



Julia B. Strickland Partner

Recognized as one of the best litigators in the country, Julia Strickland leads a broad national practice that focuses on the defense of class actions and other complex actions. Julia is regularly called by world-renowned financial services companies and others when they are confronted with issues that put them at substantial economic and reputational risk. She is a member of the firm's Executive Committee, Managing Partner of the Los Angeles office, head of the firm's national Financial Services Litigation, Regulation and Enforcement Group, and co-chair of Stroock's national litigation practice.

In addition to her vast experience successfully representing clients through dispositive motion practice, trial and/or appeal, Julia has a deserved reputation for negotiating and structuring settlements of complex and class actions. She is versatile and creative in addressing settlement considerations, both legal and business, and in developing settlement structure options tailored to the client's unique needs. She also routinely represents companies in compliance counseling, regulatory proceedings and responding to claims by federal and state regulators and enforcement authorities. Julia's client list is a "Who's Who" of financial companies, including American Express, JPMorgan Chase, HSBC, Discover, Citigroup, BMW Financial Services and Synchrony Bank, among others.

Julia repeatedly has been recognized as a leader in the field. Julia once again received top honors in *Chambers USA 2020* with a Band 1 ranking in the Financial Services Regulation: Consumer Finance Litigation–Nationwide category. She is one of only three attorneys across the country to receive this recognition. In addition, for more than 14 years running, the *Los Angeles Daily Journal* has continuously named Julia one of California's "Top Women Lawyers." She also was selected by *Law360* as a Banking MVP, joining an elite slate of only six lawyers nationally who have distinguished themselves from their peers. The *Los Angeles Business Journal* recently honored Julia in 2019 and 2020 as one of its "Leaders of Influence: Top Litigators & Trial Lawyers," named her one of the "Top Women Attorneys in Los Angeles" in 2018, 2019 and 2020, and featured her in its "Leaders in Law," where she was awarded the publication's "Lawyers of the Year" honors in 2016 and 2017. Julia was recognized by leading corporate counsel as a member of the BTI Consulting Group's "Client Services All-Stars" for her "uncanny ability to anticipate opposing counsel," as well as being "very customer focused and practical." She additionally has been repeatedly recognized by *Super Lawyers*, *Benchmark Litigation*, *the Los Angeles Times*

Los Angeles

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Related Services

- Consumer Financial Services Defense
- Financial Services Litigation, Regulation and Enforcement
- Litigation
- Privacy/California Consumer Privacy Act
- Regulatory Compliance and Enforcement Actions
- White Collar & Internal Investigations

Education

J.D., University of California, Los Angeles, School of Law, 1978

B.A., University of California - San Diego, 1975

and *The Best Lawyers in America*.

In addition to her professional achievements, Julia is actively involved in arts organizations, notably serving as a board member of Center Dance Arts, Abraham.in.Motion, American Dance Movement and USC Kaufman School of Dance.

Representative Matters

Some of Ms. Strickland's recent representations include:

- Counseling multiple clients on pandemic-related matters, including development and implementation of both voluntary and legally mandated programs to assist customers facing financial hardship; interpretation and application of federal, state and local public health orders; and defense of litigation against a major financial services company arising from Payment Protection Program loans.
- Lead defense counsel for American Express, Citibank, JPMorgan Chase, HSBC, Discover, Synchrony and BMW Financial Services, among others, in multiple class and individual actions alleging violations of the Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA), as well as actions challenging various collections practices.
- Successfully represented two major banks in multiple putative class actions and individual cases, all pending in Hawaii state and district courts and arising out of mortgage foreclosures between 2008 and 2011 as a result of the financial crisis. Successfully negotiated confidential settlements for all individual cases, as well as all the putative class claims, in a hostile jurisdiction.
- Prevailed on summary judgment in favor of BMW Financial Services, defeating a putative class action alleging over \$40 million in potential damages under the TCPA. The order provides valuable support to defendants' efforts to defeat claims based on the unauthorized conduct of third party vendors.
- In important rulings under California law, successfully compelled arbitration in multiple putative consumer class actions, including against JPMorgan Chase and Citibank, challenging the banks' practices with respect to disclosures in connection with deposit accounts, defeating claims that the relief sought was "public injunctive relief."
- On an issue of first impression and of importance to retail banks, prevailed on appeal following partial summary judgment on a claim under California's Identity Theft Act. The Ninth Circuit held that the Identity Theft Act does not apply to claims involving a deposit account because the defendant bank was not a "claimant" under the Act.
- In a cutting-edge decision, on a motion to dismiss, the court adopted Stroock's argument on behalf of HSBC restricting statutory damages for pre-2017 violations of California's call recording statute to per

