

# ADVOCATES FOR JUSTICE

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA • LOS ANGELES • SEATTLE • NEW YORK



## CPM REPRESENTS VICTIMS OF THE 2025 EATON FIRE IN LOS ANGELES

CPM represents many victims of the Eaton Fire, which tore through Altadena on January 7, 2025. The fire began at the base of high-voltage transmission lines owned by Southern California Edison that traverse Eaton Canyon in the San Gabriel Mountains. The fire burned over 14,000 acres, destroyed over 9,000 structures, and took the lives of seventeen people. The case is being handled by **Frank Pitre, Gary Praglin, Duffy Magilligan, Kelly Weil, Carlos Urzua, Andrew Britton, Alexa Adalian** and team.

## CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL NON-PROFITS PROSECUTE EXXON'S CREATION OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC POLLUTION



CPM represents a coalition of non-profit environmental organizations, including the **Surfrider Foundation, the Sierra Club, Heal the Bay, and San Francisco Baykeeper** against ExxonMobil ("Exxon"), the world's largest producer of single-use plastic polymers. The non-profits allege in the complaint that Exxon systematically led the public to believe that single-use plastic waste is easily and safely disposable via recycling, incineration, or landfills when, in reality, plastic persists in the environment for years, leaking toxic chemicals that are known to harm the environment. CPM continues to prosecute this action on behalf of all Californians. The case is being handled by **Niall McCarthy, Tyson Redenbarger, Grace Park** and team.



## CPM Files Lawsuit Against Roblox and Discord Over Child Exploitation Allegations

CPM filed a major lawsuit against tech companies Roblox Corp. and Discord, Inc. for their roles in allegedly facilitating the sexual exploitation of children online. The suit was filed on behalf of a thirteen-year-old child who was targeted by a predator. The lawsuit alleges that Roblox and Discord enable dangerous child predators to hunt, groom, and sexually exploit children on their apps, and that Roblox and Discord's pervasive misrepresentations about safety lull parents into believing their apps are safe places for children. The case is being handled by **Anne Marie Murphy, Nazy Fahimi** and **Pierce Stanley**.

## CPM Pursues Claims Against Elon Musk For Manipulating Market Price on Twitter Purchase

CPM and **Bottini & Bottini Inc.** serve as co-lead counsel representing Twitter shareholders against Elon Musk for allegedly manipulating the market price of Twitter stock to attempt to renegotiate his deal to purchase the company. The suit alleges that Musk's false statements and tweets depressed Twitter's stock price and damaged shareholders who sold their Twitter shares at artificially low prices. The case seeks damages for Twitter's selling shareholders. On September 27, 2024, the Court certified Plaintiffs' class claims under Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 against Elon Musk. The case is being handled by **Joe Cotchett, Mark Molumphy, Tyson Redenbarger, Gia Jung, Caroline Yuen** and team.



## CPM FINALIZES \$4 BILLION GLOBAL SETTLEMENT FOR MAUI FIRE VICTIMS



CPM's **Frank Pitre, Nabilah Hossain, Duffy Magilligan, Andrew Britton** and **Cynthia Wong** led a team of law firms, who recently secured a historic tentative global settlement of \$4.037 billion for the victims of the August 2023 Maui wildfires. This settlement, reached within one year, is unprecedented and allows affected individuals to rebuild their lives quickly. CPM led the negotiations on behalf of all individual plaintiffs to reach the tentative agreement after more than four months of mediation. Under the proposed settlement, Hawaiian Electric Industries will pay \$1.99 billion, Kamehameha Schools \$872.5 million, and the state of Hawaii approximately \$800 million. Additional defendants will contribute between \$300-\$400 million. The settlement is an agreement in principle and includes a condition requiring the resolution of insurance subrogation claims. The Lahaina Fire destroyed over 2,000 structures and claimed the lives of at least 102 people.

# MAJOR NEW FILINGS



## CPM Files Multiple Lawsuits Against Operators of Moss Landing Battery Plant

CPM filed multiple lawsuits in the Northern District of California on behalf of individuals and businesses in Moss Landing, including beloved local restaurant the Haute Enchilada, in response to a series of fires originating at the Moss Landing Power Plant in the Plant's battery energy storage facilities. The battery facilities in question are operated by Texas-based Vistra Corporation. The suits allege that the battery storage facilities were unsafely constructed, leading to the predictable result of fires spewing toxic smoke and material into the surrounding communities. As alleged in the suit, many people in the community are experiencing significant health symptoms and businesses are losing business. Property owners in the surrounding area are also concerned that the incident and future risks have diminished their property values. The case is being handled by CPM's **Joe Cotchett, Dave Hollenberg, Blair Kittle, Caroline Yuen** and team.

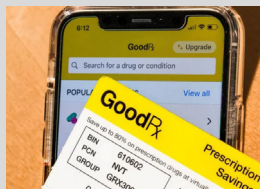
## CPM Appointed to Plaintiff's Steering Committee for Consumer Vehicle Driving Data Collection Litigation



The Court has appointed CPM partner **Thomas Loeser** to the Plaintiff's Steering Committee in the Consumer Vehicle Driving Data Collection MDL in Atlanta. In this role he joins a team of attorneys who will lead this important case.

The case involves General Motors and its OnStar service which has been collecting detailed information about driving habits from vehicle owners including the time, duration and location of trips, the frequency of hard braking and high acceleration, close calls, and more. GM has admitted selling this information to data brokers, who in turn have sold it to insurance companies which used the information to increase people's rates and/or cancel insurance. The case is being handled by **Tom Loeser, Karin Swope, Vara Lyons, Ellen Wen, Jacob Alhadeff** and team.

