

Donald Houser

Partner

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Donald Houser is a partner in the Litigation & Trial Practice Group. He represents clients in high-stakes litigation throughout the country in both federal and state courts. His clients include Fortune 500 companies in a variety of industries, including health care, technology and consumer products.

Donald focuses his practice on privacy and antitrust litigation. His experience includes developing case strategy, drafting dispositive motions, working with experts and preparing for trial. Donald has defended privacy class action lawsuits involving claims under the Electronic Communications Privacy Act, Computer Fraud and Abuse Act and various related state laws. Donald has also represented clients in antitrust multidistrict litigations with hundreds of millions of dollars at stake. Donald also counsels clients on various privacy and antitrust related issues.

Donald received his law degree, magna cum laude, from Washington & Lee University. He served as the editor-in-chief of the *Washington and Lee Law Review* and was elected to the Order of the Coif. Donald graduated from the University of Virginia, with distinction, earning a degree in economics.

Prior to joining Alston & Bird, Donald served as a law clerk to the Honorable Orinda D. Evans, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Georgia.

Representative Experience

- Defeated class certification in a high-profile consumer privacy case arising out of the alleged use of computer spyware.
- Represented a national telecommunications provider in litigation based on website's use of session replay services in a case that was resolved favorably for the defendant provider.
- Counsel to a Fortune 50 company defending against multiple class action lawsuits filed following a major data breach.
- Represented a major university health care system in class action litigation arising from an alleged patient information breach.
- Represented a national telecommunications provider in class action litigation and government investigations relating to the collection and use of customer information.
- Counsel to a Fortune 100 electronics manufacturer for claims as a result of a worldwide price-fixing cartel in the largest antitrust class action in U.S. history.
- Counsel to a global technology company prosecuting an antitrust lawsuit in the Northern District of California.
- Counsel to a Fortune 50 package delivery company on a variety of litigation matters.
- Regularly counsels clients on antitrust issues relating to pricing and distribution.

Publications & Presentations

Publications

- “Eleventh Circuit Allows Article III Standing for Disclosure of Sensitive Information Relating to Debt,” *Pratt’s Journal of Bankruptcy Law*, Vol. 17, No. 6, September 2021.
- “Banks Suing After Payment Card Breach Face Difficulty,” *Law360*, May 10, 2018.
- “What Counsel at Retailers Should Know About Data Breaches,” *Law360*, June 1, 2017.
- “New York’s Highest Court Rejects Attempt to Compel Nonsignatory to Arbitrate Under the Direct Benefits Estoppel Doctrine,” *Young ICCA Blog*, May 12, 2015.

Presentations

- “Civil Litigation and Regulatory Update,” *Essential Cybersecurity Law*, Austin, TX, July 25, 2019.
- “We Need to Investigate: Overseeing a Cyber Investigation,” *Georgetown Law’s 6th Annual Cybersecurity Law Institute*, Washington, D.C., May 23-24, 2018.

Education

- Washington and Lee University (J.D., 2007)
- University of Virginia (B.A., 2003)

Admitted to Practice

- Georgia

Related Services

Litigation | Commercial | Antitrust | Privacy, Cyber & Data Strategy | Privacy & Cybersecurity Litigation | Consumer Protection/FTC