

Kathleen C. Schmidt

Associate

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Kathleen Schmidt is a litigator who defends clients in class actions, mass torts, and other civil litigation in federal and state court. Kathleen has helped clients through every stage of litigation by drafting successful dispositive motions, efficiently managing fact investigations, and preparing witnesses for depositions and trials.

Kathleen has particular experience in data breach and cyber litigation. She has defended clients in multiple data breach class actions, an SEC investigation arising from a data breach, and a state attorney general suit alleging unfair business practices related to data collection.

Before joining RSHC, Kathleen clerked for the Honorable Joan H. Lefkow on the Northern District of Illinois, prior to which she practiced at a large law firm in Chicago.

EXPERIENCE

Clerkships

Hon. Joan H. Lefkow, Northern District of Illinois (2025-2026)

Representative Engagements

- Represented financial institution in multiple data breach class actions, winning dismissal of majority of claims, and achieving favorable settlements.
- Represented financial institution in Securities and Exchange Commission investigation into disclosures concerning a data breach, resulting in favorable settlement.
- Represented large social media company in multidistrict mass tort litigation.
- Represented underwriters in securities class actions related to alleged violations of False Claims Act.

CREDENTIALS

Education

University of Chicago Law School, J.D., 2022

Cafaro Scholar

University of Chicago Legal Forum, Executive Comments Editor

Immigrants' Rights Clinic

Tufts University, B.A., International Relations and French, 2017, *cum laude*

Dean's List (2013-2017)

Thesis High Honors

The Tufts Daily, Editor-in-Chief

Université Paris-Sorbonne, 2015-2016



Bar Admissions

Illinois

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

Languages Spoken & Fluency

French, Fluent

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Pro Bono Activities

Pro bono representation of two clients who were victims of sexual assault, bringing one case to trial under the Illinois Gender Violence Act and securing a favorable settlement in the other.

Pro bono representation of Haitian client seeking asylum based past persecution for their sexuality.

Pro bono representation of Congolese client seeking withholding of removal based on fear of future persecution due to their ethnicity.

Pro bono representation of immigration client who was the victim of sex trafficking, seeking U-visa, T-visa, and Convention Against Torture protection.