## CPM Files Complaint on Behalf of Independent Pharmacies Against Benefits Managers



CPM and co-counsel have filed a class action on behalf of independent pharmacies against GoodRx and Pharmacy Benefits Managers ("PBMs") defendants for allegedly agreeing not to compete with each other for pharmacies' business, and instead sharing their confidential reimbursement information with each other and agreeing to pay pharmacies the lowest reimbursement rate, thereby enabling them to suppress payments to independent pharmacies and keep more for themselves, leaving independent pharmacies no choice but to accept the anticompetitive pricing since the PBM defendants control nearly two-thirds of the market for prescription transactions. For CPM, this case is being handled by **Adam Zapala, Elizabeth Castillo, Christian Ruano** and team.

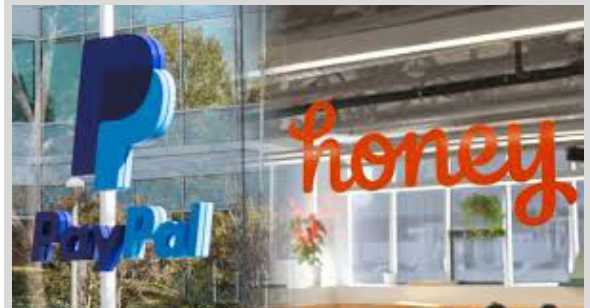
## Lawsuit Filed Against Real Estate Developers Ken Mattson and Tim LeFever and their Company for Fraud Against Investors



Three major California Law Firms filed a class action lawsuit in the Northern District of California on behalf of investors across the United States who invested in the various investment properties owned by the real estate corporation

LeFever Mattson, Inc., founded by Kenneth Mattson and Timothy LeFever. The suit alleges that they used a "complex web of corporate entities" to effectuate one of the largest real estate investment schemes in Northern California to deprive investors of their savings. LeFever Mattson, Inc. tricked investors into believing that their investments were sound by promising and making consistent payments of interest. Multiple associated entities have been forced into bankruptcy. The class action case is pending in front of Judge Jon Tigar of the Northern District. The case is being handled by CPM's **Joe Cotchett, Blair Kittle, Vasti Montiel** and team.

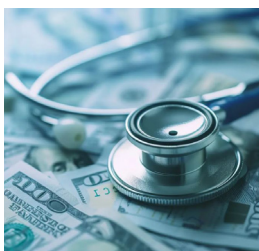
## CPM Appointed Co-Lead Counsel in PayPal/Honey Online Commission Stealing Case



The court appointed CPM partner **Nanci Nishimura** to co-lead this case concerning the Honey browser extension which purports to offer shoppers discounted prices and cash back for online purchases. Undisclosed is the fact that Honey systematically replaces the affiliate codes of online content creators and steals commissions creators should have earned by referring the shopper to the merchant website for the purchase. This case is one of a series of cases concerning browser extensions stealing commissions. The case is being led by **Nanci Nishimura** along with **Tom Loeser, Karin Swope, Brian Danitz, Jacob Alhadeff** and team.



## MAJOR CASES UPDATE



### Department of Justice Obtains Pre-Judgment Writs of Attachment to Prevent Dissipation

CPM represents three whistleblowers who sued LabQ Clinical Diagnostics, Inc. and its CEO Moshe Landau for fraudulently overbilling the federal program that reimbursed health care providers for COVID-19 testing during the pandemic. Following CPM's investigation, the U.S. Government intervened in the lawsuit, which occurs in only about 15 percent of federal whistleblower cases. To prevent dissipation of the proceeds, the U.S. government and CPM additionally obtained pre-judgment writs of attachment to approximately 86 properties owned by 33 LLCs and a trust controlled by Landau. The case is being handled by **Niall McCarthy, Grace Park, Kevin Boutin, Zachary Zaharoff** and team.

### Class Action Lawsuit For Animal Abuse Against Healthy Spot Finally Disburses Settlement Funds



CPM has disbursed settlement funds to Class Members in the long-running Class Action against Healthy Spot, a pet supply chain with stores throughout California. The case arose from grooming injuries to dogs at multiple Healthy Spot locations during a two year period. The \$725,000.00 settlement was distributed to dog owners whose dogs were killed, seriously injured or claimed minor injuries as a result of grooming at Healthy Spot. The case was handled by **Gary Praglin, Theresa Vitale** and team in the CPM Santa Monica office.

### CPM Represents Victims of the McKinney Fire - Siskiyou County -



CPM is preparing for trial for the McKinney Fire, which began on July 29, 2022 in Siskiyou County. The McKinney Fire was ignited when vegetation contacted high-voltage electric distribution lines owned and operated by Pacifi-Corp, an electric utility serving residents of Northern California. The McKinney Fire caused the deaths of four people, injured many others, burned over 60,000 acres, and destroyed 185 structures, including approximately 90 homes in Siskiyou County. CPM is leading the effort to hold PacifiCorp accountable. The case is being handled by **Frank Pitre, Nabilah Hossain, Duffy Magilligan** and **Andrew Britton**.

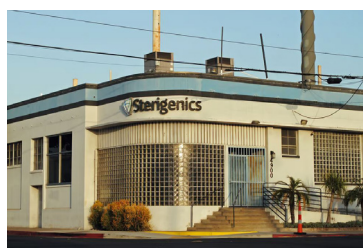
### Ethiopian Airlines Boeing Crash Trial Set



Wrongful death trials are set to begin in Chicago this April and July on behalf of the families of victims of the Boeing 737 MAX 8 airplane crash in Ethiopia in March 2019. The crash was caused by Boeing's defective MCAS flight controls system which dove the airplane to the ground, killing 157 people. The jury will determine the amount of compensation owed to the families for the loss of their loved ones. The case is being handled by CPM's **Frank Pitre, John Thyken, Nabilah Hossain** and **Andrew Britton** with co-counsel.

