

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

Sean J. Griffith v. Shiva Stein

Griffith v. Stein · No. No. 404, 2025 · Decided March 31, 2026

SUMMARY

The Delaware Supreme Court affirmed the Court of Chancery’s judgment approving a third settlement in litigation involving The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. The court also affirmed the award of attorneys’ fees to Plaintiff Shiva Stein and Objector Sean J. Griffith, relying on the Court of Chancery’s February 27, 2024 Memorandum Opinion and August 11, 2025 Letter Opinion.

CASE DETAILS

COURT	Supreme Court of the State of Delaware
WRITING FOR THE COURT	Chief Justice Seitz; Justice Traynor; Justice Legrow
JURISDICTION	Supreme Court of the State of Delaware
DECIDED	March 31, 2026
DOCKET	No. 404, 2025
DISPOSITION	affirmed
PROCEDURAL POSTURE	Sean J. Griffith, an objector below, appealed the Court of Chancery's judgment approving the Third Settlement and awarding fees to Plaintiff Shiva Stein and Objector Griffith.
PRECEDENTIAL VALUE	Published
PARTIES	Sean J. Griffith v. Shiva Stein, Lloyd C. Blankfein, M. Michele Burns, Gary D. Cohn, Mark A. Flaherty, William W. George, James A. Johnson, Ellen J. Kullman, Lakshmi N. Mittal, Adebayo O. Ogunesi, Peter Oppenheimer, Debora L. Spar, Mark E. Tucker, David A. Viniar, Mark O. Winkelman, The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.

TOPICS

- shareholder derivative suits
- corporate governance
- attorney fees
- appellate procedure

PRACTICE AREAS

- corporate law
- appellate procedure
- civil procedure

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the Court of Chancery's judgment approving the Third Settlement should be affirmed.
2. Whether the Court of Chancery's award of fees to Plaintiff Stein and Objector Griffith should be affirmed.

HOLDINGS

1. The Court of Chancery's judgment was affirmed on the basis of and for the reasons stated in its February 27, 2024 Memorandum Opinion approving the Third Settlement and its August 11, 2025 Letter Opinion awarding fees to Plaintiff Stein and Objector Griffith.

KEY QUOTATIONS

“we find it evident that the judgment of the Court of Chancery should be affirmed on the basis of and for the reasons stated in the February 27, 2024 Memorandum Opinion approving the Third Settlement, and the August 11, 2025 Letter Opinion awarding fees to Plaintiff Stein and Objector Griffith.” (at 1)

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

The appeal arose from a shareholder derivative and individual stockholder action involving The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. The Court of Chancery approved a Third Settlement and later awarded fees to Plaintiff Stein and Objector Griffith. The Supreme Court reviewed the parties' briefs and the record and affirmed the Court of Chancery's judgment.

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The Court of Chancery approved the Third Settlement in a February 27, 2024 Memorandum Opinion and awarded fees to Plaintiff Stein and Objector Griffith in an August 11, 2025 Letter Opinion. Griffith appealed, and the Delaware Supreme Court affirmed on the basis of and for the reasons stated in those opinions.

DISPOSITION

affirmed