ECKERT SEAMANS



Steven R. Kramer

MEMBER-IN-CHARGE
MEMBER, PATHFINDER MENTORING COMMITTEE

Steve Kramer is a trial attorney for U.S. and Japan-based Fortune 100 companies in class action, multidistrict, and single-party litigation. He focuses on scientific and engineering matters, such as product liability, food-borne illness, pollution, and toxic tort, as well as financial litigation. Whether lead counsel or part of a large team of law firms, Steve works with clients to deliver creative solutions to complex issues. He has tried numerous cases to verdict in state and federal courts.

Steve enjoys lecturing and writing on substantive and procedural topics. He has authored articles in Law360, Food Safety Magazine, National Law Journal, New York State Bar Journal, and New York Law Journal.

Some recent examples of Steve's involvement in complex cases are:

- **Defense jury verdict** in *Alejandro v. Faugno* (Supreme Court Bronx County April 8, 2026/Index No. 809353/2021E) – 2 week jury trial. Plaintiff asked for 8 figures from the jury. Defense verdict reached in 40 minutes.
- **Lead Class Action counsel** for defendants Sharp Appliances Thailand and Sharp Electronics Corporation in consolidated consumer products class action, *Rice v. Electrolux Home Products, Inc.*, No. 4:15-CV-00371, 2019 WL 3532114 (M.D. Pa. Jan. 15, 2020). Dismissal of complaint on 12(b)(2) jurisdictional grounds against foreign defendant and dismissal all California causes of action against U.S. defendant on 12(b)(6) grounds.
- **Defense jury verdict** in *Dolan v. SPS*, 03-cv-3285 (PCK) (E.D.N.Y. 2016), *aff'd*786 Fed.Appx. 318 (2d Cir. 2020), on all seven counts involving financial services misapplication of payments and violation of federal statute claims.
- **Class Action counsel** for defendant in *Porsch v. LLR, Inc.*, 18-cv-09312(DC), 2019 WL 3532114 (S.D.N.Y. Aug. 2, 2019). Dismissal of complaint alleging improper collection of sales tax and deceptive business practices under New York State's Consumer Protection Law.
- **Lead Class Action counsel** for General Motors LLC in *Rephen v. GM LLC*,15-cv-5206(NR), 2016 WL 4051869 (S.D.N.Y. Jul. 26, 2016). 12(b)(6) dismissal of complaint alleging deceptive business practices under New York's Consumer Protection Law and breach of contract.
- **Lead counsel** for Toyota in *Sitafalwalla v. Toyota Motor Sales,*

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PRACTICE AREAS:

Litigation

Product Liability

Food Liability Litigation

Commercial Litigation

Class Action Litigation

Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, and Autonomous Transportation Systems

STATE ADMISSIONS:

New York

COURT ADMISSIONS:

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of New York

U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan

EDUCATION:

J.D., Albany Law School of Union University, 1989

B.A., Binghamton University, 1986

U.S.A., Inc., 15-CV-1807 (ADS)(GRB), 2016 WL 740441 (E.D.N.Y. Feb. 24, 2016). Toyota won an Unintended Acceleration jury trial and plaintiff filed a subsequent lawsuit claiming Toyota's trial victory did not bar the subsequent lawsuit due to fraud and concealment. District Court dismissed the subsequent lawsuit.

- **National Coordinating Counsel and Class Action counsel** for Wal-Mart Stores, Walgreen Co., Family Dollar Stores and Fred's, Inc. in a consumer products class action involving contaminated baby wipes, *Jones v. First Quality Enterprises, Inc.*, 2:14-cv-06305-LDW-ARL (E.D.N.Y.).
- **Lead New York State MDL counsel** for Toyota Motor Corporation, *In re Toyota Unintended Acceleration Litigation*(Supreme Court Nassau County/Index No. 60199/2011). Responsible for coordinating with Federal MDL, *In re: Toyota Motor Corp. Unintended Acceleration Marketing, Sales Practices, and Products Liability Litigation*, United States District Court, Central District of California, ML-10-2151-JVS FMOx.

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Represented company in the consolidated chemical/particulate exposure litigation involving almost 10,000 plaintiffs, *In World Trade Center Disaster Site Litigation*, 21-MC-100-AKH (S.D.N.Y.).
- *Berezouschi v. 65 Jessup Realty LLC*(Supreme Court Bronx County/Index No. 18788/2001) – defense jury verdict involving loss of vision claim.
- *Acosta v. 501 West 171st Street Corp.* (Supreme Court New York County/Index No. 107711/2002) – defense jury verdict in lead paint case where liability was conceded, and medical causation tried to verdict.
- *Omre v. Dorfman*(Supreme Court Kings County/Index No. 500155/2010) – sanity hearing in a civil case where plaintiff pleaded medication-induced insanity as toll to statute of limitations.
- *Michael v. General Motors LLC*–18-3658-cv (CM) (S.D.N.Y.), *aff'd* 2019 WL 5561211 (2d Cir. 2019) – summary judgment dismissal of air bag and seat belt defect claims.
- *Ettenheim v. General Motors LLC*(Supreme Court New York County/Index No. 10845/2001) – pre-answer dismissal of case of first impression alleging a vehicle was defective by not having warnings about the danger of opening doors into oncoming traffic.
- *Pollard v. Credit Suisse First Boston Mortgage Capital Corporation*, 66 A.D.3d 862 (2d Dept. 2009) – summary judgment affirmed by unanimous Appellate Division, Second Department, for investment bank and loan servicer in a toxic tort action arising from a mortgage-backed security foreclosure.
- *Acosta v. 501 West 171st Street Corp.* (Supreme Court New York County/Index No. 107711/2002) – defense jury verdict in lead paint case where liability was conceded, and medical causation tried to verdict.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- Product Liability Advisory Council (PLAC)
- Defense Research Institute (DRI)
- New York State Bar Association
- Defense Association of New York

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Recipient, 2016 City of White Plains Champion of Youth for Summer Jobs
- Tri-State Diversity Council, Member
- Volunteer Mediator

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

- Selected for inclusion in New York Metro Super Lawyers 2023-2025

NEWS AND INSIGHTS

PUBLICATIONS

- "Food Contamination Traceback Litigation: Naturally Occurring Pathogens," Food Safety Magazine eNewsletter, July 2019.
- "Online Marketplaces: Continuing Product Liability, CDA Issues," Law360, July 2019.
- "Product Liability For Online Marketplaces And Car-Sharing," Law360, September 2018.
- "How Binding Is That 30(B)(6) Testimony?" Law360, July 2018.
- "Corporate Designee Practice Under NY V. Federal Rules," Law360, April 2018.
- "Traceback Litigation: Epidemiological Point/Counter-Point," Food Safety Magazine, August 2014.
- "Foodborne Illness Litigation," Food Quality.com, June 2014.
- "Inhalation Litigation: Mold to Engineered Nanoscale Materials?," LJN's Product Liability Law & Strategy, Vol. 26, No.1, July, 2007.
- "Complex Litigation – The Next Big Thing May Be Very Small," National Law Journal, April 16, 2007.
- "Summary Judgment and the Feigned Issue of Fact Doctrine," The Defendant, Fall 2002.

MEDIA COVERAGE

- "Car-Sharing Apps Face Tough Regulatory Road," Law360, August 2019.
- "Keep calm and carry on with your safety plan," Food Quality & Safety, April 2014.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Advanced Driver Assistance Systems," panelist, Product Liability Advisory Council (PLAC) Fall Conference, November 2018.

- “Mediation Advocacy Strategies,” Practicing Law Institute, January 2015.