## ENVIRONMENTAL & POLLUTION CASES UPDATE

### CPM Files on Behalf of Maywood Residents in Los Angeles County for Exposure to Cancer Causing Ethylene Oxide



CPM filed suit on behalf of Maywood, CA residents for their decades long exposure to the potent carcinogen Ethylene Oxide. The case is against Sterigenics and other

Defendants for emitting Ethylene Oxide from their sterilization facility into the neighborhood, poisoning unknowing residents and causing breast, stomach, and blood cancers. The lawsuit seeks an injunction to stop Sterigenics from polluting above health-protective limits, compensation for illness and death caused by cancer, and punitive damages. The case is being handled out of the CPM Santa Monica office by **Gary Praglin, Kelly Weil, Theresa Vitale, Alexa Adalian** and team.

### CPM Leads the Carson Dominguez Channel Lawsuit Continues in Los Angeles



CPM is lead counsel for thousands of plaintiffs in the Carson Dominguez Channel litigation pending in Los Angeles County Superior Court. The case arises from the Fall 2021 release of foul smelling Hydrogen Sulfide gas from the Dominguez Channel in the city of Carson and surrounding communities. The Complaint alleges the toxic stench formed as a result of various industrial releases into the Channel, and the resulting Hydrogen Sulfide gas enveloped local communities in a sickening smell that lasted for nearly eight weeks. Local residents became sick and many had to evacuate from their homes. The case is currently set for trial in October, 2025, but is expected to continue for years due to its size and complexity. Claims are being made against Warehouse Owners, Warehouse Tenants, Marathon Oil, and the County of Los Angeles, who maintains the Dominguez Channel. The case is being handled by **Gary Praglin, Kelly Weil, Theresa Vitale** and team in the CPM Santa Monica office.

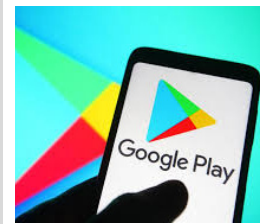
# BUSINESS FRAUD & ANTITRUST CASES UPDATE

## CPM to Lead Shale Oil Case Alleging Price-Fixing Conspiracy Between OPEC and U.S. Producers



CPM's **Karin Swope** was appointed co-lead of the Shale Oil Antitrust Litigation in New Mexico, and the CPM team, including **Joe Cotchett**, **Adam Zapala** are litigating this price-fixing case against the 10 largest shale oil producers in the United States. The case is brought by retailers and wholesale purchases of gas and allege a price-fixing conspiracy between OPEC and with U.S. shale oil producers. It is alleged that OPEC joined with U.S. shale oil producers in recent years to bring them into the cartel of gasoline producers to lower supply to artificially inflate the cost of gas in violation of Federal and State antitrust and consumer protection laws. This multi-district case has been transferred to the District Court in New Mexico.

## CPM's Antitrust Case Against Google Reaches Agreement In Principle To Settle



CPM serves on the Plaintiffs' Steering Committee on behalf of plaintiffs who purchased and paid Google

for applications ("apps") through the Google Play Store. Consumers are alleged to have overpaid or otherwise suffered economic losses due to Google's monopolization of the market. In September 2023 Consumer Plaintiffs and Google reached an agreement in principle to settle the case, after many months of mediation. The agreement in principle specifies that Google will pay approximately \$700 million to reimburse consumers for their allegedly inflated app purchases. **Nanci Nishimura** is on the Steering Committee and has been handling the case along with **Joe Cotchett**, **Adam Zapala**, **Karin Swope** and team.

## CPM is Co-Lead Counsel in Tires Price Fixing Case in Ohio



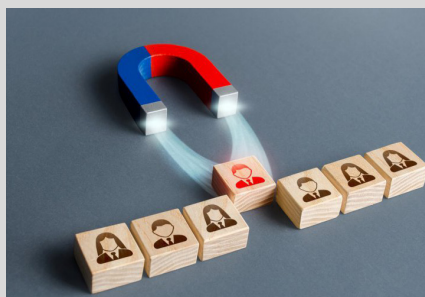
CPM was named co-lead counsel for a class of end-payor plaintiffs who purchased replacement tires in which defendants allegedly engaged in a conspiracy to unlawfully fix, artificially raise, maintain and/or stabilize prices, rig bids for, and allocate the market in the United States for replacement tires. This case is pending in the Northern District of Ohio. This case is being managed by **Adam Zapala**, **Elizabeth Castillo**, **Christian Ruano** and team.

## CPM Recovers Money for Restaurants in the Chicken Case in Illinois Federal Court



In advance of the scheduled trial, CPM, along with their co-counsel, recovered substantial additional money for a class of restaurants that alleged they paid too much for chicken based on a price-fixing conspiracy. These settlements are subject to final approval by the Court and, if approved, would end the litigation. Previously, along with their co-counsel, CPM obtained over \$100 million in settlements on behalf of their restaurant clients. CPM is extremely pleased with the result in this case. The case is being handled by **Adam Zapala** and team.

## No Poaching Case Against Geisinger and Evangelical Health Systems Proceeds in Ohio Federal Court



CPM's "no poaching" case against Geisinger and Evangelical has reached settlements in principle with both Defendants. CPM and its co-counsel allege that Geisinger and Evangelical—two competing medical providers in the central Pennsylvania region—conspired to limit competition for healthcare workers by agreeing not to actively recruit each other's employees. The Court previously sided with

the Plaintiffs, refusing to dismiss the case. The parties have completed fact discovery and exchanged expert reports regarding the economic damage caused by the alleged agreement. This case is being handled by **Adam Zapala**, **Elizabeth Castillo** and team.

