

# EXHIBIT A



## Ciresi Conlin LLP

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In 2015, named partners Michael V. Ciresi and Jan M. Conlin founded Ciresi Conlin LLP to serve as a force for good in our courtrooms and communities. The firm's practice ranges from large bet-the-company litigation and high-profile business deals to smaller individual cases. Ciresi Conlin LLP brings extensive litigation and trial experience to some of the most high profile and complex cases in the country.

Prior to founding Ciresi Conlin LLP, Mr. Ciresi was a named partner and chairman of the executive board of Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi LLP. During his 43 years with the firm, he drove the firm's litigation practice. He has represented individuals, corporations, and governmental entities, and obtained nearly \$12 billion in verdicts, awards, and settlements on behalf of his clients, with a trial and consulting practice focused in the areas of product liability, intellectual property, and business and commercial litigation.

Ms. Conlin has a long record of leading high-stakes intellectual property and business-critical litigation. Known for her trial and examination skills, Ms. Conlin uses her well-honed expertise in trial strategy and risk assessment to find unique business resolutions for litigation-based conflicts. Jan has multiple nine-figure patent infringement and business litigation representations including multiple plaintiffs' verdicts and a defeat of a \$100 million breach of license claim, where she earned a unanimous defense verdict and an award of attorney's fees for her client. At her former firm, Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi LLP, Ms. Conlin was a member of the Executive Board and the Chair of the Business Litigation Committee.

Partners of Ciresi Conlin LLP have served as lead or co-lead counsel in numerous high profile and complex cases, including:

- ***Kraft Foods Group, Inc./Mondelēz International, Inc. v. Starbucks Coffee Company*** Mr. Ciresi was lead counsel, together with several other Ciresi Conlin LLP partners, representing Kraft in a three-year, breach-of-contract arbitration after Starbucks unilaterally terminated its agreement, cutting off Kraft's exclusive rights to sell, market, and distribute Starbucks roast and ground coffee in grocery and other retail outlets. The arbitration resulted in a \$2.7 billion cash award to Kraft.
- ***Minnesota Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Association et al. v. Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.*** Mr. Ciresi and Roberta B. Walburn were lead counsel representing four nonprofits – Minnesota Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Association, Minnesota Medical Foundation, The Minneapolis Foundation, and the Ciresi Walburn Foundation for

Children (formerly Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi Foundation for Children) – that participated in a securities lending program run by Wells Fargo. The bank represented that the collateral in the program would be invested in short-term money market instruments, where the prime considerations would be safety of principal and liquidity. Instead, the bank invested a substantial portion of the collateral in risky and/or illiquid securities, including complex structured investments. Following a lengthy trial, the jury found that Wells Fargo had breached its fiduciary duties to the non-profits and violated the Minnesota Consumer Fraud Act. Post-trial, the court awarded Plaintiffs attorneys' fees and costs, ordered Wells Fargo to forfeit its fees, and awarded pre-and post-judgment interest. This was the first trial and recovery of this type in the country. On April 16, 2012, the Minnesota Court of Appeals issued its opinion affirming the trial court, and the Minnesota Supreme Court later denied Wells Fargo's petition for review. The final judgment, plus additional post-trial attorneys' fees paid by Wells Fargo, totaled more than \$57 million.

