



One Firm WorldwideSM



MELISSA STEAR GORSLINE

PARTNER

Global Disputes
Business & Tort Litigation

msgorsline@jonesday.com

Washington

(T) +1.202.879.5421

(F) +1.202.626.1700

Melissa Stear Gorsline has a wide variety of experience in international commercial litigation and arbitration, with a particular focus on public international law, treaty-based international investment arbitration, and quasi-criminal claims, such as RICO, ATA, TVPA, and ATS. She has experience arbitrating complex matters before the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID), the AAA, and ad hoc tribunals constituted under the UNCITRAL arbitration rules. She has been involved in complex international and multijurisdictional matters before federal and state courts and has practiced before the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation. Melissa also has significant experience in Section 1782 discovery and other litigation related to foreign or international proceedings. In connection with these matters, she has addressed issues unique to representing non-U.S. corporations in the courts of the United States and U.S. corporations with respect to legal matters abroad.

Melissa played an integral role in some of the earliest international investment arbitrations brought pursuant to Chapter Eleven of NAFTA. She has significant experience in claims for denial of justice, denial of fair and equitable treatment, nationalistic discrimination, and expropriation.

Likewise, Melissa has successfully represented clients in matters involving cutting-edge issues of the RICO, ATA, ATS, and TVPA statutes, particularly those involving questions of causation. She has significant experience representing clients as both plaintiffs and defendants in RICO matters.

Melissa is the Chair of the Virginia State Bar International Practice Section's Board of Governors and an adjunct professor of International Arbitration at the University of Maryland Carey School of Law.

EXPERIENCE HIGHLIGHTS

U.S. construction company arbitrates disputes over infrastructure contracts in Panama

Jones Day is representing a U.S. construction company in an international arbitration conducted under the Rules of the International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes against the Republic of Panama.

Canadian mining company initiates UNCITRAL arbitration against Kazakhstan

Jones Day represents a Canadian mining company in an UNCITRAL arbitration against the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Alhambra Resources initiates ICSID arbitration against Kazakhstan

Jones Day represents Alhambra Resources Ltd., an international gold explorer and producer based in Calgary, in an ICSID arbitration against the Republic of Kazakhstan.

World Wide Minerals achieves right to arbitrate its expropriation and international law claims against Republic of Kazakhstan

An arbitral tribunal convened under the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules has held that Kazakhstan is a legal successor to the 1989 Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments (the "Canada/USSR BIT").

Saudi corporations and individuals prevail in Second Circuit in multi-district tort litigation relating to September 11, 2001 attacks

Jones Day successfully represented eight Saudi corporations and individuals in multi-district litigation relating to the September 11, 2001 attacks in the United States.

Kazakh investors initiate ICSID arbitration against Uzbekistan

Jones Day represents Vladislav Kim and 11 other citizens of Kazakhstan in an ICSID arbitration against the Republic of Uzbekistan instituted



pursuant to the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan on Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments.

HydroDive Nigeria Ltd. successfully obtains evidence under 28 U.S.C. § 1782 in aid of its pending Nigerian litigation and ongoing administrative proceedings

Jones Day client HydroDive Nigeria Ltd. is involved in contentious litigation in the Nigerian High Court over an alleged incident of business defamation.

Jones Day secures guardianship in highly contested case

Jones Day represented an aunt and uncle in seeking guardianship of their three young nieces.

Harman International Industries obtains plaintiff's voluntary discontinuance of shareholder class action

Jones Day represented Harman International Industries, Incorporated and certain of its officers and directors in this class action lawsuit that was filed on May 8, 2007 in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

R.J. Reynolds Tobacco summary judgment in Tennessee price discrimination case by cigarette wholesalers is affirmed by Sixth Circuit

Jones Day successfully defended R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company (RJR) in response to Robinson-Patman claims filed in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee by more than 20 cigarette wholesalers.

Methanex challenges MTBE ban under NAFTA

Jones Day represented a Canadian methanol producer, Methanex Corporation, in challenging a California ban on the use or sale in California of the gasoline additive methyl tertiary butyl ether ("MTBE").

Loewen brings first-ever investor-state arbitration against U.S. under NAFTA chapter 11

Jones Day represented The Loewen Group, Inc. (now known as The Alderwoods Group) in this first-ever investor-state arbitration under NAFTA's chapter 11 brought against the U.S. government.

EDUCATION

The George Washington University (J.D. with highest honors 1998); Duke University (B.A. cum laude 1995)

BAR ADMISSIONS

Virginia, District of Columbia, U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and U.S. District Courts for the District of Columbia, Eastern District of Virginia, and Eastern District of Michigan

CLERKSHIPS

Law Clerk to Judge Michael W. Farrell, District of Columbia Court of Appeals (1998-1999)

PUBLICATIONS

December 2015

Recent Decision on Sovereign Immunity Highlights Need for Advance Planning When Transacting With Foreign Sovereign Entities

October 2015

International Remedies for Foreign Investors in Croatia and Poland: Mortgage and Consumer Loan Conversion Legislation

2015

U.S. Discovery in Aid of Investor-State Arbitrations: A Blessing or a Curse?, [30 Md. J. Int'l L. 14](#)

March 2014



United States Supreme Court Gives Deference to Arbitrators in Investment Treaty Cases

January 2014

Protecting Foreign Investments in Sub-Saharan Africa: The Southern African Development Community and its Protocol on Finance and Investment

August 2013

"Investment" narrowly construed under NAFTA in *Apotex v. United States*

October 2012

Treaty Protection for Global Patents: A Response to a Growing Problem for Multinational Pharmaceutical Companies

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

October 22, 2015

"NAFTA at 21," [American Bar Association Section of International Law Fall Meeting 2015](#)

Montreal, Quebec, Canada

May 6, 2015

Modern International Dispute Resolution

Charlottesville, Virginia

April 22, 2015

2015 Speakers Series: Commercial, Political, and Regulatory Risks: Bringing the Rule of Law to Your Foreign Investments

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

March 5, 2015

Investing in Africa: Preparing and Protecting Foreign Investment Through Local and International Mechanisms

Toronto, Canada

February 25, 2015

Executive Roundtable Series - Commercial, Political, and Regulatory Risks: Bringing the Rule of Law to Your Foreign Investments

Washington, D.C.

May 30, 2013

Tools for Success in International Sales Intermediary Contracts and Dispute Resolution

Charlottesville, Virginia

February 23, 2012

Executive Roundtable Series: International Litigation and Arbitration: Offensive and Defensive Trends for Corporate Counsel

Washington, D.C.

JONES DAY GLOBAL LOCATIONS

ALKHOBAR	CLEVELAND	HOUSTON	MIAMI	PITTSBURGH	SYDNEY
AMSTERDAM	COLUMBUS	INDIA	MILAN	RIYADH	TAIPEI
ATLANTA	DALLAS	IRVINE	MINNEAPOLIS	SAN DIEGO	TOKYO
BEIJING	DETROIT	JEDDAH	MOSCOW	SAN FRANCISCO	WASHINGTON
BOSTON	DUBAI	LONDON	MUNICH	SÃO PAULO	
BRISBANE	DÜSSELDORF	LOS ANGELES	NEW YORK	SHANGHAI	
BRUSSELS	FRANKFURT	MADRID	PARIS	SILICON VALLEY	
CHICAGO	HONG KONG	MEXICO CITY	PERTH	SINGAPORE	