

BERKOWITZOLIVER



Jocelyn A. Villanueva

Partner

816.627.0218
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Assistant:
Kathy Kreutziger
816.627.0227

Practice Areas

Accounting & Professional
Liability
Business Litigation
Class Action Defense
Employment

Professional Profile

Jocelyn's practice focus is in complex commercial litigation, including accountant and professional liability, employment, ERISA denial of benefits litigation and class action defense. She has managed and executed all aspects of litigation from the initial pleadings, to expert discovery and through trial and appeals. She has successfully tried cases in federal and state courts and handled regulatory/enforcement matters before government agencies and state professional boards.

Representative highlights include:

- won favorable interpretation of PCAOB privilege under 15 U.S.C. § 7215(b)(5)(A) on behalf of Big Four audit firm (Bennett, et al. v. Sprint, 2012 WL 4829312)
- denial of class certification in putative class action asserting federal and California claims against national mortgage lender
- defense verdict in multi-week jury trial on Title VII, Section 1981 and Minnesota claims against Fortune 100 company
- successful defense of individual professionals and national accounting firm before board of accountancy
- motions to exclude opposing expert and for summary judgment granted in Sherman Act case against automobile manufacturer; affirmed by Eighth Circuit
- prevailed on electronic discovery motion to compel seeking restoration, search and extraction from over 800,000 gig of ESI
- successful defense and dismissal of professional negligence lawsuit on tax strategies and alleged IRS "listed transactions"
- obtained "no further action" determination in AICPA investigation on engagement by government contractor

Distinctions

Received athletic scholarship to NCAA Div. I program (field hockey); Team Captain; Academic All American; First Team All Big Ten.

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Professional Memberships

American Bar Association; Class Actions & Derivative Suits
Committee
Missouri Bar Association
Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association

Education

Georgetown University (J.D., 1992)
*Member of the *International Environmental Law Review*

Northwestern University (B.A.) *summa cum laude*
*Phi Beta Kappa (elected junior year)
*Athletic scholarship recipient
*First Team All Big Ten Conference
*Academic All American

Admissions & Qualifications

Missouri, 1992
U.S. District Court, Western District of Missouri
U.S. District Court, District of Kansas
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit