



# Joseph E. Collins

Partner

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Joe takes a cost-effective, tactical approach to meeting client objectives in complex litigation.

As set forth in his Representative Matters, Joe has a record of prevailing at the earliest stages of the litigation and preserving the outcome on appeal. In several of those cases, the clients were spared costly and burdensome discovery.

In addition to serving as lead trial counsel, Joe has more than 25 years of experience as a trusted adviser, providing counseling and advice to in-house legal teams, and managing various litigation, regulatory and compliance matters.

## Areas of Concentration

- Class Action Litigation
- Securities Litigation
- Cannabis Litigation
- Government, Regulatory and Internal Investigations
- Insurance Litigation
- Consumer Fraud Litigation
- Employment Litigation
- Complex Commercial Litigation

## Testimonials and Peer Reviews

- Clients quoted in the 2017 edition of *Chambers USA* praised Joe's trial skills and legal knowledge, noting he "has great command of the law" and is "business-savvy" in litigation involving commercial and securities disputes.
- Joe has been awarded the AV "Preeminent" Rating — the highest possible rating from Martindale-Hubbell. His clients and peers quoted in Martindale-Hubbell praise his strategic thinking and execution, noting he "is an exceptional litigator and strategist" with "stellar written and oral advocacy skills." One client noted that "Joe is smart, well versed in the law and willing to go the extra mile to get the job done right, the first time."\*
- Joe is also listed annually as a "Local Litigation Star" in Benchmark Litigation.

\* Results may vary depending on your particular facts and legal circumstances.

## Services

- Litigation

- Class Actions
- Cannabis Law
- Securities Industry
- Directors' & Officers' Liability & Corporate Governance
- White Collar Criminal Defense & Government Investigations
- Alternative Dispute Resolution

## Beyond Fox Rothschild

Joe serves as lead pro bono counsel for the Thai-Illinois Project, a nonprofit providing financial support to orphanages in Thailand.

## Bar Admissions

- Illinois

## Court Admissions

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois (also a member of the Trial Bar)
- U.S. District Court, Central District of Illinois
- U.S. District Court, Southern District of Illinois

## Education

- Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University (M.B.A., 2007)
- Chicago-Kent College of Law (J.D., 1996)
- Loyola University Chicago (B.A., 1991)

## Honors & Awards

- Selected as one of the leading litigation attorneys in Illinois by *Chambers USA* (2017)
- Selected to the list of "Local Litigation Stars" for Class Actions and Securities in Illinois by Benchmark Litigation (2025, 2026)
- Selected for inclusion in "Super Lawyers" (2018)
- Rated AV Preeminent™ by Martindale-Hubbell (2024)



JOSEPH COLLINS

## Representative Matters

- *Holmes v. Inmar, Inc., et al*, 2022LA43 (Cir. Ct. Coles Cty. 2025). Obtained dismissal with prejudice of putative nationwide consumer class action.
- *Chicago Atlantic Admin, LLC v. Ubuntu Holdings, LLC, et al.*, 2023CH05874 (Cir. Ct. Cook Cty. 2024). Obtained \$14 million judgment in action for breach of contract.
- *GTI v. Ill. Dept. of Agriculture, et al.*, 21MR675 (Cir. Ct. Rock Island Cty. 2024). Obtained summary judgment in action for declaratory judgment, administrative review, and mandamus. Awarded fees and expenses.

