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Barroway Topaz Named to *National Law Journal's* "Plaintiffs' Hot List"

Firm included among NLJ's selection of the country's plaintiffs' firms that represent "the bar's best qualities"; range of highlighted cases in past year included major stock options backdating and securities fraud litigation, as well as shareholder challenge to \$44 billion Genentech-Roche merger

RADNOR, PA (October 8, 2009) – Leading class action litigation firm **Barroway Topaz Kessler Meltzer & Check** has just been named by *The National Law Journal* to its annual "Plaintiffs' Hot List," which recognizes the country's most notable plaintiffs' law firms.

Barroway Topaz was one of only 15 firms nationally included by the *NLJ* in this year's Hot List. The Radnor-Pa.-based firm, which has active practices in shareholder, ERISA, consumer and corporate governance litigation, was recognized for securing nearly \$900 million in plaintiffs' recoveries this past year, and more than \$5 billion for investors in the past two years. This is Barroway Topaz's second appearance on the roster of top plaintiffs firms since 2007.

The national legal publication sought firms that have done "exemplary, cutting-edge work" on the plaintiffs' side between in 2008-09. *NLJ* described the Hot List firms as representing the plaintiffs' bar's "best qualities" and demonstrating "unusual flair and creativity." To view the complete list, please click [here](#).

The publication highlighted three of Barroway Topaz's noteworthy cases of this past year:

- A settlement that secured improved financial consideration for the shareholders of **Genentech** when the biotech pioneer was targeted for acquisition by Swiss drug giant **Roche**. The firm represented institutional investors who contested Roche's proposed \$43.7 billion purchase price – or 89 cents per share – of Genentech. Plaintiffs accused Genentech's board of undervaluing the company and brought suit claiming a breach of fiduciary duty to shareholders. Following extensive negotiations, the parties agreed to an acquisition price of \$95 per share – ultimately adding roughly \$3.9 billion in enhanced shareholder value to the merger.
- A \$65 million partial settlement with **KPMG** arising from shareholder allegations that **Tenet Healthcare** and the Big Four auditor had misled investors regarding aspects of the company's financial health. The settlement brought total recovery in this securities fraud class action to nearly \$282 million and represented one of the largest payments by an accounting firm in a securities case.
- A \$160 million settlement for plaintiff shareholders of **Brocade Communications Systems Inc.**, the world's largest maker of switches for data-storage networks, who alleged that former executives violated securities laws by backdating stock option grants to top executives and falsifying the date of option grants from 2000 through 2004. The \$160 million settlement amounted to nearly a 100% recovery and is the second-largest settlement ever of such backdating cases, according to RiskMetrics Group.

Barroway Topaz, which RiskMetrics Group ranked last year as the Number 2 U.S. law firm by total number of settlements and in overall recoveries in securities class actions, has grown significantly since its 1987 inception. Over the past year, the firm has expanded its practice into Europe and Canada and last month opened a West Coast office in San Francisco.

“We’re honored to be included in *The National Law Journal*’s latest selection of the country’s most accomplished plaintiffs’ firms,” said **Darren Check**, partner and Director of Institutional Relations of the 72-attorney firm. “For over 20 years, we’ve been representing an ever-widening range of plaintiffs – from consumers to shareholders – and it is very gratifying to see Barroway Topaz selected for the Hot List again this year.”

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Note: **Barroway Topaz Kessler Meltzer & Check, LLP** represents institutional investors and shareholders internationally in securities class actions, corporate governance actions, as well as ERISA, consumer, antitrust and derivative litigation. The firm has recovered billions of dollars for shareholders in the last five years and has been named among the top firms for shareholder recovery by RiskMetrics Group every year since 2003. For more information, please visit: www.btkmc.com.