

Lauren S. Colton

Partner
Baltimore

Biography

Product liability litigation requires a mix of technical and scientific knowledge combined with an understanding of a client's business. Lauren Colton, a member of the firm's core life sciences committee, guides clients with pragmatic and clear counsel. Lauren's civil practice focuses primarily on product liability litigation, including individual, mass tort, and class actions in federal and state courts across the United States.

Lauren is the head of the firm's Products Law group. She has a proven track record of obtaining favorable litigation results for her clients through innovative defense strategies, such as motions to bifurcate on medical causation, creative removal theories, and threshold motions on legal defenses such as personal jurisdiction and forum non conveniens. She also regularly provides liability counseling and advice to product manufacturers before lawsuits arise, and assists with crisis management when they do. Through her experience as national counsel for multiple manufacturers, she has technical and scientific knowledge as well as an understanding of her clients' regulatory and commercial environments.

Lauren was recommended by *The Legal 500* for product liability and mass tort defense regarding pharmaceuticals and medical devices in 2012, 2013,



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Practices

Litigation Services

Products Law

Industries

Consumer

Life Sciences and Health Care

Areas of focus

Pensions Litigation

Product Litigation

Retail and Consumer Goods

Digital Health

and 2014. She has been recognized by *Chambers* for general commercial litigation and health care law (2007, 2010-2012, 2014, 2015) as well. Other honors include *Benchmark Litigation*, Future Star (2013-2014), *Who's Who Legal*, Product Liability Defense (2014), *Maryland Super Lawyers* (2011, 2013), "Healthcare Litigator of the Year" (2009), and *Law 360* "Rising Star" in Product Liability (2010).

Representative experience

Serving as U.S. product liability counsel for multiple pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device manufacturers.

Advising developers of wearable technology and digital health platforms on liability risk mitigation strategies.

Representing an importer of Chinese manufactured tires in product liability litigation involving recalled tires.

Representing a leading medical device manufacturer in litigation against a third-party payor.

Representing a leading biotechnology company in clinical trial litigation.

Representing a university and medical center in a lawsuit by 800 Guatemalans relating to studies conducted in the 1940s.

Awards and rankings

- Dispute Resolution: Product Liability and Mass Tort Defense: Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices, *Legal 500 US*, 2013-2014, 2016-2020
- Dispute Resolution: Product Liability, Mass Tort, and Class Actions: Automotive and Transport, *Legal 500 US*, 2018-2020
- Healthcare: Life Sciences, *Legal 500 US*, 2020
- Litigation: General Commercial (Maryland),

Clinical Trials

Cell, Tissue, and Gene Therapies

Education and admissions

Education

J.D., University of Maryland, Francis King Carey School of Law, with honors, Order of the Coif, 2000

B.A., University of Michigan, high distinction, 1997

Bar admissions and qualifications

Maryland

Court admissions

U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit

U.S. District Court, District of Maryland

Accolades

"Excellent on her feet."

Chambers USA

"She is responsive and thinks strategically about how decisions could play out under the threat of litigation. She is knowledgeable, creative and provides us with

Chambers USA, 2016-2020

- Dispute Resolution: Product Liability, Mass Tort, and Class Actions: Consumer Products (Including Tobacco), *Legal 500 US*, 2018-2019
- Litigation: General Commercial (Maryland), Up and Coming, *Chambers USA*, 2014-2015
- Life Sciences - Product Liability, *Who's Who Legal*, 2013, 2016
- Product Liability Defence, *Who's Who Legal*, 2014
- Future Star, *Benchmark Litigation*, 2013-2014
- Rising Stars, *Maryland Super Lawyers*, 2011-2014
- Life Sciences Star, *LMG Life Sciences*, 2013
- Product Liability, Rising Star, *Law360*, 2010
- Nightingale's Healthcare News, Outstanding Health Care Litigators, 2010, 2010

Latest thinking and events

- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - First courts consider application of PREP Act Immunity in the context of removal
- News
 - PREP Act declaration amended to clarify coverage of certain products not directly used for COVID-19
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - International products law review 2020: Issue 77
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - HHS Issues Advisory Opinion Encouraging a Broad Reading of its PREP Act Declaration
- News
 - HHS guidance confers PREP Act immunity to pharmacists for certain COVID-19 tests
- Hogan Lovells Publications
 - Navigating limits on product liability under the PREP Act for COVID-19 clinical trial activities

options throughout the decision-making process."

Chambers USA

"She balances strong advocacy with a realistic perspective of the strengths and weaknesses of a case."

Chambers 2014

"She is responsive and thinks strategically about how decisions could play out under the threat of litigation. She is knowledgeable, creative and provides us with options throughout the decision-making process."

Chambers USA

Lauren Colton "very much puts the business objective first"

Chambers USA, 2019

"She understands what's important and tailors her style and approach accordingly."

Chambers USA, 2019
