

STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL

Companies across a range of industries, as well as individuals, increasingly face aggressive enforcement tactics by state attorneys general (AGs). From environmental actions to consumer protection cases and allegations of fraud or false claims, government officials have mounted highly coordinated state-level and multistate investigations and litigation attempting to leverage the powers and tools of each state AG. These investigations have targeted virtually every major industry, including financial markets, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, health care, consumer products, retail, energy, technology and communications, among others.

Armstrong Teasdale's State AG practice includes lawyers and government relations professionals with significant experience responding to actions brought by state AGs and government agencies across the United States, as well as experience holding significant roles within those offices and other state-level regulatory agencies. This experience gives them insight into the functions and operations of these agencies, enabling them to work with officials to favorably resolve matters for clients and establish programs to achieve and maintain regulatory compliance.

COORDINATED TEAMS WITH RELEVANT EXPERIENCE IN MULTIPLE AREAS

Armstrong Teasdale has a deep bench of multidisciplinary lawyers with relevant, in-depth experience across a number of practices. This means we can quickly assemble a nimble, targeted team of professionals tailored to the specific nature of the action a client may face. Such matters can focus on complex regulatory issues; environmental enforcement actions; consumer protection investigations and litigations; criminal investigations and litigation; cybersecurity and data privacy issues; state False Claims Act investigations and litigation; just to name a few.

Working collaboratively across practice areas, our team provides support to clients in areas including:

1. **Affirmative Outreach and Government Relations:** Lawyers in the firm's Government Relations and Public Policy practice have significant experience representing and advocating for clients before agencies at all levels of government. In addition, they collaborate with a bipartisan team of professionals in Armstrong Teasdale subsidiary AT Government Strategies LLC to promote client interests in legislation and provide counsel on lobbying issues.
2. **Investigations, Litigation and Regulatory Compliance:** Our lawyers routinely assist clients who come under scrutiny from a state AG's office in connection with consumer protection matters, criminal investigations/prosecutions, false claims act cases and many other enforcement or regulatory inquiries. Our skilled litigators are adept at conducting comprehensive internal investigations, advising clients on complex compliance issues, and aggressively defending against enforcement actions initiated by a state AG's office.
3. **Data Privacy and Information Security:** The ever-changing landscape of data protection and privacy laws has become an area of significant government scrutiny. Armstrong Teasdale's privacy and data security lawyers advise companies across a wide range of industries on cybersecurity, data privacy and information security matters that fall within the jurisdiction of state AGs. We conduct data breach counseling, assist clients in navigating the complex data breach notification process, and help navigate clients through government regulatory and enforcement inquiries into a variety of data privacy and information security issues.

EXPERIENCE

**Antitrust Case Involving Agriculture**

Represented a multibillion-dollar company against antitrust claims brought by three putative classes, numerous direct-action plaintiffs and various state attorneys general.

Counsel to Expert Witness in Multistate Data Breach Settlement

Advised an expert witness for U.K.-based insurance companies in a case brought in the U.K. courts by the insurers in connection with a multistate data breach enforcement action where the personal information of millions of consumers was exposed. Counsel was provided in regard to U.S. law concerning Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, the data breach and data security statutes of the 40 states whose attorneys general filed complaints, and the potential insurability of penalties in each of the states. The settlement reached in the case was due in large part to the insurability analysis, which was key during negotiations.

Secured Motion to Dismiss in Illinois Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act Case

Secured motion to dismiss with prejudice in Cook County Chancery Court for the client, a pharmaceutical company, in an action brought by the Illinois Attorney General against various manufacturers and distributors. The plaintiff alleged that the defendants had created a public nuisance and violated the Illinois Consumer Fraud and Deceptive Business Practices Act, and that the distributors had failed to properly examine and report suspicious orders of opioid medications.

Antitrust Case Involving Multibillion-Dollar Agriculture Company and Food Processor

Represented a multibillion-dollar agriculture and food processing company against antitrust claims brought by three putative classes, numerous direct-action plaintiffs and various state attorneys general.