



A Court That Is All Business

The Commercial Division of the New York State Supreme Court

Since its creation in 1995, the Commercial Division of the New York State Supreme Court has transformed business litigation and made the State a preferred forum for complex business disputes. Renowned as one of the world’s most efficient venues for the resolution of commercial disputes and located in the world’s leading financial center, the Commercial Division is available to businesses of all sizes, both inside and outside the State of New York.

Why Choose the Commercial Division?

Business-Minded Judges • Judges with commercial expertise who are familiar with complex contract concepts, securities (including derivatives and other exotic instruments) and business organizations (including numerous international structures), and who have a sophisticated understanding of globalization, international trade, and applying laws of foreign jurisdictions, when required.

Devotion to Integrity, Fairness and Professionalism

Responsible and responsive Judges and court staff; well-reasoned analyses; well-developed body of law leading to greater predictability in outcomes; consistent application of rules.

Commitment to Innovation and Self-improvement

Advanced courtroom technology for trials; primarily virtual appearances during covid; implementation of new procedures and rules responsive to evolving business needs.

Efficient Discovery Procedures • Proportionality requirements; optional accelerated adjudication; limits on depositions and interrogatories; efficient resolution of discovery disputes; timely and robust expert disclosure.

Model Forms • Standard forms for preliminary conferences, stipulations, choice of forum and choice of law, confidentiality orders and scheduling orders.

Conscientious Trial Management • A docket exclusively for commercial cases; time limits on trials where appropriate; efficient settlement conferences; optional direct testimony by affidavit for bench trials; rejection of dilatory tactics; time-certain appearances; a separate docket for large complex cases.

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“A model for specialized business courts everywhere.”
—ABA Business Law Section
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“Judges who understand commercial disputes; judges who are creative and force resolution.”
—Elizabeth Moore Former GC, Consolidated Edison
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“We’re going to get a judge who doesn’t waste our time.”
—Joseph Wayland GC, Chubb Limited
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“A diverse tribunal.”
—Michele Mayes GC, New York Public Library
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“A full and fair hearing in an efficient way.”
—Stephen Cutler Former GC, JPMorgan Chase
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