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## Jordan Burt Obtains Victory in Massive Nationwide Class Action

BY MICHAEL KENTOFF

On October 12, 2009, a Jordan Burt LLP defense team obtained a decisive victory for Allianz Life Insurance Company of North America in *Mooney v. Allianz Life Insurance Company*, a nationwide class action case pending in United States District Court in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Linda Mooney filed a Complaint in February 2006 on behalf of certain Allianz annuity policyholders under the Minnesota Prevention of Consumer Fraud Act. After a three-week trial before Judge Ann Montgomery, a jury found that Allianz's conduct had not caused loss or damage to any class member.

The case initially involved allegations of misrepresentations in some marketing materials relating to certain annuity products purchased between February 9, 2000 and May 10, 2007. The case expanded to other sales policies and practices, and grew to be one of the largest class actions against an insurance company, implicating over 400,000 policies.

Our partner, Jim Jorden, lead counsel for the Jordan Burt trial team, was recently quoted as pointing out that the evidence demonstrated that "people who read the [sales materials] were not misled" and plaintiffs "failed to prove that there was evidence of any shortcomings regarding the substance and disclosure in the materials." He stated that: "We have always believed that Allianz Life has treated its annuity owners properly, that its sales practices and sales materials were appropriate and that its annuities have provided excellent value to its customers. We are pleased that the jury vindicated Allianz Life's position on all of these issues."