

Securities Litigation Seminar

After Enron: Bringing and Defending Securities Class Actions

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George Mason University School of Law

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Class meets Thursdays @ 10-11:50 a.m. in Room 348

Grades will be based on a substantial written assignment. The textbook for the course is **Securities Litigation and Enforcement Cases and Materials (American Casebook Series)** by Nagy, Painter & Sachs. Supplemental reading will be available via TWEN.

Topics

Week 1: Overview (The rise of the securities class action)

Week 2: Rule 10b-5 (And a few other rules it would be helpful to know)

Week 3: Private Securities Litigation Reform Act / Securities Litigation Uniform Standards Act (What happens when Congress acts – hint: it's not all good)

Week 4: Lead Counsel/Lead Plaintiff/Discovery (Initial steps)

Week 5: Common Fact Patterns (Accounting and forecasting)

Week 6: Pleading – Scierter (There is no fraud without fraudulent intent)

Week 7: Pleading – Particularity (All facts, with particularity)

Week 8: Pleading – Loss Causation (Matching up the fraud with the loss)

Week 9: Affirmative Defenses (Safe harbor, statute of limitations, truth-on-the-market)

Week 10: Section 11 (When public offerings go wrong)

Week 11: Derivative Cases (Suing on behalf of the company)

Week 11: Class Certification (Should they all be in this together?)

Week 12: Insurance, Damages, and Settlement (End game)

Week 13: Case Study: Enron

Week 14: Case Study: IPO Allocation Cases