



Partner, Intellectual Property Litigation Practice Leader

jgalvin@hodgsonruss.com

716.848.1520

Jody's practice is focused on complex business disputes, and she has represented the firm's clients in both federal and state courts in New York and across the country.

Jody has defended class actions for public and private companies relating to the healthcare industry, statutory compliance, business practices and pricing, employment, and shareholder disputes. She is well-versed in all aspects of class action litigation including certification, discovery, and settlement approval and administration.

Jody's experience in financial litigation includes professional liability in the accounting profession, mergers and acquisition litigation, and corporate governance disputes. She has assisted clients with responding to SEC investigations and has represented buyers, broker-dealers and brokers in court disputes and arbitration proceedings before FINRA. Jody has conducted independent internal investigations for corporate clients in response to employee accusations of wrongdoing related to financial and employment practices.

Jody also handles intellectual property disputes, including patent and trademark litigation and the misappropriation of trade secrets, and ideas. Her experience includes representing clients on claims related to restrictive covenants and unfair competition. She has represented both plaintiffs and defendants in diverse subject areas, including medical devices, energy, pharmaceuticals, life science, children's products, and sporting equipment.

Jody was an adjunct professor at the University at Buffalo School of Law, where she taught a course on New York civil practice.

Honors

- Listed, Best Lawyers in America (Litigation Securities) 2023 2024
- Distinguished Alumni Award for Community Service, University at Buffalo School of Law, 2022

The Guaranty Building 140 Pearl Street Suite 100 Buffalo, NY 14202

New York City 605 Third Avenue Suite 2300 New York City, NY 10158 212.751.4300

Practices & Industries

Business Litigation

Intellectual Property Litigation

Accountant Professional

Class Action Litigation

Financial Services

Non-Compete, Non-Solicit & Trade Secrets

Securities/Directors & Officers Litigation

Admissions

New York

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York

U.S. District Court, Northern District of New York

U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York

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- Listed, Top 25 Women Upstate New York Super Lawyers (Business Litigation)
 2022 2023
- Listed, Upstate New York Super Lawyers (Business Litigation) 2011 2023
- Community Leader Honoree, The National Federation for Just Communities of WNY, Inc., 2019
- Buffalo Business First/Buffalo Law Journal's Legal Elite of Western New York, 2014 -2016, 2018
- Leadership Award, Minority Bar Association of Western New York, 2018
- Women Who Move the City Award, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Erie, Niagara & The Southern Tier, 2018
- Distinguished Alumnus Award, University at Buffalo School of Law, Students of Color, 2017
- Western District of New York Federal Court Special Service Award, 2015
- Erie County Bar Association Volunteer Lawyers Project Pro Bono Award for Federal Court, 2014
- Former publications editor, Buffalo Law Review
- Adolf Homburger Award for excellence in civil procedure

Experience

Hodgson Russ represented a commercial bank in litigation charging a global investment bank and certain of its affiliates with securities fraud in connection with the sale of mortgage-backed CDO notes. Our client asserted that the global investment bank knew that the notes, which were largely backed by subprime mortgage securities, were about to fail when it sold them, but failed to disclose that information. The suit resulted in a \$55 million publicly reported settlement.

Successfully defended and obtained dismissal of multiple federal court class actions alleging violations of New York's Public Health Law, including decisions from New York's highest court on novel legal issues.

Obtained early dismissal of class action in the Eastern District of New York alleging consumer fraud and breach of fiduciary duty.

Negotiated favorable settlement of a class action in the Western District of New York claiming consumer fraud and violations of New York statutes related to mortgage releases.

U.S. District Court, Western District of New York

U.S. Court of Appeals, Second Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit

Education

Hamilton College, B.A., cum laude

University at Buffalo School of Law, J.D., magna cum laude



Managed multiple shareholder lawsuits in state and federal courts in New York and Pennsylvania seeking to block a corporate acquisition and negotiated and supervised resolution of all cases.

Resolved multiple non-competition claims on behalf of an employer in the medical industry.

Negotiated voluntary withdrawal of class allegations in the Southern District of New York claiming breach of contract and New York statutory violations.

Obtained restraining order against an energy client's former employee who directly competed and used confidential business information.

