conduct and misrepresentations concerning CytoDyn's only prospective drug, leronlimab, during 2020-2021. Defendants' fraudulent misconduct came in several forms: materially false and misleading statements concerning CytoDyn's application to the United States Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") for the use of

leronlimab to treat HIV; material misstatements concerning purported data and information showing leronlimab's safety and efficacy as a treatment for COVID-19; and Defendants' scheme to directly and indirectly promote leronlimab's promise as a COVID-19 treatment and thus pump up CytoDyn's common stock price, after which Defendants "dumped," or rapidly sold, millions of dollars' worth of their personally-held shares at inflated prices.

Adverse facts known to Defendants, but concealed from investors throughout the Class Period, showed that CytoDyn's data regarding leronlimab was nowhere near sufficient to support an application for regulatory approval of the drug for HIV indications, nor to support claims that leronlimab was efficacious in treating any type of COVID-19 patient. Indeed, at the end of the Class Period and afterwards, Defendants received communications from the FDA and/or the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") indicating that Defendants' public representations touting leronlimab and its potential FDA approval and COVID-19 application were not supported by data and accepted analyses. The truth regarding Defendants' misrepresentations came onto the market in a set of disclosures in 2020 and 2021 that led to sharp declines in CytoDyn's stock price, causing significant losses and damages to the Company's investors. On July 30, 2021, CytoDyn disclosed that it was being investigated by both the SEC and the United States Department of Justice.

Plaintiffs successfully moved to modify the automatic discovery stay under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, and received documents from Defendants starting in early 2022, before any motion to dismiss was adjudicated. On June 24, 2022, Plaintiffs filed a 228-page amended complaint, under seal, on behalf of a putative class of investors against CytoDyn and its executives, including CEO Nader Pourhassan, CFO Michael Mulholland, and CMO Scott A. Kelly. Plaintiffs claim Defendants violated Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act by making false and misleading statements and concealing material facts about CytoDyn's data and regulatory actions and prospects concerning the investigational drug leronlimab, and engaging in a fraudulent promotional scheme regarding the same. Plaintiffs also claim Defendants Pourhassan, Mulholland and Kelly are liable as control persons of CytoDyn under Section 20(a) of the Exchange Act, and that they violated Section 20A of the Exchange Act by selling personally held shares of CytoDyn common stock while aware of material nonpublic information concerning leronlimab. In June 2025, the Court denied in part Defendants' motion to dismiss, sending the case to discovery. Thereafter, a settlement of \$500,000 and 49 million shares of common stock was reached in the Spring 2026. Preliminary approval is pending with the Court.

[Read Amended Class Action Complaint Here](#)

[Read Second Amended Class Action Complaint Here](#)

[View the Press Releases Chart](#)

- First Republic Bank

This securities fraud class action arises out of misrepresentations and omissions made by former executives of First Republic Bank (“FRB” or the “Bank”) and FRB’s auditor, KPMG LLP, about significant risks faced by FRB that led to its dramatic collapse in May 2023, the second largest bank collapse in U.S. history.

FRB was a California-based bank that catered to high-net worth individuals and businesses in coastal U.S. cities. Leading into and during the Class Period, FRB rapidly grew in size: in 2021 alone, FRB grew total deposits by 36% and total assets by 27%. In 2022, FRB grew by another 17%, exceeding \$200 billion in total assets. During this period, Defendants assured investors that the Bank’s deposits were well-diversified and stable. Defendants also assured investors that they were actively and effectively mitigating the Bank’s liquidity and interest rate risks.

The Complaint alleges that Defendants failed to disclose material risks associated with the Bank’s deposit base and with respect to Defendants’ management of liquidity and interest rate risk. In contrast to Defendants’ representations regarding the safety and stability of FRB, the Complaint alleges that Defendants relied on undisclosed sales practices to inflate the Bank’s deposit and loan growth, including, for example, by offering abnormally low interest rates on long-duration, fixed-rate mortgages in exchange for clients making checking deposits. And contrary to Defendants’ representations that they actively and responsibly managed the Bank’s interest rate risk, the Complaint details how Defendants continually violated the Bank’s interest rate risk management policies by concentrating the Bank’s assets in long-duration, fixed rate mortgages. In 2022, when the Federal Reserve began rapidly raising interest rates, the Bank’s low-interest, long-duration loans began to decline in value, creating a mismatch between the Bank’s assets and liabilities. Internally, FRB’s interest rate models showed severe breaches of the Bank’s risk limits in higher rate scenarios, and Defendants discussed potential corrective actions at risk management meetings. However, Defendants took no corrective action, continued to mislead investors about the Bank’s interest rate risk, and only amplified the Bank’s risk profile by deepening the Bank’s concentration in long-duration loans.