## CPM's John Deere Case Proceeds in Illinois Court



CPM's antitrust litigation against John Deere on behalf of our nation's farmers proceeds after an Illinois Court refused to dismiss the case. The District Court sided with CPM'S farmers for their "right to repair" on virtually all of the arguments. Specifically, the Court commended Lead Counsel and CPM's attorneys, stating in its Order: "The presentations were stellar in form and substance and extremely helpful. All counsel were outstanding advocates for their clients. The Court commends them for their presentations . . . ." **Adam Zapala** argued the case for the Plaintiffs. At CPM, this case is being managed by **Adam Zapala**, **Elizabeth Castillo**, **Christian Ruano** and team.



# CONSUMER CASES UPDATE



## CPM FILES COMPLAINT AGAINST HEALTH INSURANCE COMPANY - ZELIS

**CPM** has filed a class action case against a group of companies, collectively known as “Zelis,” as well as against a group of other private, commercial health insurance companies. Defendants allegedly formed, worked to preserve, and successfully concealed a conspiracy designed to suppress payments made to healthcare service providers performing services on an out-of-network basis, thus having an effect of permitting Zelis and its co-conspirators to reap windfall profits from healthcare professionals. The conspiracy at issue concerns the alleged unlawful agreement, communication, coordination, and information sharing associated with collusively depressing and setting payments for out-of-network healthcare services, euphemistically known as “repricing.” This case is being handled by **Adam Zapala, Elizabeth Castillo** and **Christian Ruano**.

## CPM Wins Arbitration Fight Against Elder Care Giant Over Tragic Death of Elderly Woman

**CPM** is pursuing justice on behalf of the children of Ruth Zadesky against a residential elder care giant, Atria. Ruth lost her life tragically at Atria Park of Lafayette, which she had been transferred to just weeks prior, in order to receive what Atria promised to be the highest level of care. Yet, after promising Ruth’s children that she would never be left unaccompanied outside the facility, Atria employees left Ruth alone in the Atria lobby in her motorized wheelchair and permitted her to wander out of the facility unaccompanied into a parking lot, where she fell off a curb and suffered a massive brain hemorrhage. While Atria was quick to raise the price of Ruth’s care, they continuously failed to provide her with basic care as her health declined due to the fall. Ruth died as a result of her injuries a month after the fall. Ruth’s children are seeking justice for Atria’s conduct, which caused the life ending fall, and for its failure to provide adequate care to their mother prior to her death. CPM just won a major victory in court, keeping this case out of arbitration. Defendants will have to face a jury. The case is being handled by **Niall McCarthy, Nazy Fahimi** and **Zack Zaharoff**.

## CPM Seeks Class Certification in Lawsuit against Tesla for Misleading the Public about Tesla’s Autopilot/Full Self-Driving Technology



Following on the US District Court for the Northern District of California’s rejection of automaker Tesla, Inc.’s attempt to obtain dismissal of **CPM’s** putative class action lawsuit, CPM is pursuing fact discovery and preparing to ask the Court to certify a class of consumers who paid Tesla for enhanced autopilot and full self-driving technology packages for their Tesla vehicles. Among other things, the lawsuit is moving forward on theories that Tesla’s representations that its vehicles have all the hardware necessary to be full self-driving, as well as Elon Musk’s repeated assertion that Tesla vehicles would soon be able to drive themselves from coast-to-coast, are false or misleading. The case is being handled by **Frank Pitre, Julie Fieber, Tom Loeser, Makena Kershaw** and team.

## CPM Represents Marina del Rey Residents in Los Angeles County for Uninhabitable Apartments



**CPM** continues to litigate a lawsuit on behalf of 125 Marina del Rey residents for a month-long gas outage at a luxury apartment complex owned by real estate giant, Equity Residential. The case alleges that a forty-five million dollar renovation at Equity’s sprawling Pearl Apartments caused a sudden gas outage impacting hundreds of residents during Winter months. Tenants were given no advance notice that their hot water and laundry would be shut off. The case is pending in Los Angeles County Superior Court and is being handled by **Gary Praglin, Carlos Urzua** and **Theresa Vitale** and team in the CPM Santa Monica office.



## CPM Leads Pay-to-Play Fraud Case for San Mateo County Community College District

**CPM** represents the San Mateo County Community College District in one of the largest pay-to-play fraud cases in California. As alleged, the District’s former chancellor, Ron Galatolo, engaged in a corrupt scheme to direct hundreds of millions of dollars in taxpayer bond funds to favored contractors including the defendants in the District’s lawsuit. Galatolo has since been criminally indicted on allegations that he solicited gifts, including travel, concert and sports tickets, free professional work, and lavish meals, in return for awarding lucrative construction and professional services contracts. As alleged, the District seeks to recover from the defendant contractors the amounts they received as part of the corrupt scheme whereby they quietly funneled lavish gifts to the Chancellor and others to win massive contracts. California Government Code section 1090 prohibits the award of contracts if a qualified official (such as a community college chancellor) is financially interested in the award of the contract. CPM has already prevailed in court on several pivotal motions, including the defeat of a motion for summary judgment. The case is being handled by **Niall McCarthy, Anne Marie Murphy, Sarvenaz Fahimi, Zack Zaharoff** and **David Hollenberg**.

# DATA BREACH CASES UPDATE



## CPM Appointed Co-Lead Counsel in Health Equity Data Breach Case

CPM's **Tom Loeser** was appointed to co-lead this case concerning a health information data breach of a Health Savings Account provider based in Utah. The case involves a massive data breach disclosed by HealthEquity that may have disclosed the personal and health information of 4.3 million people. According to its data breach notice filed with Maine's attorney general, HealthEquity said the data may include customer names, addresses, phone numbers, their Social Security number, information about the person's employer and the person's dependent, and some payment card information. The case is being led by **Tom Loeser, Karin Swope, Ellen Wen** and team in the Seattle office.

