

Special Matters and Government Investigations

Our Special Matters team is dedicated to advising entities and individuals across sectors who are facing the reality or threat of a government investigation. Clients turn to us because of our reputation for conducting thorough and reliable internal investigations, for using the investigative record effectively to persuade the government to appropriately decline prosecution or enforcement action against our clients where possible, and for discreetly resolving government investigations on favorable terms.

When quick and discreet resolution is not possible, we are prepared to defend our clients in court – where we have a successful track record advocating and litigating against the government and other authorities on behalf of our clients.

Most importantly, clients value our transparency, candor, and ability to build relationships in order to protect and advance our clients' interests. We can successfully and seamlessly navigate the complexities of dealing with U.S. and foreign enforcement agencies. A key component of our success in this regard is leveraging the experience of more than 40 former federal prosecutors and other government enforcement officials who work on our team, as well as team members who have devoted their entire careers to white-collar criminal and civil defense in high-stakes matters with industry-wide impact.

Collectively, we have handled investigations before 73 of the 93 U.S. Attorney's Offices and every litigating division of the Justice Department. We likewise have represented clients in investigations conducted by all of the SEC's offices and all of the SEC's specialized enforcement units. We have conducted cross-border investigations on every continent, and thus have extensive experience before foreign regulatory

Capability Lawyers



Zachary Fardon
Chicago



Andrew C. Hruska (Drew)
New York



Dixie L. Johnson
Washington, D.C.



Brandt Leibe
Houston



Aaron Stephens
London



Jean Tamalet
Paris

Recognition

Criminal Defense: White
Collar (Tier 1)

U.S. BEST LAW FIRMS –
NATIONAL RANKINGS
(2025)

Government Investigations
Firm of the Year

LMG LIFE SCIENCES
(2023, 2024)

authorities.

The breadth of this experience includes Anti-Corruption (including the FCPA), Securities Enforcement, the False Claims Act, Environmental Investigations, Internal Investigations, Economic Sanctions, Tax Investigations, Anti-Money Laundering and Congressional Investigations. It notably crosses a wide range of sectors including Life Sciences and Healthcare, Financial Services, Energy, Technology, Food & Beverage, Higher Education, Manufacturing, Professional Services, Construction and Real Estate.

Cases & Deals

February 26, 2025

King & Spalding Represents Journalist And Former IS Group Hostage Didier François In Landmark French Trial

December 18, 2024

King & Spalding Successfully Represents Pro Bono Client and Environmentalist Paul Watson In Extradition Case

July 10, 2024

Siguler Guff Wins Dismissal in FCA Suit

[VIEW ALL](#)

Insights

CLIENT ALERT

April 28, 2025

Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption Enforcement in the U.S., UK, and Europe post-FCPA Pause

CLIENT ALERT

April 18, 2025

Drug Cartel Designations as FTOs Increase Financial Institutions' Civil Liability Risks Under the Antiterrorism Act

CLIENT ALERT

April 17, 2025

Gimme Shelter: CorpFin Rolls Out New Perspective on Covered Stablecoins

[VIEW ALL](#)

Events

CONFERENCE

May 1, 2025

Annual California Life Sciences Summit

WEBINAR

April 29, 2025

FCA Enforcement and Litigation: How Recent Decisions and Policy Announcements Signal Key Changes

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

White Collar Crime (Tier 1)

BENCHMARK LITIGATION (TIER 1)

Ranked in 8 cities for 2025 U.S. Best Law Firms regionally.

U.S. BEST LAW FIRMS – REGIONAL RANKINGS (2025)

Ranked for Corporate Crime & Investigations since 2016 to present

CHAMBERS GLOBAL

“The premier firm in this practice area.”

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT/BEST LAWYERS

Ranked for Corporate Investigations and White-Collar Criminal Defense since 2015 to present.

“Very strategic... collaborative and politically-savvy.”

CHAMBERS USA

“Excellent credibility before the agencies across a broad swathe of white-collar matters.”

LEGAL 500

Ranked Securities: Regulation (Nationwide) since 2017

CHAMBERS USA

“Ideally placed to take on high-stakes criminal cases

April 3, 2025

Michael Galdo to Speak at the Federal Procurement Institute

[VIEW ALL](#)

News

IN THE NEWS

April 22, 2025

Aaron Lipson explains why the SEC is being thoughtful and potentially creative in how it responds to more limitations on its administrative forum post-Jarkesy

RECOGNITION

April 22, 2025

Los Angeles Business Journal Names David Willingham to its Top 100 Lawyers List

IN THE NEWS

April 14, 2025

Sir Max Hill KC, who is a commissioner for The Times Crime and Justice Commission, is highlighted and quoted in the publication's report into the state of the criminal justice system in the UK

[VIEW ALL](#)

and parallel civil litigation.”

LEGAL 500

“Clients are kept out of the public eye” by a team “packed with former federal prosecutors.”

GIR
