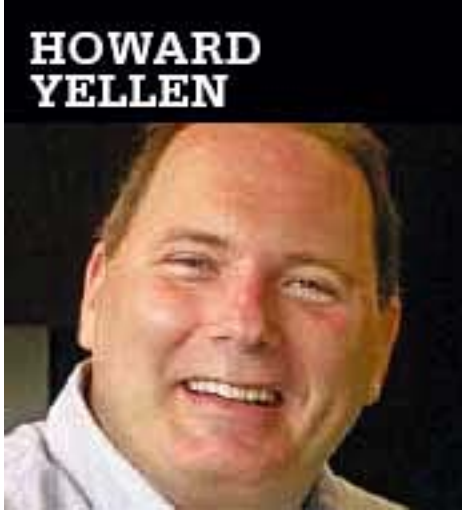


BusinessWeek

Howard Yellen: An Executor For Class Actions?



**HOWARD
YELLEN**

To serial entrepreneur Howard Yellen, it looked like a quick trip to the bank. In October, the 43-year-old founder of Professional Consulting Group and four other companies launched a short-term startup called Settlement Recovery Center. The idea was to help consumers get their piece of a \$1.1 billion antitrust settlement between Microsoft (MSFT) and the state of California. Yellen figured the company would disband soon after the Apr. 30 filing deadline.

Not so fast. Yellen now says the San Francisco business has taken off and employs 55 people. In March, he filed to extend the Microsoft deadline indefinitely. And he thinks Settlement Recovery Center could keep going for years, far beyond the Microsoft case. "I don't have a

clock with this company," he says. The plan: Offer services related to all class-action settlements. He notes that he got married two years ago after a 22-year courtship. So the man just may be growing roots.

By Jim Kerstetter