## CPM Appointed to Plaintiff's Steering Committee for AT&T Data Breach Case



The Court has appointed **CPM** to the Plaintiff's Steering Committee in the AT&T Data Breach MDL in Dallas. CPM joins an elite group of attorneys in a case involving a massive data breach hidden for years and finally disclosed by AT&T. Hackers may have been circulating stolen AT&T customer data as far back as 2021. Criminal hackers that call themselves Shinyhunters were auctioning off an archive containing data on over 70 million AT&T accounts, including full names, email addresses, physical addresses, and at least in some cases, social security numbers and dates of birth. The case is being handled by **Tom Loeser, Karin Swope, Ellen Wen** and team.



## Preliminary Approval Granted in Settlement of MGM Resorts Data Breach Litigation

CPM is on the Plaintiffs' Executive Committee of this data breach case, which was settled along with a prior 2019 data breach case for a combined \$45 million. Class notice has been sent to all class members, who will each be intitled to recover damages based on the nature of their information that was included in the breached data. The settlement is scheduled for a final approval hearing in July. Tom Loeser and team head up the case for CPM.



## Preliminary Approval for Settlement of Rite Aid Data Breach Litigation

CPM's **Thomas Loeser** is co-lead counsel of this data breach case, which has settled for \$6.8 million. Class notice will be sent to all class members beginning in mid-April, who will each be intitled to recover damages based on the nature of their information that was included in the breached data. The settlement is scheduled for a final approval hearing in August.

## CPM Appointed to Plaintiff's Executive Committee for MoneyGram Data Breach Case



The Court has appointed **CPM** to the Plaintiff's Executive Committee in the MoneyGram Data Breach case in Dallas. Tom Loeser will be a lead attorney in this important case, which involves a data breach of payment accounts, including full names, email addresses, physical addresses, and at least in some cases, social security numbers and dates of birth. The case is being handled by **Tom Loeser, Karin Swope, Jacob Alhadeff** and team.

## CPM Appointed Co-Lead Counsel in Hot Topic/Torrid Data Breach Case

CPM was appointed to co-lead this case concerning a data breach of the loyalty and shopper accounts for this nationwide retail chain. The case involves a massive data breach by Hot Topic that may have disclosed the personal information of millions of shoppers. The case is being led by **Tom Loeser, Karin Swope, Vara Lyons** and team in the Seattle office.



## CPM Appointed Co-Lead Counsel in RetailMeNot Online Affiliate Commission Stealing Case

CPM was appointed to co-lead this case concerning the RetailMeNot browser extension which purports to offer shoppers discounted prices and cash back for online purchases. Undisclosed is the fact that RetailMeNot replaces the affiliate codes of online content creators and steals commissions that they should have earned by referring the shopper to the merchant website for the purchase. This case is one of a series of cases concerning browser extensions stealing commissions. The case is being led by **Tom Loeser, Karin Swope, Jacob Alhadeff** and team in the Seattle office.



# DEATH & INJURY CASE UPDATES



## CPM REPRESENT FAMILY IN WRONGFUL DEATH CASE FOLLOWING TRAGIC BART INCIDENT

CPM and Pritzker-Levine represent the family of Corazon Dandan who was tragically killed in July 2024 after being pushed into a BART train by a known gate-jumping criminal with a prior stay-away order from BART. The pusher is facing criminal murder charges. The case is in discovery and motions are pending in San Francisco County Superior Court. **Nanci Nishimura, Nazy Fahimi, Gia Jung & Vasti Montiel** of CPM, and **Bethany Caracuzzo** of Pritzker Levine are running the case.

## CPM Concludes Trial Against Federal Government



CPM completed a two-week trial in the Eastern District of California against the US Federal Government in March 2025. CPM represents a bicyclist who was struck head-on by a US Postal Service truck and sustained lifelong injuries. The federal government disputed liability and the trial featured testimony from over twenty medical experts. The Judge's ruling on liability and damages is expected in the Summer of 2025. The case is being handled by **John Thyken, Duffy Magilligan, Andrew Britton, Makena Kershaw** and team.

## CPM Represents Victims of Half Moon Bay Mass Shooting of Farm Workers



CPM filed wrongful death lawsuits against the owners of the mushroom farm where Chunli Zhao killed four people, and injured one more, on January 23, 2023. CPM has named as defendants the owner of the farm and its related entities that operate mushroom farms throughout the state of California. The lawsuit seeks to hold the owners responsible for the deplorable living conditions provided to their migrant farmworker employees. The case is being handled by **Joe Cotchett, Duffy Magilligan, Andrew Britton** and team.

## CPM PURSUES CLAIMS AGAINST HORNBLOWER GROUP AND ALCATRAZ CRUISES FOR INJURIES TO TOURISTS



CPM is pursuing claims against Hornblower Group and its subsidiary, Alcatraz Cruises, related to injuries sustained by a tourist on one of their ferry boats while in transit to Alcatraz Island. The lawsuit alleges that despite Defendants' duty as common carriers to operate their ships with the utmost care and diligence as to their passengers' safety, they instead negligently, carelessly and recklessly operated the ship in such a manner as to cause it to crash into the dock at Alcatraz Island. As a result, the tourist was thrown from a staircase while descending to disembark, suffering serious and substantial injuries. The case is being handled by CPM attorneys **Julie Fieber, Marissa Hauck** and team.