action as opposed to per violation, dramatically reducing the value of the alleged claim.

- Prevailed at trial on behalf of a major real estate investment fund in a complex real estate dispute regarding ownership of a major hotel. The court earlier granted summary judgment defeating plaintiff's fraud and negligent misrepresentation claims. The judgment was affirmed on appeal.
- Prevailed on a motion to dismiss in class action brought against PayPal and eBay and thereafter successfully negotiated a nationwide settlement involving over 100 million PayPal account holders in the U.S. The settlement received final approval, after more than four years of contentious litigation with numerous objectors over the settlement terms.
- Defeated class certification on behalf of JPMorgan Chase in action for violations of various California consumer protection laws in connection with the purchase of Retail Installment Sales Contracts from California automobile dealers.
- Obtained a favorable ruling after a two-week bench trial in a case alleging violations of California's call recording statute. The court decided in HSBC's favor, finding no basis for liability whatsoever.
- Successfully negotiated a settlement with the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, resolving an investigation pending for more than four years into a mortgage servicer's practices concerning pre-foreclosure property preservation and inspection services, title and valuation services, and services related to lender-placed insurance.

Honors & Awards

- Recognized by *Los Angeles Business Journal's* list of "The Most Influential People in L.A." in 2020 and 2021.
- Recognized by the *Los Angeles Business Journal's* list of "Women of Influence" in 2021.
- Named to the *Los Angeles Business Journal's* list of "Top Litigators and Trial Lawyers" in 2019.
- Recognized by *Los Angeles Business Journal* as one of the "Most Influential Women Attorneys" in 2018 and 2019.
- Selected by *Law360* as a 2017 Banking MVP joining an elite slate of only six lawyers nationally who have distinguished themselves from their peers.
- Nationally recognized as a leading lawyer by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* for work in Financial Services Regulation: Consumer Finance (Litigation) Band 1.

- *Benchmark Litigation* named Ms. Strickland a “Litigation Star” for 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019. The publication identifies the leading trial attorneys and firms at the local and national levels. *Benchmark Litigation* has also recognized Ms. Strickland as a National “Litigation Star,” top California litigator and one of the “Top 250 Women in Litigation.”
- Named by the *Los Angeles Daily Journal* as one of California’s “Top Women Lawyers” 15 times, including most recently in 2020.
- *Los Angeles Business Journal* honored Ms. Strickland in their Leader in Law awards, naming her one of their “Lawyers of the Year” for 2016 and 2017.
- Ranked by *Super Lawyers* since 2004, including as one of “The Top LA Women Lawyers” from 2012-2015 and for outstanding work in Banking Law for 2013-2017.
- Named by the *Los Angeles Times* as one of “Southern California’s Best Lawyers” since 2012.
- Recognized by leading corporate counsel as a member of the BTI Consulting Group’s “2011 Client Services All-Stars.”
- Annually recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America* in the category of “Litigation – Banking & Finance” from 2010-2021.

