

Rachel L. Schaller | Partner

Business Litigation

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Rachel helps clients navigate complex class, collective, and mass actions in the areas of privacy, technology, and employment. A seasoned litigator, she complements her practice by prosecuting and defending trade secret and restrictive covenant actions and counseling clients on privacy, information security, and employment-related matters.

Rachel's practice spans industries involving retail, manufacturing, technology, entertainment, distribution, real estate, healthcare, and hospitality. Her thoughtful and creative approach has resulted in major wins for her clients, ranging from awards of temporary and preliminary injunctive relief in trade secrets and restrictive covenants matters, to defeating class and collective action certification and early dismissal of biometric privacy, data breach, Internet defamation, and website accessibility lawsuits.

When advising clients, Rachel hones in on key issues and identifies blind spots, ensuring a proactive approach to claims prevention and early resolution of potential disputes.

Rachel received her B.A. from the University of Wisconsin and her J.D. from the Chicago-Kent College of Law. She was on the Dean's List for both schools and was the associate editor for the *Journal of International and Comparative Law* during law school.

Rachel is honored as an Illinois *Super Lawyers* Rising Star for Employment and Labor Law and as one of *Best Lawyers*' "Ones to Watch."

Select Engagements

- Obtained temporary restraining order protecting trade secrets of regional meat and seafood distributor.
- Defeated certification of nationwide collective action for national banking association.
- Obtained dismissal of California privacy claim alleging novel website tracking theory.
- Successfully defended companies in the retail, manufacturing, technology, gaming, distribution, and real estate industries, resulting in the voluntary dismissal of biometric privacy claims involving use of facial recognition, voice recognition, and hand-scanning.
- Defeated class certification of Title VII, Section 1983, and Section 1981 claims on behalf of public transportation system.
- Prevailed in arbitration on behalf of vehicle manufacturer against claims of gender and pregnancy discrimination and retaliation.
- Prevailed on summary judgment on behalf of national food and gift distributor against claims of race discrimination and retaliation under Title VII and Section 1981.
- Successfully represented website operator in Internet defamation action, resulting in favorable resolution to operator.
- Successfully represented website operator in data breach action, resulting in voluntary dismissal.
- Successfully represented food and gift distributor in website accessibility action, resulting in voluntary dismissal.

Admissions

- Illinois
- U.S. District Court - Northern District of Illinois

Memberships

- American Bar Association

Education

- Chicago-Kent College of Law, JD
- University of Wisconsin-Madison, BA

Recognitions

- 2021–2024, “Ones to Watch,” listed by *Best Lawyers*®
- “Emerging Lawyers,” listed by *Leading Lawyers*
- 2019–2024, Illinois “Rising Star” in Employment & Labor, listed by *Super Lawyers*