- *Sammy 2 Corp. v. eXp Realty, et al.*, 2023L012312 (Cir. Ct. Cook Cty. 2024). Obtained dismissal with prejudice in action alleging violations of Illinois Real Estate Licensing Act.
- *SPCA v. American Int'l Specialty Ins. Co., et al.*, 2023 IL App (1st) 22088-U. Obtained dismissal with prejudice of declaratory judgment and breach of contract action. Affirmed on appeal.
- *Nature's Grace and Wellness, LLC v. Ill. Dept. of Agriculture, et al.*, 2021MR0119 (Cir. Ct. Fulton Cty. 2023). Obtained summary judgment in action for declaratory judgment, administrative review, and mandamus. Awarded fees and expenses.
- *Tribune Media Co. v. U.S. Specialty Insurance Co., et al.*, 2019CH08330 (Cir. Ct. Cook Cty. 2020). Obtained dismissal with prejudice of breach of contract action.
- *Bell v. Publix Super Markets, Inc.*, 982 F.3d 468 (7th Cir. 2020). Obtained dismissal with prejudice of putative nationwide consumer class action. Affirmed on appeal.
- *Griffin v. Jushi Inc, et al.*, 2020 IL App (1st) 200056-U. Obtained dismissal with prejudice of declaratory judgment action seeking injunctive relief. Affirmed on appeal.
- *In re 100% Grated Parmesan Cheese Marketing and Sales Practices Litigation*, 393 F. Supp. 3d 745 (N.D. Ill. 2019). Obtained summary judgment in putative nationwide consumer class action.
- *Haywood v. Massage Envy Franchising, LLC*, 887 F.3d 329 (7th Cir. 2018). Obtained dismissal with prejudice of putative nationwide consumer class action. Affirmed on appeal.
- *Goggin v. National Union Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburgh, PA*, 2018 WL 6266195 (Del. Super. Ct. 2018). Obtained judgment on the pleadings in declaratory judgment action.
- *Robertson v. Ultimate Fitness Group, LLC d/b/a Orangetheory Fitness*, 2018CH4753 (Cir. Ct Cook Cty. 2018). Obtained dismissal with prejudice of putative consumer class action.
- *Bandi v. Oath, Inc. d/b/a Yahoo.com, et al.*, 2018L3037 (Cir. Ct. Cook Cty. 2018). Obtained dismissal with prejudice of tort action against multinational financial services company.
- *Lexington Insurance Company v. Horace Mann Insurance Company*, 861 F.3d 661 (7th Cir. 2017). As lead trial counsel, obtained directed verdict in favor of client on all counts following two-week jury trial. Affirmed on appeal.
- *R.J. Lane v. Deutsche Bank, AG, et al.*, 2015 IL App (1st) 142968. Obtained dismissal with prejudice of complaint alleging fraud, conspiracy and breach of fiduciary duty involving a \$250 million tax shelter. Affirmed on appeal.
- *Minkler v. Apple, Inc.*, 65 F. Supp. 3d 810 (N.D. Cal. 2014). Obtained dismissal of putative nationwide consumer fraud class action.
- *Sadler v. Retail Properties of America, Inc.*, 2014 WL 2598804 (N.D. Ill.). Obtained dismissal of five putative securities class actions and breach of fiduciary actions against a public company and its directors and officers.
- *Hohenstein v. Behringer Harvard REIT I, Inc.*, 2014 WL 1265949 (N.D. Tex.). Obtained dismissal of putative securities class action and breach of fiduciary duty actions against REIT and its directors and officers.
- *Garcia v. Sony Computer Entertainment America, LLC*, 859 F. Supp. 2d 1056 (N.D.Cal. 2014). Obtained dismissal with prejudice of putative nationwide consumer class action.
- *Fineman v. Sony Network Entertainment Intern. LLC*, 2012 WL 424563 (N.D. Cal.). Obtained dismissal with prejudice of putative nationwide consumer class action.
- *In re Sony PS3 Other OS Litigation*, 2011 WL 6117892 (N.D. Cal.). Obtained dismissal of putative nationwide consumer class action.
- *Reyes v. Cole Taylor Bank*, 2011 WL 3704705 (N.D. Ill.). Obtained summary judgment and dismissal with prejudice of putative Illinois consumer class action.
- *Brown v. Lululemon Athletica, Inc.*, 2011 WL 741254 (N.D. Ill.). Obtained dismissal with prejudice of putative nationwide employment class action.
- *In re 365/360 Litigation (Equinox Development Corp. v. Cole Taylor Bank, No. 09 CH 17177 (Cir. Ct. Cook Co. 2010); Goldman v. The PrivateBank and Trust Company, 09 CH 46796 (Cir. Ct. Cook Cty. 2010); Hubbard St. Lofts v. Inland Bank, 09 CH 49410 (Cir. Ct. Cook Cty. 2010))*. Obtained dismissal with prejudice of three separate putative consumer class actions.