Memberships

- Board of Councilors, USC Kaufman School of Dance
- Board Member, Abraham.In.Motion
- Board of Directors, Center Dance Arts
- Co-Chair, Board of Ambassadors, Los Angeles Music Center
- Board of Directors, American Dance Movement

Speeches & Events

Ms. Strickland frequently speaks on the topics of complex litigation and financial services. From 1997 through 2018, Ms. Strickland has co-chaired the Annual Consumer Financial Services Institute for the Practising Law Institute. She also regularly speaks at PLI’s Class Action Litigation Institute. Ms. Strickland also has been a Guest Lecturer at UCLA Law School on the topic, "Negotiating and Drafting a Class Action Settlement Agreement." She regularly speaks to professional and trade groups, as well as to government bodies. Additional recent presentations include:

- Speaker, "Consumer Financial Services: Post-Election Update 2021," Practising Law Institute, March 23, 2021
- Speaker, "2021 Annual Overview of California’s Unfair Competition Law and Consumers Legal Remedies Act," March 4, 2021
- Speaker, “California - Year in Review and a Look Ahead,” December 16, 2020
- Speaker, "Driving Successful Outcomes From Class Action Litigation," ALM's General Counsel Conference, September 16, 2020
- Speaker, "Understanding the Changes to California’s Unfair Competition Law," June 17, 2020

- Moderator, "Public Protection in the Wake of COVID-19: States' Attorneys General Address Their Initiatives," May 15, 2020
- Speaker, "The CARES Act: Emerging Litigation Risks for the Financial Services Industry," May 6, 2020
- Moderator, "COVID-19's Impact on Consumer Financial Services Litigation," April 29, 2020
- Moderator, "Charging Into the New Decade - A Look at California's Expansive Regulatory Moves," January 23, 2020
- Moderator, "Tales from the Frontline: Sharing Stories on Success, Failures and What Keeps Them Up at Night," Women Leaders in Financial Services Law and Compliance, September 18, 2019
- CSUN Professor for a Day; Business Law, October 10, 2017
- Speaker, "Consumer Finance Class Actions and Enforcement," Cornerstone Research, Los Angeles, CA, November 9, 2016
- Speaker, Recent Changes to the TCPA and Potential Social Media Impact, Bloomberg BNA Webinar, November 12, 2015
- Panelist, 2015 Class Actions National Institute, American Bar Association, October 22-23, 2015
- Speaker, Los Angeles Client Advisory Council Meeting, September 25, 2014

Publications

Ms. Strickland has authored a wide range of publications. Most recent selections include:

- "Holders Beware: Holder Rule Could Expose Holder to Attorneys' Fees In Excess of Amount of Contract," *Stroock Client Alert*, February 16, 2021
- "California's Unfair Competition Law and Consumers Legal Remedies Act 2021 Annual Overview," *Stroock Client Memorandum*, February 4, 2021
- "Arbitration Update – Plaintiff Cannot Appeal Order Compelling Arbitration Through Voluntary Dismissal," *Stroock Client Alert*, January 4, 2021
- "COVID-19 Consumer Finance Litigation and Enforcement Threats," *Stroock Client Alert*, September 9, 2020
- "California's Mini-CFPB: Its Powers and Enforcement Implications," *Stroock Special Bulletin*, September 9, 2020
- "State Attorney General Offices Address COVID-19 Consumer Protection Issues," *Stroock Special Bulletin*, May 26, 2020
- "California Supreme Court Issues Important Guidance on Jury Trials and Calculation of Civil Penalties in Unfair Competition and False Advertising Cases," *Stroock Special Bulletin*, May 1, 2020
- "2020 Annual Overview of California's Unfair Competition Law and Consumers Legal Remedies Act," *Stroock Client Memorandum*, March 2020
- "California's Mini-CFPB: National Impact and Enforcement Threat," *Stroock Special Bulletin*, January 13, 2020