## CPM Fights for Justice for Orphaned Twin Girls After Parents Killed in High-Speed Street Racing Crash

CPM represents twin girls who were in a car with their parents when it was struck by a teen that was street racing a Mercedes at 100 mph. While the girls survived, both of their parents died at the scene. Despite killing the girls' parents and reckless street racing, the teen that struck the Ammens' vehicle served a limited jail time due to his juvenile status, retained possession of the Mercedes, and lives at home with both his parents. CPM is pursuing a civil lawsuit against the teen, his parents, the other street racer, and multiple passengers that were egging on the drivers to attempt to pursue some justice for the girls and their family members whose loved ones were killed. The case is being handled by **Niall McCarthy, David Hollenberg** and **Zack Zaharoff**.



## CPM Represents Parents' Claims in Saugus High School Shooting Case

CPM has resolved claims brought by the parents of two Saugus High School students killed in a November 4, 2019, on-campus shooting. The suit alleged that the Hart Union High School District had no program in place to identify and intervene with troubled students and missed numerous red flags concerning the suicidal student who committed the murders. The trial court had rejected arguments from the defendant District that it owed no duty to protect students from foreseeable harm by other students on the campus during school hours and the case had been set for trial in early 2025. After extensive negotiation, the parties' were able to reach a settlement of the dispute just weeks before trial was set to start. The case was led by **CPM's Julie Fieber, Duffy Magilligan, Nabilah Hossain, Andrew Britton** and team.



## CPM Resolves Claims by Grandchildren of Woman Killed by Amtrak

CPM has resolved claims raised by the grandchildren of a woman who, while crossing tracks in a designated crossing zone on her way to the main platform of the Fremont train station, was struck and killed by an Amtrak train. The suit alleged that Amtrak and its defendant engineer were negligent in the operation of the train by failing to keep a proper lookout in the crossing zone and failing to slow or control the train to avoid striking and killing pedestrians accessing the adjacent train station. The case was handled by CPM attorney **Julie Fieber** and team.

# SECURITIES & FINANCIAL ACTIONS UPDATE

## Google “Real Time Bidding” Lawsuit Fights for Privacy Rights



CPM along with **Pritzker-Levine** and other co-counsel continue to prosecute this class action to protect privacy rights in the U.S. District Court in Oakland. Plaintiffs allege that Google sells personal information, including browsing history, in Google’s Real Time Bidding auctions for targeted ads billions of times every day, and that Google does this despite its express promise that “Google does not sell your personal information to anyone.” RTB has been described as the biggest data breach the world has ever seen, resulting in detailed profiles of the interests and browsing habits of internet users. The district court previously denied Google’s motion to dismiss as to the majority of plaintiffs’ claims. The case is being handled at CPM by **Brian Danitz, Nanci Nishimura and Karin Swope** and team.

## CPM Seeks to Certify Multiple Classes in EDD Case Against Bank of America



CPM is co-lead counsel with Altshuler Berzon in a multi-district class action against BofA for violating federal and state laws in mishandling its distribution of Californian’s unemployment insurance benefits during the pandemic. CPM alleges that BofA automatically closed claims of unauthorized transactions and froze cardholder accounts, leaving many without access to their benefits for months on end. The bank’s regulators (OCC and CFPB) fined the Bank \$225 million and entered a consent order requiring BofA to provide relief to harmed consumers. The case is being handled at CPM by attorneys **Brian Danitz, Karin Swope, Vasti Montiel** and team.

## CPM represents Shareholder Claims Against Directors For Discriminatory Hiring And Lending Practices



CPM was appointed co-lead counsel in a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California against certain officers and directors of Wells Fargo for their role in the Bank’s allegedly discriminatory hiring and lending practices. The action alleges that the Bank’s management implemented an internal program called the Diverse Search Requirement requiring at least half of all candidates interviewed for high-paying jobs be diverse, with senior-level approval of any exceptions. Instead, as alleged, the Bank conducted fake interviews of racially and ethnically diverse candidates for already filled positions. The suit also alleges that Wells Fargo engaged in discriminatory lending practices, unfairly harming Black and Hispanic borrowers. On September 20, 2024, the Court denied the director defendants’ motion to dismiss allowing this case to proceed. The case is set for trial on April 27, 2026. CPM, Bleichmar, Fonti & Auld, LLP and Motley Rice, LLC serve as co-lead counsel. The case is being handled by **Mark Molumphy, Tyson Redenbarger, Gia Jung** and team.

## \$200 Million Settlement Granted Final Approval In Uber IPO Litigation - San Francisco Federal Court -

CPM represents investors who purchased shares in Uber Technologies, Inc.’s initial public offering in May 2019, alleging that the ride-sharing company’s offering documents misstated the legality of its business model, its passenger safety record, and its financial condition. The defendants include Uber officers, directors and the investment banking firms that acted as underwriters for Uber’s IPO. Last year, the federal court denied the defendants’ motions to dismiss and certified a national class of investors. The Class negotiated a settlement requiring Uber to pay \$200 million to investors. On December 4, 2024, the Court granted final approval of the Settlement. The case is being handled by **Mark Molumphy, Tyson Redenbarger, Gia Jung** and team.





## INTRODUCING NEW CPM ATTORNEYS



### ALEXA ADALIAN

Alexa joined CPM as an Associate. She earned her J.D. from The George Washington University Law School and received her B.A. in Global Studies from The University of California, Los Angeles. Her practices include Consumer Protection Class Actions, Mass Torts, Wrongful Death, False Claims/Whistleblower Law, Privacy & Intellectual Property and Securities/Financial Fraud.



### MARISSA HAUCK

Marissa joined CPM as an Associate. She earned her J.D. from University of California College of the Law, San Francisco and graduated from University of California, Davis where she majored in economics and minored in Spanish. Her practices include Mass Torts, Wrongful Death, Sexual Abuse, Product Liability and Complex Civil Litigation.



### CHRISTINA ISAGHOLIAN

Christina joined CPM as a Senior Associate. She earned her J.D. from University of California College of the Law, San Francisco and received her B.A. from the University of Southern California. Her practices include various Class Actions and Qui Tam.