On October 14, 2022, investors began to learn the truth when FRB announced financial results for the third quarter of 2022, which showed that rising interest rates had begun to impact the Bank’s key financial metrics and that the Bank had lost \$8 billion in checking deposits. Despite these trends, Defendants continued to reassure investors that Bank’s deposits were well-diversified and stable, that FRB had ample liquidity, and that rising interest rates would not limit the growth in FRB’s residential mortgage loan

business. In FRB's 2022 annual report (released in February 2023, and audited by KPMG), Defendants further claimed that, despite the Bank's increasing interest rate risks, the Bank possessed the ability to hold its concentrated portfolio of long-duration loans and securities to maturity. The undisclosed risks materialized further on March 10, 2023, when peer bank Silicon Valley Bank failed and FRB experienced massive deposit withdrawals of up to \$65 billion over two business days, constituting over 40% of the Bank's total deposits. Defendants did not reveal these catastrophic deposit outflows to the market and instead reassured investors regarding the Bank's liquidity position. In the ensuing weeks, FRB's financial position unraveled further, resulting in multiple downgrades by rating agencies, and additional disclosures regarding the magnitude of FRB's deposit outflows and the Bank's worsening liquidity position. On May 1, 2023, FRB was seized by regulators and placed into receivership. These disclosures virtually eliminated the value of FRB's common stock and preferred stock.

On February 13, 2024, Plaintiffs filed a 203-page complaint on behalf of a putative class of investors who purchased FRB common stock and preferred stock, alleging violations of Sections 10(b), 20(a), and 20A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Defendants moved to dismiss. Additionally, the U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, acting as receiver for First Republic Bank, intervened as a non-party and filed a separate motion challenging the Court's jurisdiction. Briefing on these motions was completed last year, and the Court held oral argument on April 17, 2025. On June 10, 2025, the Court granted the FDIC's motion and dismissed the case with prejudice. The Court ruled that the Financial Institution Reform, Recovery and Enforcement Act of 1989 (FIRREA) stripped the Court of subject matter jurisdiction due to an administrative exhaustion requirement. The Court did not address Defendants' motions to dismiss related to the sufficiency of the allegations under the Exchange Act. The matter is currently on appeal.

Settled

- Citigroup, Inc.
Case Caption: *In re Citigroup Bond Litig.*
Case Number: 1:08-cv-09522-SHS
Court: Southern District of New York
Judge: Honorable Sidney H. Stein
Plaintiffs: Louisiana Sheriffs' Pension and Relief Fund, City of Tallahassee Retirement System, City of Philadelphia Board of Pensions and Retirement, Miami Beach Employees' Retirement Plan, Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, American European Insurance Company, Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, Phillip G. Ruffin, and James M. Brown
Defendants: Citigroup Inc, Citigroup Funding, Inc., Citigroup Capital XIV, Citigroup Capital XV, Citigroup Capital XVI, Citigroup Capital XVII, Citigroup Capital XVIII, Citigroup Capital XIX,

Citigroup Capital XX, Citigroup Capital XXI, C. Michael Armstrong, Alan J.P. Belda, Sir Winfried Bischoff, Michael Conway, Gary Crittenden, George David, Kenneth T. Derr, John M. Deutch, Scott Freidenrich, James Garnett, John C. Gerspach, Ann Dibble Jordan, Klaus Kleinfeld, Sallie L. Krawcheck, Andrew N. Liveris, Dudley C. Mecum, Anne Mulcahy, Vikram Pandit, Richard D. Parsons, Charles Prince, Roberto Hernández Ramírez, Judith Rodin, Saul Rosen, Robert E. Rubin, Robert L. Ryan, Franklin A. Thomas, Eric L. Wentzel, David Winkler, Banc of America Securities LLC, Barclays Capital Inc., Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Citigroup Global Markets Limited, Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Goldman, Sachs & Co., Greenwich Capital Markets Inc. (n/k/a RBS Securities Inc.), JPMorgan Chase & Co., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc., Morgan Stanley & Co. Inc., UBS Securities LLC, and Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC (n/k/a Wells Fargo Securities, LLC).

Overview: We represented the Miami Beach Employees' Retirement Plan, the Philadelphia Public Employees' Retirement System, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority Pension Fund, and the City of Tallahassee Pension Plan in this historic class action against Citigroup before Judge Sidney H. Stein of the Southern District of New York. Plaintiffs and a class of Citigroup bondholders alleged that Citigroup concealed its exposure to subprime mortgage debt on the eve of the 2008 financial crisis—exposure that, once revealed, led to massive investment losses. The \$730 million settlement is believed to be the second largest recovery ever for a Section 11 claim under the Securities Act on behalf of corporate bondholders.

- Countrywide Financial Corp.

