

Litigator of the Week Runner-Up

Our first runners-up this week are the plaintiffs' teams who pursued claims against Allianz Global Investors tied to losses racked up by its Structured...

By Ross Todd
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► Our first runners-up this week are the plaintiffs' teams who pursued claims against Allianz Global Investors tied to losses racked up by its Structured Alpha Funds during the COVID-driven market panic in early 2020 when the company's options trades went south. Notices of dismissal began hitting the dockets this week in suits brought by about a dozen public pension funds and other institutional investors. The company previously disclosed last month that it was setting aside €3.7 billion, or equivalent



Sean Gallagher



Abby Mollen

to \$4.2 billion, for legal expenses tied to the fund losses. A team led by **Sean Gallagher** at **Bartlit Beck** represented clients including the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association National Employee Benefits Committee and the Raytheon Technologies Corporation Pension Administration and Investment Committee. The Bartlit Beck team included **Abby Mollen**, **Mark Ouweleen**, **Nico Martinez** and **Dawson Robinson** as well as co-counsel **Daniel Goldman** of **Petrillo Klein & Boxer**. A team at **Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann** has represented clients including the San Diego City Employees' Retirement System and The Ohio State University. The Bernstein Litowitz team has included partners **Max Berger**, **Hannah Ross**, **Jim Harrod**, **Avi Josefson** and **Michael Blatchley**; senior counsel **Michael Mathai**, **Rich Gluck** and **John Esmay**, and associate **Tom Sperber**. According to the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, the state's teacher retirement system, which is represented by Bernstein Litowitz, landed a \$642.8 million settlement with Allianz. The Arkansas Teacher Retirement System had additional counsel at **Kaplan Fox & Kilsheimer**, including **Frederic Fox**, **Donald Hall**, **Melinda Campbell** and **Aaron Schwartz**.