### MAKENA-KALA KERSHAW

Makena joined CPM as an Associate. She earned her J.D. from University of California College of the Law, San Francisco and B.S. from Boston University. Her practices include Sexual Harassment, Personal Injury, Wrongful Death, Product Liability and Mass Torts.

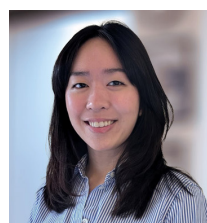


**CAILIN RUFF** joined CPM as an Associate. She earned her J.D. from Loyola Law School and received her B.F.A. from San Francisco Art Institute. Her practices include Consumer Protection Class Actions, Contamination, Toxic Torts, and Environmental Justice, Defective Products/Mass Torts, Environmental Law and Intellectual Property.



### PIERCE STANLEY

Pierce joined CPM as an Associate. He earned his J.D. from University of California College of the Law, San Francisco and received his B.A. in History and Political Science from Columbia University. His practices include Consumer Protection Class Actions, Defective Products/Mass Torts, and Elder Abuse matters.



### CAROLINE YUEN

Caroline joined CPM as an Associate. She earned her law degree from University of Oxford in England. She then moved to the United States to complete a master of laws at University of California, Berkeley. After graduating on the Dean's List, Caroline worked as a senior research fellow at UC Law SF, conducting in-depth legal research on intellectual property law, anticompetition law, and the pharmaceutical industry. Soon after, Caroline was appointed as an Adjunct Professor at UC Law SF, where she co-teaches a seminar on patent law. Her practices include Civil Litigation with a focus on Commercial Litigation, Environmental Law and Consumer Protection.

## INTRODUCING CPM'S NEW PARTNER



**GRACE PARK** specializes in False Claims Act litigation. Prior to joining the firm in 2022, Grace was an **Assistant United States Attorney** for the **Central District of California** investigating and prosecuting whistleblower complaints alleging violations of the federal False Claims Act.

Grace developed her civil investigation and litigation skills from multiple vantage points, representing both plaintiffs and defendants at Big Law, a boutique law firm, and the federal government. She also investigated and litigated what were, at the time, novel issues ranging from regulation of pre-IPO employee stock options transactions, civil and criminal liability arising from the first bank to fail under the Troubled Asset Relief Program, and administrative review under the Medicare Act.

Grace earned her J.D. from Stanford Law School where she served as Articles Editor of the Stanford Law Review, and she clerked for U.S. District Judge Fernando M. Olguin of the Central District of California.

# HONORS FOR CPM ATTORNEYS



## CPM HONORED WITH 15 PARTNERS NAMED AMONG 2025'S TOP PLAINTIFF CONSUMER LAWYERS

CPM is honored to have 15 of our partners selected as The 2025 Lawdragon 500 Leading Plaintiff Consumer Lawyers - **Joe Cotchett, Nazy Fahimi, Julie Fieber, Nabilah Hossain, Tom Loeser, Duffy Magilligan, Niall McCarthy, Mark Molumphy, Anne Marie Murphy, Nanci Nishimura, Gary Praglin, Frank Pitre, Karin Swope, John Thyken and Kelly Weil.** Joe Cotchett and Frank Pitre are among more than 100 esteemed members of the Lawdragon Hall of Fame. The Lawdragon selected the Plaintiff Consumer 500 through our time-honed method combining journalistic research, peer discussion and an ever-growing number of submissions.



### Mark Molumphy Serves on Bay Scholars Board to Support Underserved Bay Area Students

CPM's **Mark Molumphy** serves on the Board of Directors of Bay Scholars, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing scholarships and support to under-resourced high school students in the San Francisco Bay Area. Bay Scholars connects promising youth with transformative educational opportunities at Bay Area Catholic college preparatory high schools, aiming to promote a life-altering experience through education. As a board member, Molumphy contributes his expertise and commitment to community service to advance the organization's mission.

### Joe Cotchett Receives the First Melvin Goldman Award from the Northern District Historical Society



CPM partner **Joe Cotchett** is the first lawyer to receive the Melvin Goldman Award from the Northern District Historical Society for the Northern District Federal Court of California. Goldman spent his career at Morrison & Foerster and was one of the most respected attorneys in his field. Cotchett had many cases against Goldman and the award is dedicated to Cotchett by vote of the NDHS Board for his extraordinary work in litigation and his commitment to his profession and the judicial system.



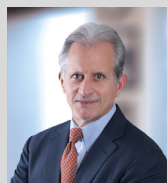
### Julie Fieber Selected to 2025 Lawdragon Green 500

CPM partner **Julie Fieber** has been honored as one of The 2025 Lawdragon 500 Leading Environmental Lawyers - The Green 500. This list honors the lawyers who address our world, whether on behalf of a corporation that delivers energy or an organization that fights for endangered species and to protect open land.

### Elizabeth Castillo Named to Lawdragon's 2025 Global Antitrust 500



CPM partner **Elizabeth Castillo** has been honored as one of The 2025 Lawdragon 500 Leading Global Antitrust & Competition Lawyers. The guide features 500 elite lawyers advocating for a level playing field for corporations and consumers worldwide.



### Frank Pitre Recognized as Top Northern California Lawyer by Super Lawyers

CPM partner **Frank Pitre** was voted the number one lawyer in Northern California by his peers as determined by Super Lawyers due to his commitment and reputation in the practice. Pitre has served as Past President of CAOC, President of the San Francisco Chapter of ABOTA, President of CAL ABOTA and has served as Membership Chair of SF ABOTA for the past 10 years. CPM is proud of his achievement and recognition by Super Lawyers.