- “California Supreme Court Limits Scope of Class Action Ascertainability Defense,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, July 31, 2019
- “Supreme Court Opens Door to Challenges to FCC’s TCPA Interpretations,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, June 20, 2019
- “CFPB Debt Collection Proposed Rule – Threats & Opportunities,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, May 14, 2019
- “SCOTUS Limits the Definition of ‘Debt Collector’ Under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, March 21, 2019
- “TCPA Update – Predictive Dialer Held Not To Be An ATDS,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, July 27, 2018
- “California Enacts Broad-Reaching Consumer Privacy Legislation,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, June 28, 2018
- “California Poised to Enact Broad-Reaching Consumer Privacy Legislation,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, June 27, 2018
- “Supreme Court Limits American Pipe’s Impact On Putative Class Claims,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, June 13, 2018
- “2018 Annual Overview of California’s Unfair Competition Law and Consumers Legal Remedies Act,” *Stroock Client Memorandum*, March 2018
- “DC Circuit Issues Long-Awaited Opinion Addressing Challenges To FCC’s 2015 TCPA Ruling,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, March 16, 2018
- “Preemption Battles & Class Actions Ahead?” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, March 9, 2018
- “Opportunities to Reframe CFPB Enforcement,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, February 2, 2018
- “Strategies for Fundamental CFPB Changes,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, January 18, 2018
- “Cordray Announces November Departure from CFPB,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, November 15, 2017
- “Ninth Circuit Holds That Previously-Deceived Consumer Has Article III Standing To Seek Injunctive Relief,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, October 24, 2017
- “Senate Votes to Reject CFPB Arbitration Rule,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, October 24, 2017
- “What CFPB’s First No-Action Letter Signals,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, September 15, 2017
- “CFPB Watch,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, September 5, 2017
- “Ninth Circuit Rules Plaintiff Has Article III Standing In Spokeo, Leaves More Questions Unanswered,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, August 15, 2017
- “Second Circuit Holds That Contractually Provided TCPA Consent May Not Be Unilaterally Revoked,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, June 23, 2017
- “Affirmed – Defaulted Debt Buyer Not Subject to FDCPA,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, June 13, 2017
- “Which Constitutional Question Will Decide PHH v. CFPB?,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, May 25, 2017

- “CFPB & States Focus on Small Business Lending,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, May 12, 2017
- “Case Will Test Standing of Settlement Objectors,” *The Daily Journal*, April 17, 2017
- “D.C. Circuit Strikes Down FCC’s Order Requiring Opt-out Language on Solicited Fax Advertisements,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, March 31, 2017
- “2017 Annual Overview of California’s Unfair Competition Law and Consumers Legal Remedies Act,” *Stroock Client Memorandum*, March 2017
- “CFPB in Long-Haul Battle,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, February 14, 2017
- “Election Implications for the CFPB,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, November 9, 2016
- “D.C. Circuit’s PHH Ruling Reins in CFPB,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, October 12, 2016
- “Payment Processing Continued Target of CFPB and Litigation,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, August 23, 2016
- “CFPB Proposes Amendments to TRID Rule,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, August 1, 2016
- “CFPB Proposes ‘Drastic Overhaul’ of Debt Collection,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, July 29, 2016
- “Buckle Up for CFPB Anti-Redlining Drive,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, June 30, 2016
- “CFPB Announces Proposed Rule Regulating Payday Lending,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, June 3, 2016
- “Supreme Court Rules in *Spokeo, Inc. v. Robins*: Injury Must Be Particularized and Concrete,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, May 16, 2016
- “CFPB Publishes Long-Awaited Proposed Rule Precluding Class-Action Waivers in Arbitration Agreements,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, May 5, 2016
- “2016 Annual Overview of California’s Unfair Competition Law and Consumers Legal Remedies Act,” *Stroock Client Memorandum*, March 2016
- “Supreme Court Ruling in *Tyson Foods* Leaves Many Class Action Questions Unresolved,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, March 22, 2016
- “Important National Bank Act Preemption Decision,” *Stroock Special Bulletin*, March 10, 2016

Quoted in:

- “Wall Street Firms Among Toughest For Female Partners,” *Law360*, April 20, 2016

Admitted To Practice

California

U.S. District Court, Central District of California; U.S. District Court, Northern District of California; U.S. District Court, Southern District of California; U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California; U.S. District

Julia B. Strickland

Court, Northern District of Illinois; U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit; U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit; U.S. Court of Appeals, Fourth Circuit; U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit; U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit; U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit; California Supreme Court; U.S. Supreme Court