

2017 Distinguished Alumnus

Richard Rothman, JD '77

Senior Partner, Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP



Richard Rothman is a senior partner and former chair of Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP's Complex Commercial Litigation practice. For more than 35 years, he has successfully litigated and tried his clients' most complex disputes in courts and arbitrations around the country.

Rothman has long represented the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey in connection with multi-hundred million dollar disputes, including the successful appeals relating to the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center. Other major clients have included American Airlines and global pharmaceutical company Sanofi Aventis. Rothman has won each of the appeals he has argued in the United States Courts of Appeals for the Second, Third, Eighth, Tenth, and D.C. Circuits, as well as the New York Court of Appeals.

Rothman is the lead author and editor of *Litigating Complex Cases: From the Inside and Out*, and numerous articles. Throughout his career, he has served in leadership roles of various public service organizations, including president of the Second Circuit's Federal Bar Foundation; trustee of the Federal Bar Council and chairman of the council's Second Circuit Courts and Public Service Committees; and counsel to the board of the American Red Cross of Greater New York. He is currently a director of the Legal Aid Society and vice chairman of the board of Graham Windham, the nation's oldest non-sectarian child welfare agency. He now devotes much of his time to public interest work, including advising non-profit organizations and assisting victims of domestic violence and human trafficking, disadvantaged children, and incarcerated women and men.

Rothman earned his bachelor's degree from Tufts University in 1974. At Washington University School of Law, he was managing editor of the law review, and he is currently a member of the law school's national council.

Rothman and his wife, Melissa, have two sons, Tommy and Harris. The couple lives in New York City.