

SEMINAR

Major Issues in United States Class Action Law

**Robert Klonoff**

*Dean and Professor of Law,
Lewis and Clark Law School*

Thursday, 15 November 2012, 12:30pm – 1:30pm
Room AO724, 7/F Cheng Yu Tung Tower
The University of Hong Kong

The talk will describe how class actions work in the United States, identify limitations imposed by the United States Supreme Court, and give examples of how our class action rule is applied. Dean Klonoff will discuss the settlement of the British Petroleum oil spill case for close to \$8 billion (US), the largest private settlement in US history -- a case in which he served as an expert witness for the court.

Robert (Bob) Klonoff is Dean & Professor of Law at Lewis & Clark Law School in Portland, Oregon, and has served as Dean since 2007. His areas of expertise include class action litigation, civil procedure, and appellate litigation. He is the co-author of the leading casebook on class actions published by West, and the author of the West Nutshell on class actions, as well as the author of numerous law review articles. He has lectured throughout the world on class actions and appellate litigation. Dean Klonoff is a member of the United States Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Civil Rules, a member of the American Law Institute (ALI) and served as an Associate Reporter for the ALI's class action project, "Principles of the Law of Aggregate Litigation." He is a Fellow in the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers and served as a Reporter for the 2005 National Conference on Appellate Justice. He is also an advisory board consulting editor of *Class Action Litigation Report (BNA)*. A graduate of Yale Law School, Klonoff clerked for the Honorable John R. Brown, Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, served as an Assistant United States Attorney in Washington, D.C., and as an Assistant to the Solicitor General of the United States. He served for many years as a partner at the international law firm of Jones Day, where he handled complex litigation at both the trial and appellate levels and also held the administrative post of chair of the pro bono program for all of the firm's 20+ offices. In 2003, Dean Klonoff was selected as the Douglas Stripp/Missouri Endowed Professor of Law at the University of Missouri/Kansas City School of Law, where he served until becoming Dean at Lewis & Clark. Dean Klonoff has extensive litigation experience. He has argued eight cases before the United States Supreme Court, and has argued dozens of cases in other federal and state appellate courts throughout the country. He has also tried dozens of cases (primarily jury trials). In addition, he has served as an expert witness on class action issues in numerous federal and state court cases, including the British Petroleum oil spill class action, and has personally represented clients on both the plaintiff and defense side in more than 100 class actions.

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