

# *The National Law Journal* Features Partner Sam Hirsch in Article about Amicus Briefs

## News

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*The National Law Journal* turned to Partner Sam Hirsch for his insights about amicus briefs that make an impact on the US Supreme Court. Along with Partner Jessie Amunson and Associate Mary Marshall, Sam wrote an amicus brief in *Allen v. Milligan*, in which the state of Alabama argued that it did not have to create a second majority-Black district to comply with the Voting Rights Act. Sam explained to *The NLJ* that the Jenner team collaborated with computational redistricting experts to break down the complex methods of how computer software generates electoral maps. When the Court rejected Alabama's argument in June, Chief Justice John Roberts's majority opinion relied heavily on the brief.

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"*Amicus curiae* is Latin for 'friend of the court,' so actually try to be helpful to the court," Sam suggested. "You may have strong views, as I did in this case and my clients did in this case, as to who should prevail. But the point is that you're not there really advocating on behalf of a party. You're trying to help the court to deal with very complex and especially significant matters."

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