### Nanci Nishimura Appointed to Several Commissions for 2025

CPM partner **Nanci Nishimura** has been reappointed to the **Commission on Uniform State Laws** by Governor Gavin Newsom; reappointed to the **Commission** of the **Asian Art Museum** by the S.F. Mayor; **Chair** of Advancement for the **Smithsonian Institution** Traveling Exhibition Services Advisory Board; **Leaders Forum Co-Chair**. She formerly served as **Chair** of the **Commission on Judicial Performance**, and regularly speaks on various panels, most recently at UC Law San Francisco.

### CPM ATTORNEYS HONORED IN 2025 IRISH LEGAL 100

CPM is proud to announce that **Niall McCarthy, Mark Molumphy, Anne Marie Murphy and Duffy Magilligan** were selected to the Irish Legal 100 for 2025. The Irish Legal 100 are individuals from across America including attorneys and members of the judiciary who are of Irish descent and rated in the Top 100 of lawyers and judges.



SELECTED TO IRISH LEGAL 100



# CPM COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

## CPM SANTA MONICA DONATES OVER 200 HYGIENE KITS TO CLIENT-EXONEREE MAURICE HASTINGS' CHARITY FOR DISPLACED ANGELINOS

### MAURICE'S STORY AND WORK BY CPM SANTA MONICA ATTORNEYS



Maurice Hastings, a 69-year-old man who was wrongfully imprisoned for 38 years, was freed on October 20, 2022, after new DNA test results presented by the Los Angeles Innocence Project and California Forensic Science Institute at Cal State LA pointed conclusively to another suspect. No physical evidence linked Hastings to the 1983 robbery-homicide and sexual assault in Inglewood, California, for which he was arrested and convicted; and numerous alibi witnesses attested to his whereabouts during the crime. Prosecutors sought to impose the death penalty following Hastings' guilty verdict, but the jury instead sentenced him to life in prison without the possibility of parole. Biological evidence collected from the victim as part of a sexual assault kit had been preserved but never DNA tested, despite Hastings' repeated requests dating

back decades. Evidence testing produced a new DNA profile that generated a hit when uploaded to the Combined DNA Index System, or CODIS, to a DNA profile linked to a known sex offender of similar physical description to Hastings, who was not previously considered a suspect, and died in prison in 2020 while serving a sentence for kidnapping and rape. Hastings became a CPM client in November 2023. **CPM attorneys Kelly Weil and Theresa Vitale**, in partnership with Neufeld Scheck Brustin Hoffmann & Freudenberger, LLP are currently fighting for justice for Hastings and his family in the Central District of California civil court. Through this litigation, CPM seeks to fairly compensate Hastings and his family for decades of suffering and irreparable harm done. For more information regarding Maurice's case, please visit the following link: <https://www.innocencela.org/maurice-hastings>

### MAURICE HASTINGS' CHARITY AND CPM SANTA MONICA



Maurice Hastings responded to decades spent wrongfully convicted by dedicating his life to service. The nominal sum he received from the state for unjust imprisonment has been allocated to his boots-on-the-ground charity operation whereby Hastings passes out free food, water, and care packages to displaced people across Los Angeles. To expand his project's reach, Hastings has been actively working with other exonerees to provide donations and services to those in need. Inspired by Hastings' altruism and positivity, the CPM Santa Monica office worked together to compile a donation of 200+ hygiene kits to Hastings for disbursement. CPM Santa Monica will continue to work with Hastings and his organization to donate care packages on a regular basis. Our offices are honored to represent and work with such an incredible human being.

## CPM SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS



### Pierce Stanley Speaks at USF Women's Law Association Trailblazing Tea

CPM's **Pierce Stanley** sat on a panel with Professors for the USF Law Women's Law Association Trailblazing Tea event to discuss important topics about the Dobbs Decision, data protection and more. Pierce specializes in consumer litigation.



### Duffy Magilligan Leads Discussion on California Wildfire Litigation in Las Vegas

In April, **CPM** attorneys attend the Mass Torts Made Perfect Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada. **Duffy Magilligan** was a Moderator for the Breakout Session: The California Wildlife Litigation with a panel of lead wildfire litigators. He leads major fire cases in California.



### Niall McCarthy Honored to Speak to State County Councils

On April 10, 2025, **Niall McCarthy** spoke to the **California Association of County Councils** on a variety of ethics and civility topics. The meeting in Monterey included County Councils from across the state of California.

## CPM EVENTS



**2025 International Women's Day Luncheon with California Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis**



**CPM's Santa Monica staff volunteer their time to send out hundreds of post cards to first time voters across the country. The cards and supplies were sponsored by MomsRising.org.**

**CPM's Santa Monica staff attend the Los Angeles County Bar Association Barristers and Young Attorneys Bench Meets Bar Reception.**



**CPM staff attend Asian American Bar Association 2025 Gala**



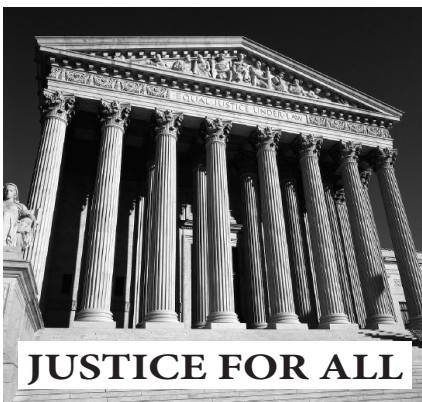
**Niall McCarthy was the MC of Fund-A-Need at the Abilitypath Annual Fundraiser Power of Possibilities Event which was attended by several CPM attorneys and staff members raised money for disabled children and adults.**



## COTCHETT PITRE & MCCARTHY LLP

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***"What are the things that you can't see that are important?  
I would say justice, truth, humility, service, compassion, love...  
They're the guiding lights of a life."***

— Jimmy Carter