

Partner, New York

Shareholder Engagement and Activism; Mergers and Acquisitions



T: 212.735.2366

elizabeth.gonzalez-sussman@skadden.com

Education

J.D., Columbia Law School, 2004

B.A., New York University College of Arts and Science, 2001 (*cum laude*)

Bar Admissions

New York

Publications

"Court Upholds Legality of Poison Pills for Closed-End Funds but Limits Successive Plans," *Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance*, April 16, 2025, and *Skadden Publication*, April 1, 2025

Co-author, "How Long Is Too Long? Activists Continue To Target Director Tenure," *Skadden Publication / The Informed Board*, Fall 2024

Podcast Appearances

"Is an Activist Targeting Your Company?" *Skadden Podcast*, February 18, 2025

"When and How To Replace a Director," *Skadden Podcast*, November 19, 2024

"Understanding Activism with John & J.T.: Elizabeth Gonzalez-Sussman on Activism from Both Sides of the Table," *The Corporate Counsel*, November 8, 2024

Elizabeth Gonzalez-Sussman is head of Skadden's shareholder engagement and activism practice. She focuses on advising companies around the globe on how best to prepare for, respond to and defend against activist campaigns.

Ms. Gonzalez-Sussman has extensive experience counseling on the full range of shareholder engagement and activism matters, including in connection with shareholder proposals, proxy contests, withhold campaigns, consent solicitations, stock accumulations, short attacks and unsolicited acquisition proposals. She also represents boards and management teams of both public and private companies on the unique issues they face in the context of shareholder activism, board-related disputes, M&A and other corporate transactions, and corporate governance matters.

Ms. Gonzalez-Sussman has been repeatedly named a leading lawyer in Corporate/M&A: Shareholder Activism by *Chambers USA*, has achieved Tier 1 "Leading Lawyer" recognition for Shareholder Activism in *The Legal 500 U.S.* and is listed as one of Lawdragon's 500 Leading Dealmakers in America and 500 Global Leaders in Crisis Management. She has also been honored as one of *Crain's New York Business*' Notable M&A Dealmakers and a Power Players Distinguished Advisor in Shareholder Activism by *Financier Worldwide*.

Prior to joining Skadden, Ms. Gonzalez-Sussman served as vice chair of the shareholder activism practice at another law firm, where she advised hedge funds and large investors on the strategy and execution involved in all types of shareholder activism-related activities — including many successful campaigns for board representation — for nearly 20 years.

Speaking Engagements

37th Annual Corporate Law Institute, Tulane University Law School, March 7, 2025

Navigating Contemporary Corporate Law Symposium, University of Pennsylvania Journal of Business Law, February 27, 2025

Practising Law Institute's Twenty-Second Annual Directors' Institute on Corporate Governance, November 25, 2024

"The Proxy Parade: How To Make the Case for Each Board Member and Build Confidence in the Company," FGS Global, November 12, 2024

"Activist Investors," Los Angeles County Bar Association 55th Annual Securities Regulation Seminar, October 17, 2024

"Hot Topics in Shareholder Activism," Command Financial's Management/Activist Roundtable, October 10, 2024

"Shareholder Activism in the Boardroom and Shareholder Engagement," Bank of America and The Women's Bond Club, September 16, 2024

"Demystifying Activist Investors" Fireside Chat, Women in the Boardroom, June 20, 2024

21st Annual International Mergers & Acquisitions Conference, IBA, June 5, 2024