

## 'Flat Panel' Class Action

In October 2014, consumers and businesses in 24 states and the District of Columbia began receiving checks as part of the largest indirect purchaser antitrust class action settlement in history.

The U.S. District Court, Northern District of California, singled out Gray Plant Mooty and lead attorney **Dan Shulman** for their exemplary roles in the case, which dates back to 2007 and alleged that manufacturers conspired to fix the prices of LCD screens at the expense of consumers.

“By all accounts, Dan Shulman of [Gray Plant Mooty] did a superb job in many aspects of the case,” wrote Special Master Martin Quinn. “He took the lead in many important depositions; he was intimately involved in discovery and pre-trial strategy; he personally prepared much the input to pre-trial documents...His rates and hours were strikingly economical.”

The \$1.1 billion settlement, which included manufacturers such as Hitachi, LG, Sharp, Samsung, and Toshiba, resulted in purchasers receiving \$43.49 per laptop or monitor and \$86.98 per television. It is considered the most consumer-friendly class action settlement to date.

As a result of the quality of their work, Gray Plant Mooty received the highest multiplier of any firm in the case in the Court's award of fees.

“The Court is aware of the significant contribution that the Gray Plant firm has made to this litigation and notes that its contributions were all substantive,” wrote U.S. District Judge Susan Illston, who rejected a request to lower Gray Plant Mooty's fee on grounds that it was “substantially in excess of any other firm” and could not be justified.

**Read more** on *TFT-LCD (Flat Panel) Antitrust Litigation, MDL No. 1827, U.S. District Court, Northern District of California*.