

# Lauren M. Cruz

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Lauren Cruz practices out of the firm's Los Angeles office, where she prosecutes securities fraud, corporate governance, and shareholder rights litigation on behalf of the firm's institutional investor clients.

Since joining the firm in 2019, Lauren has been a key member of the teams that prosecuted and secured over \$1.2 billion in recoveries for investors, including among other matters:

- In re Wells Fargo & Company Securities Litigation (landmark \$1 billion settlement);
- In re Mattel, Inc. Securities Litigation (\$98 million settlement);
- In re Qualcomm Inc. Securities Litigation (pending \$75 million settlement);
- Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi v. Mohawk Industries, Inc. (\$60 million settlement);
- In re Splunk Inc. Securities Litigation (\$30 million settlement);
- In re Impinj, Inc. Securities Litigation (\$20 million settlement);
- In re Merit Medical Systems, Inc. Securities Litigation (\$18.25 million settlement); and
- *Israel Sanchez v. Centene Corp.* (\$7.5 million settlement).

Lauren also serves as the Board President and has served as a board member since 2019 of Mental Health Advocacy Services, a non-profit organization that provides free legal services to people with mental health disabilities in Los Angeles. She is also a member of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles.

Prior to joining BLB&G, Lauren was a litigation associate at Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, where she represented domestic and international clients in complex civil litigation and alternative dispute resolution. She also gained considerable experience advising company boards following internal investigations of shareholder demands. In addition, Lauren's practice included substantial pro bono civil rights class action litigation on behalf of immigration detainees with indicia of mental health disabilities.

### Education

- New York University School of Law, 2014, J.D., Senior Articles Editor, *Journal of Law and Liberty*; Staff Editor, *Environmental Law Journal*
- California State University Channel Islands, 2008, B.S., summa cum laude, Business



# **Admissions**

- California
- U.S. District Court for the Central District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

#### News

- January 24, 2024 BLB&G Announces Elevation of Three Partners and One Senior Counsel
- September 8, 2023 BLB&G Receives Approval of a Landmark \$1 Billion Settlement for Shareholders in Wells Fargo Securities Class Action
- May 16, 2023 BLB&G Secures a Historic \$1 Billion Settlement for Shareholders in Wells Fargo Securities
  Class Action

## **Publications**

- February 7, 2025 Anya Freedman and Lauren Cruz Discuss Implications of Key Pension Plan Governance
  Case LACERA v. County of Los Angeles
- October 2, 2024 Jon Uslaner and Lauren Cruz Discuss the Modernization of PCAOB Rule 3502 in Reuters
- May 26, 2023 BLB&G's Lauren Cruz and Emily Tu Published in ABA Spring 2023 Newsletter
- November 29, 2021 "SEC Whistleblower Program Seeing Renewed Support Under Biden Administration"
  by Jonathan Uslaner and Lauren Cruz Published in Reuters
- October 2019 "About Face? CEO Sea Change on Shareholder Primacy: Good Economics or Decreased Accountability?" by Lauren M. Cruz Published in *The Advocate for Institutional Investors*

#### **Awards**

- May 19, 2023 BLB&G Named a Law360 "Legal Lion of the Week"
- May 19, 2023 BLB&G Named ALM's "Litigator of the Week"

#### **Events**

- March 11, 2022 BLB&G Attorneys Rebecca Boon, Jon Uslaner, and Lauren Cruz Will Present to Berkeley Plaintiffs' Law Association on "Securities Litigation and Social Justice"
- March 2021 Lauren Cruz Speaks at Women Lawyers Association Los Angeles 26th Litigators Forum: Race in the Courtroom