- ***State of Minnesota and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota v. Phillip Morris Incorporated, et al.*** Mr. Ciresi was co-lead counsel with Roberta B. Walburn for the State of Minnesota and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota in a groundbreaking lawsuit against the tobacco industry. After four years of litigation – including discovery of more than 30 million pages of internal documents, litigation of crime-fraud privilege issues, more than a dozen interlocutory appeals (including two to the United States Supreme Court) and four months of trial – the case settled on May 8, 1998 on the eve of jury deliberations for \$7 billion and unprecedented injunctive relief against the tobacco industry. Mr. Ciresi received the Trial Lawyer of the Year Award from Trial Lawyers for Public Justice for work on the litigation.
- ***Charbonneau v. Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and Pfizer, Inc.*** and ***Zwayer v. Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc. and Pfizer, Inc.*** Mr. Ciresi represented plaintiffs in the first Mirapex products liability bellwether trial. On July 30, 2008, the jury returned a verdict in favor of plaintiffs for \$8,279,300, including \$7.8 million in punitive damages for failing to warn of the risk of compulsive behaviors, including pathological gambling, from the Parkinson's drug Mirapex. Mr. Ciresi subsequently represented plaintiffs in a second Mirapex bellwether trial. The case was confidentially settled prior to closing argument. After the conclusion of the *Zwayer* trial, Mr. Ciresi led settlement negotiations that resulted in the successful resolution of all the firm's Mirapex cases.
- ***Whitely v. Pfizer, Inc.*** Mr. Ciresi represented the individual plaintiff in the first Chantix bellwether trial. The case confidentially settled three days prior to jury selection. Mr. Ciresi then led settlement negotiations and resolved the remaining Chantix cases.
- ***Dalkon Shield Litigation.*** Mr. Ciresi was lead counsel on behalf of hundreds of women who suffered infertility issues as a result of the Dalkon Shield intrauterine device. Two bellwether cases went to trial and resulted in jury verdicts of compensatory and punitive

damages: *Strempe v. A.H. Robins* \$250,000 in compensatory damages and \$1,500,000 in punitive damages (June 1983); *Hahn v. A.H. Robins* \$250,000 in compensatory damages and \$500,000 in punitive damages (December 1983). In 1984, A.H. Robins Co. entered into a settlement on behalf of all remaining clients represented by Mr. Ciresi.

- ***Copper-7 litigation.*** Mr. Ciresi was lead counsel in the Copper-7 litigation, in which he represented over 100 women who were injured as a result of the use of the Copper-7 intrauterine device. Two of the clients' cases were tried. In September of 1988, a Minnesota jury awarded \$8,750,000 in the case of *Kociemba v. G. D. Searle & Co.* In March of 1989, Mr. Ciresi was lead counsel in *McCarthy v. G. D. Searle & Co.*, the second bellwether Copper-7 trial. The case was confidentially settled just prior to closing argument. In the summer of 1988, G. D. Searle & Co. settled the cases of all remaining clients represented by Mr. Ciresi.
- ***Eolas Technologies, Inc. and The Regents of the University of California v. Microsoft Corporation.*** Ms. Conlin represented Eolas and the University of California in a patent infringement action involving web browser technology for the delivery of interactive applications embedded in web pages. She obtained a jury verdict in favor of plaintiffs in the amount of \$520.6 million and judgment was entered for \$565,894,868, which included prejudgment interest. The Federal Circuit affirmed the finding of infringement and the damages award and ordered that Microsoft's invalidity and inequitable conduct defenses be retried. The case settled on a confidential basis four days before the start of the invalidity retrial.
- ***Pitney Bowes Inc. v. Hewlett Packard.*** Ms. Conlin represented Pitney Bowes in a significant patent infringement dispute against Hewlett Packard regarding laser jet printers, which resulted in a \$400 million settlement award and the rights to critical intellectual property.
- ***Honeywell v. Minolta.*** Mr. Ciresi and Ms. Conlin represented Honeywell in the Minolta autofocus patent litigation, which resulted in a jury verdict of \$96,350,000 on February 7, 1992. The case was settled shortly after the verdict for \$127,500,000, which included pre-judgment interest. Mr. Ciresi and Ms. Conlin went on to represent Honeywell against multiple other defendants with respect to the autofocus technology and Honeywell eventually recovered approximately \$500 million for patent infringement.
- ***Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton v. Phillips Beverage Co.*** Ms. Conlin represented Phillips Beverage Company against a \$100 million claim for the alleged breach of Belvedere vodka licensing agreements brought by French multinational seller of luxury goods – Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton – and obtained a complete and unanimous defense verdict and an award of fees from the three member panel.