In the News

Federal Trade Commission will ban most non-compete clauses in employment contracts Spectrum News, April 29, 2024

Thought Leaders: Banking Buffalo Business First, July 18, 2019

Buffalo Law Firms Aim to Make Inclusion Commonplace Buffalo Law Journal, May 20, 2019

Highlights of CARDD's 2018 Inclusion & Diversity Initiatives January 15, 2019

Hodgson Russ Habitat for Humanity Women Build Team WIVB, May 8, 2018

Inclusive Intelligence Session Provides Vibrant Dialogue Buffalo Law Journal & Business First, November 16, 2016

Press Releases

55 Hodgson Russ LLP Attorneys Named to 2023 Upstate New York Super Lawyers List August 23, 2023

83 Hodgson Russ LLP Attorneys Ranked in 2024 Edition of Best Lawyers in America August 17, 2023

Fifty-Nine Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2022 Edition of Upstate New York Super Lawyers Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 23, 2022

71 Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2023 Edition of Best Lawyers in America Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 19, 2022



Fifty-Four Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2021 Edition of Upstate New York Super Lawyers Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 20, 2021

Sixty-Two Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named to 2020 Upstate New York Super Lawyers Hodgson Russ Press Release, September 8, 2020

Publications

Supreme Court Resolves Split Among The Circuits: No Time Limits on Monetary Recovery for any Timely Copyright Infringement Claim

Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, May 15, 2024

FTC Adopts Rule Banning Most Non-Competes and the Legal Slugfest Begins Hodgson Russ Non-Compete, Non-Solicit, and Trade Secrets Alert, April 24, 2024

The Battle After Warhol: Tattoos as Artwork or Infringement? Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, April 24, 2024

AI Lawsuit May Eclipse Claims of Fair Use Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, April 5, 2024

Music Copyrights on a Roll – Read and Listen to Hear the Latest Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, October 6, 2023

Taco Bell Throws Its Hat in the Ring to Free "Taco Tuesday" from Trademark Protection Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, May 30, 2023

Copyright Claims of Cosmetic Company Continue to Trial Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, March 23, 2023

FTC Takes Direct Aim at Employee Non-Compete Agreements
Hodgson Russ Non-Compete, Non-Solicit, and Trade Secrets Alert, January 6, 2023

Court Ruling Simplifies Service Upon Foreign Trademark Infringers Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Litigation Alert, December 20, 2022

Fortnite Crushes Choreographer's Copyright Claims Hodgson Russ Intellectual Property Alert, November 28, 2022

Presentations & Events

Hodgson Russ Sponsors MBAWNY Annual Fall Brunch Minority Bar Association of Western New York, The Lafayette Hotel, November 4, 2023



Intellectual Property Protection & Enforcement Webinar Series April 20, May 25, and June 22, 2023

Diversity & Inclusion Initiatives in the Legal Profession New York State Bar Association, Hilton Garden Inn Buffalo Downtown, May 13, 2019

Streamlining Litigation: Views from the Bench in Upstate New York 200 Delaware Ave, Suite 900, November 28, 2018

Business Solutions Series - Strategies for Patent Prosecution and Disputes Hodgson Russ, 140 Pearl St, Buffalo, NY, March 21, 2018

2017 Summer Tax Series
Understanding New York State Tax Issues of 2017
The Harvard Club 35 W. 44th Street New York, NY, June 7 to August 2, 2017

Optimizing Your Cross-Border Business: Trends in Cross-Border Business Structuring and Operations Oakville, ON, September 24, 2015

National Association of Women Lawyers' Sixth Annual General Counsel Institute New York, NY, November 1, 2010

Electronic Discovery Issues for School Districts Hodgson Russ, Buffalo, NY, March 31, 2010

In-House Counsel Briefing: Protecting Privilege in the Corporate Setting Hodgson Russ, Buffalo, NY, September 24, 2009

Professional Affiliations

- New York State Bar Association
- Bar Association of Erie County

Community & Pro Bono

Jody serves as the Vice President on the Board of Directors for Buffalo Prep. She also serves on the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee for Habitat for Humanity Buffalo. Jody is a volunteer for the Western District of New York Pro Se Assistance Program, St. Luke's Mission of Mercy, Habitat for Humanity, and Girls Rule the Law. Jody is also a longtime mentor and mentor coordinator for Discover Law, University at Buffalo School of Law.