

Caitlin Kovacs

Chicago
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Overview

Caitlin is an experienced and passionate complex commercial litigator who tackles the most challenging and high-stakes matters her clients face. Fueled by a competitive spirit, she thrives on securing major victories for her clients, strategically defending their interests both in and out of the courtroom.

Leading effective teams in bet-the-company cases across state and federal courts, Caitlin handles a diverse array of disputes, including defamation, breach of contract, fraud, business torts, white collar, products liability, restructuring, False Claims Act and tax. Her clients span a wide range of industries and include Fortune 100 financial institutions, retail institutions, chemical companies and technology companies.

Clients and co-counsel consistently commend Caitlin's advocacy and problem-solving prowess, describing her as "super smart, dedicated" and "very, very formidable." Her "extremely persuasive" writing is lauded as "terrific" and "really powerful," often leading to early dispute resolutions. In discovery, her innovative legal strategies, adept witness handling, and "poised, expert and persuasive" oral advocacy position her clients for success. Jurors have praised Caitlin as an exceptional presenter, noting her "confident," "very knowledgeable and passionate" style, which is "detailed yet simple to understand" and "just the right amount of everything."

An engaging speaker, Caitlin is often invited to instruct on a variety of legal topics, including ethics for in-house counsel, deposition skills and women in law. Her insights on headline-making legal developments have also been featured in nationwide publications such as *Variety*, Law360 and *Us Weekly*.

Representative Matters

- Representing a high-net-worth individual in bringing defamation claims against social media accounts falsely accusing him of engaging in criminal and otherwise wrongful conduct
- Secured temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction in the Middle District of Florida on behalf of members in a venture capital fund, preventing the further unauthorized use of their names and likenesses to promote a separate fund.
- Representing a global election technology firm in a defamation suit seeking over $2 billion against Fox News and others.
- Represented major vehicle manufacturer in DOJ and SEC investigation involving fraud allegations.*
- Represented government contractor against False Claims Act allegations by the Department of Justice.*
- Represented major chemical company in SEC investigation into federal reporting issues. *
- Represented a multinational medical device company in internal investigation involving allegations of potential kickbacks and off-label marketing.*
- Counsel for major power company in case brought by energy services competitor alleging theft of confidential information and unfair business practices. During deposition discovery, sought and won a stay of the preliminary injunction proceeding on behalf of client. Case settled favorably during stay. *

Credentials

EDUCATION

- Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, 2013, J.D., *cum laude*
  - Executive Articles Editor, Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology
  - Bluhm Legal Clinic Center on Wrongful Convictions, Student and PILI Intern
  - Co-President, Latino Law Students Association
  - Mentor, Women's Leadership Coalition
- Northwestern University, 2007, B.A. in Economics and English Literature, *cum laude*
  - Sweet Briar College Study Abroad, University of Seville (Spain)

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Illinois
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Awards & Recognition

- Listed, Benchmark Litigation, Future Star, 2024-2027
- Listed, Benchmark Litigation 40 & Under, 2022; 2026
- Listed, *Crain's Chicago* Notable Women in Law, 2024

News & Insights

- Benesch Named 2027 Highly Recommended Firm by Benchmark Litigation; 14 Attorneys Recognized, Including 4 First-Time Honorees
  October 30, 2026 | Press Releases
- Benesch Partners Hanna Conger and Caitlin Kovacs Named to 2026 Benchmark Litigation 40 & Under List
  August 13, 2026 | Press Releases
- Benesch Named 2026 Highly Recommended Firm by Benchmark Litigation; 10 Attorneys Recognized, Including Three First-Time Honorees
  October 29, 2025 | Press Releases
- Jack Nicklaus's $50M Redemption and The Limits of The Litigation Privilege
  October 28, 2025 | Client Alerts & Insights
- The SERMApod Interviews Caitlin Kovacs on Breaking Down the 'It Ends With Us' Lawsuits
  February 13, 2025 | Media Mentions
- Us Weekly Quotes Caitlin Kovacs in Cover Story on Blake Lively vs. Justin Baldoni Legal Battle
  February 5, 2025 | Media Mentions
- Variety Quotes Benesch Partner Caitlin Kovacs in Article on Ongoing Blake Lively v. Justin Baldoni Legal Feud
  January 24, 2025 | Media Mentions
- Benesch Partners Caitlin Kovacs and J. Erik Connolly Featured in Courthouse News Article on Fox News Defamation Case
  December 6, 2024 | Media Mentions
- Benesch Named Recommended Firm by Benchmark Litigation for 10th Time, Six Benesch Partners Recognized as 2025 "Litigation Stars"
  October 8, 2024 | Press Releases
- Benesch Partners Bryna Dahlin, Caitlin Kovacs and Nicole Wrigley Recognized Among Crain's Chicago Notable Women in Law 2024
  February 22, 2024 | Press Releases

Speaking & Events

PAST EVENTS

- Commercial Litigation Panel | Caitlin A. Kovacs
  September 12, 2025 | Speaking Engagement