



## Robert E. Linkin

### Partner Litigation

Austin

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### At a Glance

#### Diverse Practice

Rob represents clients in complex litigation, securities litigation, and class action lawsuits. He brings more than 26 years of legal experience advising clients in business disputes, financial reporting, and commercial litigation.

#### Niche Securities Fraud Representation

In addition to his complex litigation and class action work, Rob represents clients in [investor claims, investment fraud, and stockbroker misconduct](#).

#### Entertainment/Sports Clients

Rob has high net worth clients in the sports industry as well as recording artists and independent labels in the Austin market.

**Robert E. Linkin is a partner in the firm's complex litigation/dispute resolution group. Rob represents clients in complex litigation, securities litigation, and class action lawsuits. He brings nearly 30 years of legal experience advising clients in business disputes, financial reporting, and commercial litigation.**

Rob is well known in the legal industry as an accomplished litigator and class action attorney with both defense and plaintiff skills in the courtroom. He frequently serves as first chair trial attorney in multi-million-dollar cases and has an established reputation for developing and executing successful litigation strategies. He has also handled numerous class actions both for Plaintiffs and Defendants.

In addition to his complex litigation and class action work, Rob represents clients in [investor claims, investment fraud, and stockbroker misconduct](#). He handles FINRA and AAA securities arbitration matters, and he is a consultant to publicly traded corporations on consumer protection matters, fiduciary matters, anti-trust matters, fraud claims, and complex state and federal securities matters.

Rob has developed a niche practice in entertainment law, representing independent labels and recordings artists in Austin. This practice area experience blends perfectly with MWM's established entertainment practice headed by two partners in the LA office and now gives the firm great market position in two of the nation's top entertainment cities. Rob is a member of the State Bar of Texas and received his J.D. from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law at Yeshiva University.

## Experience

- In *Burnett v. National Association of Realtors*, No. 19-CV-00332 (W.D. Mo. 2024)([Opinion](#)) (and multiple related cases), Rob served as co-lead defense counsel for one of the real estate brokerages in a series of nationwide class action cases challenging NAR's policy on commission sharing. Rob and team negotiated a favorable settlement that was approved over multiple objections.
- In *O'Shaughnessy v. Young Living Essential Oils*, No. 2:20-CV-00470 (D. Utah 2024), Rob served as co-lead plaintiff's counsel in a putative class action seeking to recover hundreds of millions of dollars against Young Living Essential Oils based on allegations that Young Living is running a pyramid scheme. Rob co-authored the briefing and/or presented oral argument that persuaded the trial Court to deny a series of defensive Motions, including Defendant's Motion to Compel Arbitration (Order), Defendant's Motion to Dismiss, and Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment. Rob was also lead counsel before the Fifth Circuit, which affirmed denial of the Motion to Compel Arbitration.
- In *Matson v. NIBCO, Inc.*, No. 21-51151 (5<sup>th</sup> 2022)([Opinion](#)), Rob served as co-lead plaintiff's counsel in a class action alleging thousands of homeowners were damaged by defective plumbing systems. Rob and team negotiated a settlement valued at \$8.1 million after which Rob co-authored briefing that persuaded the trial Court to strike hundreds of opt-outs that had been coerced by another lawyer seeking to co-opt plaintiffs into joining his competing case. Rob then co-authored briefing that persuaded the trial Court to finally approve the settlement and presented oral argument before the Fifth Circuit which affirmed the approval of the settlement.
- In *Glancy Prongay v. The City of Los Angeles*, Case No. 21STCV11054 (Superior Ct. Los Angeles. 2024), Rob served as Co-lead class counsel representing a class of citizens of the City of Los Angeles alleging the LA. Department of Water and Power did not comply with California's Public Records Act. Rob authored and argued the class' motion for final approval, which was approved by the Court last year.
- Rob represented a Registered Investment Advisor during 2024 in a politically motivated SEC Investigation last year. Following limited discovery and negotiations, the SEC terminated the investigation without any further action by the Commission.
- Rob represented two Financial Advisors before FINRA's Department of Enforcement accused of engaging in unauthorized Outside Business Activity. After significant negotiations with FINRA, both investigations ended in the entry of favorable consent orders.
- Co-lead counsel for Japanese auto part manufacturer in *In Re Auto Parts Antitrust Litigation* (E.D.).
- Lead counsel for founder of Fortune 500 Company in FINRA arbitration claim which led to favorable confidential settlement.
- Lead counsel for wealthy private investor in \$6.5 million FINRA arbitration claim favorably settled confidentially after fourth day of planned three-week trial.
- Lead counsel for former 14-year major league baseball player against registered investment advisory firm, resulting in \$6.7 million settlement.
- Counsel for class in securities class action resulting in \$13 million common-fund settlement on behalf of class of South American investors.
- Counsel for class in securities class action resulting in \$10 million common-fund settlement on behalf of class of credit union members.

- Lead counsel in Madoff-related FINRA arbitration claim resulting in favorable confidential settlement.
- Lead counsel in Madoff-related arbitration claim resulting in \$700,000 arbitration award.
- Management and litigation of \$120 million arbitration claim on behalf of an international commercial bank.
- Successful representation of statewide class of health care providers resulting in court-approved settlement of several million dollars.
- Successful representation of Swiss bank in FINRA arbitration leading to complete defense victory following two-week trial.

## **Focus Areas**

Automotive Technology

Entertainment & Digital Media

Private Equity

Antitrust & Competition

Arbitration

Class Action Litigation

## **Education**

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University, JD, 1995

University of Texas, BA, 1991  
Middle Eastern Studies

## **Associations & Memberships**

- State Bar of Texas

## **Honors & Awards**

- Best Lawyers in America  
2022-2025

## **Bar Admissions**

Texas, 1996

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

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

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

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Texas

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas