



## Suhuyini Abudulai

Partner

### Contact Information

416 642 7452  
sabudulai@cassels.com

### Office

Toronto

### Expertise

- Banking & Specialty Finance
- Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG)
- Product Liability

### Biography

Suhuyini Abudulai\* is a partner in the Banking & Specialty Finance Group at Cassels. Suhuyini's practice focuses on transactional and regulatory matters in financial services, with particular expertise in the Canadian consumer financial services compliance landscape. She regularly provides strategic legal counsel to clients in the area of consumer finance including documentation, licensing, and disclosure requirements. Suhuyini also provides advice on compliance with regulatory requirements relating to anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing laws, debt collection, gift and prepaid cards, loyalty programs, and the regulation of financial institutions. On the transactional side, Suhuyini advises clients on commercial lending transactions, acting for lenders and borrowers in a variety of domestic and multijurisdictional transactions, including secured lending and syndicated loans. Suhuyini was honoured with a Precedent Setter award, given annually by Precedent Magazine to lawyers who have shown excellence and leadership in their early years of practice. Suhuyini was invited by the Investment and Innovation Bureau of Global Affairs Canada to participate in its mission of raising Canada's visibility as a prime investment destination by joining them as an Investment Champion, by promoting the Canadian fintech sector and foreign direct investment into Canada in this sector.

Suhuyini's representative work includes:

- Acting for consumer finance companies expanding into Canada and advising on licensing, documentation and disclosure requirements
- Advising on the negotiation and implementation of prepaid/gift card programs, credit card programs, and loyalty programs
- Acting for a Canadian corporation on its continuance as a Schedule I bank
- Advising regulated financial institutions on regulatory compliance and corporate matters
- Acting for lenders and borrowers in connection with various credit facilities

Recognized as a Change Agent by *Canadian Business Magazine*, Suhuyini is a prolific author and speaker on various topics related to

consumer financial services, the payments industry, and fintech. Her publications include *The Annotated Ontario Consumer Protection Act* (LexisNexis); *A Guide to Canadian Money Laundering Legislation, 5th Edition* (LexisNexis); *Canadian Commercial Law Guide – Consumer Protection* (Wolters Kluwer); the *Canada-US Commercial Law Guide* (Thomson Carswell); and *Halsbury's Laws of Canada, Banking and Finance* (LexisNexis). Suhuyini completed The Osgoode Certificate in Regulatory Compliance and Legal Risk Management for Financial Institutions. In addition, Suhuyini holds various leadership positions in the American Bar Association and the Ontario Bar Association and is a Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist.

*\*denotes Professional Corporation*

## Achievements

- Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS), Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist (CAMS)
- *Canadian Business Magazine*, Change Agent Award (2016)
- *Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* (Financial Institutions Regulation – Ontario)
- *Chambers Canada* (Banking & Finance: Financial Services Regulatory)
- *IFLR1000* (Financial Services Regulatory, Banking)
- *Lawyer Monthly Magazine*, Lawyer100 Canada Award (2018)
- *Lexpert*, Rising Star Award (2020)
- *Precedent Magazine*, Precedent Setter Award (2016)
- *Who's Who Legal: Canada* (Banking)
- Windsor Law, Alumni Award (Access to Justice) (2019)

## Client Commentary

- “She has a solid handle on regulatory issues touching on banking and is extremely reliable on this subject.” – *Chambers Canada (Banking & Finance: Financial Services Regulatory)*
- “She has a knack for meeting clients’ needs.” – *Chambers Canada (Banking & Finance: Financial Services Regulatory)*

## Recent Representative Work

- The Estate of Eugene Melnyk Completes Sale of the Ottawa Senators Hockey Club

- BMO Proposes to Acquire AIR MILES from LoyaltyOne through CCAA Sales Process
- Cassels Represents Sumeru Equity Partners on its Strategic Investment in Loopio
- Cassels Represents Sumeru Equity Partners on its Strategic Investment in Tasktop Technologies

## Insights

- Financial Services and Consumer Protection Regulatory Update
- Ontario Introduces New Consumer Protection Act
- Consultation on Changes to Canada's Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorist Financing Regime

## Pro Bono & Community Involvement

- Black Female Lawyers Network (BFLN), Membership and Retreat and Events Committees – the BFLN provides a forum for students and practitioners in the field to convene, share and learn from one another
- Ontario Bar Association, Black Business Law Clinic
- Former YWCA Toronto, Secretary, Board of Directors – the YWCA, as part of a national and international movement, is dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls

## Education / Bar Admissions

- LL.B., University of Windsor, 2008
- B.A. (Advanced Double Major: Political Science & Economics), Dalhousie University, 2003
- Ontario, 2009

## Associations

- American Bar Association: Vice-Chair, Membership Committee of the Consumer Financial Services Committee; Chair, Lender Liability Subcommittee of the Commercial Finance Committee; Chair, Lawyers of Color Subcommittee; Board Member of the Membership Development Board of the ABA
- Canadian Lenders Association
- Department of Finance Canada: Member, Advisory Committee

on Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing; Co-Chair, Guidance and Policy Interpretation Working Group

- National Bar Association: Member, Editorial Board, National Bar Association Magazine
- Ontario Bar Association: Chair, Consumer Law Committee of the Business Law Section; Former Chair, Business Law Section Executive Committee (2016-2018); Former Vice-Chair, Business Law Section Executive Committee (2016-2018); Former Secretary, Business Law Section Executive Committee (2013-2016)
- Small and Medium Bank Forum, Co-Chair