



Anthony Paul Coles

Partner

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Anthony Coles is a veteran trial lawyer and litigator. He is recognized as one of the preeminent lawyers in his field, including by The American Lawyer, Corporate Counsel, and Martindale-Hubbell.

He has extensive experience supervising and handling litigation on a global scale. Tony's practice centers on complex commercial and business litigation, including shareholder disputes, international claims, class action defense, and real estate litigation. His practice includes representing companies and their senior management in regulatory investigations, including by state attorneys general, state ethics commissions, and other government agencies.

- Litigation, Arbitration and Investigations
- Corporate
- Tax

Tony has litigated a number of significant matters including:

- Counsel for an international construction conglomerate, in a decision upholding its franchise contract, involving the largest procurement by New York City in its history
- Counsel for a global insurer in class-actions and regulatory investigations concerning the sale of a patented business insurance product
- Counsel for global Chinese real estate company, obtaining dismissal of claims brought in the U.S. for purported violations of international law
- Counsel for a foreign sovereign in an alleged class actions litigation in federal court asserting claims for purported violations of international law, successfully obtained a complete dismissal of the actions in two jurisdictions
- Counsel for an energy company in defending against class action claims arising out of the sale and distribution of fuel oil in the New York metropolitan region
- Counsel for a leading Jordanian Bank in claims brought in the United States arising from purported violations of international law
- Representing a major New York real estate developer in a series of related litigations arising from partnership disputes
- Serving as co-lead counsel for an international banking group in an action against a major auditing firm alleging malpractice in the audit of a customer of the bank as well as in various actions involving the customer
- Counsel for a major entertainment and arena corporation, successfully defending against a regulatory investigation

- Representing bondholders in a complex bankruptcy reorganization
- Co-counsel for a police officer, obtaining acquittal on a murder charge arising in line of duty
- Representing a pharmaceutical manufacturer in both product liability and “market share” trials
- Representing the manufacturer of a heavy construction equipment in products liability trials
- Advising government agencies and private parties on defamation, privacy and First Amendment issues
- Representing public companies and their senior management in investigations by the SEC, state attorneys general, and state ethics commissions

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- New York

Prior Experience

Prior to joining DLA Piper, from 1994 through 2001 Tony served in the Giuliani administration in New York City, including as New York City's Deputy Mayor for Planning, Education and Cultural Affairs. During his time in the Giuliani administration, Tony helped to spearhead the landmark merger of the city's Transit Police and Housing Police into the New York Police department and was responsible for the implementation of major policy initiatives for the mayor, including the city's welfare reform program. He also was responsible for overseeing key aspects of city planning and public improvement, such as the development of Brooklyn Bridge Park and the planned expansion of Lincoln Center. He has also served as one of the mayor's advisors in responding to the September 11 attack on the World Trade Center.

Recognitions

Tony was named one of New York City's Super Lawyers in the area of business litigation by *Law & Politics* magazine, and he is rated AV® by the Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, the highest rating attainable, as well as by Corporate Counsel Magazine and The American Lawyer. Tony is a member of the Bar of the State of New York and the United States Supreme Court and has practiced in numerous jurisdictions throughout the United States.

Education

- J.D., Columbia University 1980
- B.A., Tufts University 1977
summa cum laude
- London School of Economics and Political Science 1976

Other Accomplishments

Tony previously served as an adjunct professor at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. He has authored numerous articles in various media journals and is regularly invited to participate in and speak at high-profile legal and policy-related events. Tony serves on the board of trustees of several prominent educational and cultural organizations in New York City. He also serves on the advisory board of the Center for New York City Law, which is affiliated with New York Law School.