

March 31, 2016

Announcing Jon Taylor & Rachel Bloomekatz

Gupta Wessler PLLC is very pleased to announce **Jon Taylor** and **Rachel Bloomekatz** as principals of the firm. Jon joined the firm in 2012 as its first associate, and Rachel joins us this month from Jones Day's Supreme Court and appellate practice.

“Jon and Rachel are among the most talented appellate advocates of their generation. But instead of representing big corporations, they’ve decided to devote their talents to serving plaintiffs and the public interest,” said Deepak Gupta. “We’re honored to count them as partners in our mission here at Gupta Wessler: leveling the playing field in appeals and complex litigation, one case at a time.”



[Rachel Bloomekatz](#) brings insights gained from her clerkships with Justice Stephen Breyer of the U.S. Supreme Court, Chief Justice Margaret Marshall of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, and Judge Guido Calabresi of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, as well as extensive appellate experience in both the public and private sectors.

Rachel has argued constitutional issues and complex appeals in state and federal appellate courts nationwide, and regularly practices before the U.S. Supreme Court. Her cases have involved a wide range of issues including class actions, workers' rights, immigrants' rights, juvenile justice, public health, and voter protection. She was the Legal Director for U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown's re-election campaign and previously served as an Assistant Attorney General in Massachusetts, defending the Commonwealth's gun laws and child protection statutes in appellate courts. Rachel divides her time between Washington, DC and Columbus, Ohio.

Earlier this month, Rachel initiated and won an emergency voting rights case, securing the rights of registered 17-year-old voters (who will be 18 by November) to vote in Ohio's presidential primary. In its [ruling](#) in favor of Rachel's young clients, the court cited the “strong presentation from top flight counsel.”

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[Jon Taylor](#) is a native of St. Louis, a graduate of Harvard Law School, and a former law clerk to Judge Ronald Gilman of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Since joining the firm in 2012, Jon has presented oral argument in significant appeals before the Ninth Circuit, the Eleventh Circuit, and the Supreme Court of Alaska. He has been a principal author of dozens of briefs spanning a wide range of topics, including the First Amendment, Second Amendment, Fourth Amendment, Article III standing, class certification, civil rights, administrative law, and a broad array of issues involving consumers' and workers' rights. He has represented federal judges, Members of Congress, classes of consumers and workers, retail merchants, national nonprofit advocacy organizations, former NFL players, and the family of a Mexican teenager killed by a U.S. border guard.



Earlier this month, Jon secured an important victory in the Supreme Court of Alaska for homeowners facing foreclosure, a [decision](#) holding foreclosure mills accountable under state and federal consumer laws. James Davis of Alaska Legal Services praised Jon's "spectacular appellate brief" and "great argument before the Court, dealing adeptly with a number of skeptical Justices." According to Davis, "Jon and Gupta Wessler made *the* difference in this 3-2 decision."

Three months in, 2016 has already been a year of exciting developments at Gupta Wessler. Since January, we've also:

- **Won a major [Fourth Circuit appeal](#), argued by Matt Wessler, declaring that an online payday lender's tribal arbitration scheme is an unenforceable effort "to avoid state and federal law and to game the entire system."**
- **Defended common-sense gun-safety regulations against Second Amendment attacks in [Florida](#), [Maryland](#), and [Washington, D.C.](#)**
- **Successfully [defeated](#) a U.S. Supreme Court petition seeking litigation immunity for debt collectors.**

Find more of our recent work at our [website](#).

