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Firm Defeats Consumer Fraud Class Action, Obtains Dismissal with Prejudice

On December 16, 2013, the Firm obtained a dismissal with prejudice of all claims filed against client Stratford Career Institute, Inc., in a purported class action pleading a statutory consumer fraud count and a common law breach of contract count. *DeWeese et. al. v. Stratford Career Institute*, No. 12 CH 18713, filed in the Circuit Court of Cook County. The gist of the allegations was that the defendant had purportedly misrepresented the benefits of a distance learning program purchased by the plaintiffs. In dismissing the action with prejudice, the court ruled that the requisite commonalities for a class action had not been shown, and that the allegations on behalf of the named individuals did not rise to the level of a properly pleaded consumer fraud claim or breach of contract claim. The defense team was headed by partner [Stephanie Scharf](#) and included partner [Sarah Marmor](#), counsel [George Sax](#), and paralegal Jean Casserly.

For further information, please contact Stephanie Scharf sscharf@scharfbanks.com