Case Caption: *In re W. Conf. of Teamsters Pension Tr. Fund v. Countrywide Fin. Corp.*, No. 2:12-cv-05122-MRP -MAN, and *Luther v. Countrywide Fin. Corp.*

Case Number: 2:12-cv-05122-MRP-MAN, and 2:12-cv-05125-MRP-MAN

Court: Central District of California

Judge: Honorable Mariana R. Pfaelzer

Plaintiffs: Vermont Pension Investment Committee, Mashreqbank, p.s.c., Pension Trust Fund for Operating Engineers, Operating Engineers Annuity Plan, Washington State Plumbing and Pipefitting Pension Trust, David H. Luther, Western Conference of Teamsters Pension Trust Fund

Defendants: Countrywide Financial Corporation, Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., CWALT, Inc., CWMB, Inc., CWHEQ, Inc., CWABS, Inc., Countrywide Capital Markets, Countrywide Securities Corporation, Bank of America Corporation, NB Holdings Corporation, Stanford L. Kurland, David A. Spector, Eric P. Sieracki, David A. Sambol, Ranjit Kripalani, N. Joshua Adler, Jennifer S. Sandefur, Jeffrey P. Grogin, Thomas Boone,

Thomas K. McLaughlin, Banc of America Securities LLC, Barclays Capital Inc., Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc., BNP Paribas Securities Corp., Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Edward D. Jones & Co., L.P. d/b/a Edward Jones, Goldman, Sachs & Co., Greenwich Capital Markets, Inc. a.k.a. RBS Greenwich Capital now known as RBS Securities Inc., HSBC Securities (USA) Inc., J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, and UBS Securities LLC

Overview: As co-lead counsel representing the Maine Public Employees' Retirement System, secured a \$500 million settlement for a class of plaintiffs that purchased mortgage-backed securities (MBS) issued by Countrywide Financial Corporation (Countrywide). Plaintiffs alleged that Countrywide and various of its subsidiaries, officers and investment banks made false and misleading statements in more than 450 prospectus supplements relating to the issuance of subprime and Alt-A MBS—in particular, the quality of the underlying loans. When information about the loans became public, the plaintiffs' investments declined in value. The ensuing six-year litigation raised several issues of first impression in the Ninth Circuit.

- J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A.
Case Caption: *In re JPMorgan Chase & Co. Sec. Litig.*
Case Number: 1:12-cv-03852-GBD
Court: Southern District of New York
Judge: Honorable George B. Daniels
Plaintiffs: Arkansas Teacher Retirement System, Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, Sjunde AP-Fonden, and the State of Oregon by and through the Oregon State Treasurer on behalf of the Common School Fund and, together with the Oregon Public Employee Retirement Board, on behalf of the Oregon Public Employee Retirement Fund
Defendants: JPMorgan Chase & Co., James Dimon, and Douglas Braunstein

Overview: This securities fraud class action in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York stemmed from the "London Whale" derivatives trading scandal at JPMorgan Chase. Shareholders alleged that JPMorgan concealed the high-risk, proprietary trading activities of the investment bank's Chief Investment Office, including the highly volatile, synthetic credit portfolio linked to trader Bruno Iksil—a.k.a., the "London Whale"—which caused a \$6.2 billion loss in a matter of weeks. Shareholders accused JPMorgan of falsely downplaying media reports of the synthetic portfolio, including on an April 2012 conference call when JPMorgan CEO Jamie Dimon dismissed these reports as a "tempest in a teapot," when in fact, the portfolio's losses were swelling as a result of the bank's failed oversight.

This case was resolved in 2015 for \$150 million, following U.S. District Judge George B. Daniels' order certifying the class, representing a significant victory for investors.

News

- May 26, 2026 - Court Approves \$250 Million Settlement in Rivian IPO Suit
- November 3, 2025 - Kessler Topaz Achieves \$250 Million Settlement in Rivian IPO Suit
- October 20, 2025 - Kessler Topaz Achieves \$85 Million Settlement in Wells Fargo Diversity Hiring Suit
- August 28, 2023 - Ninth Circuit Revives "Crypto Mining" Securities Fraud Suit Against NVIDIA
- March 29, 2022 - Kessler Topaz is Proud to Recognize and Honor Women's History Month by Profiling our Female Partners and Recognizing the Amazing Work They Do | Jennifer Joost, Partner
- May 8, 2017 - Kessler Topaz Again Named Class Action Litigation Department of the Year by The Legal Intelligencer
- Kessler Topaz Secures a \$150 Million Recovery for Shareholders in JPMorgan Chase & Co. Securities Class Action

Awards/Rankings

- Super Lawyers -- Rising Star, PA: 2010-2011
- Super Lawyers -- Rising Star, Northern CA: 2013-2014, 2016-2021
- LawDragon 500 Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyers: 2019-2021

Memberships

- Member, AAJ
- Member of AAJ Legal Affairs Committee