



Legal Marketplace Analysis

- SEPTEMBER 2014
- BUSINESS CRIME DEFENCE

This year we single out 583 practitioners from 362 firms in 30 countries who are considered leaders in business crime defence law.

Several firms stand out in our research for the high number of inclusions they receive, with Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom, Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr and Zuckerman Spaeder leading the way. This trio of firms achieve eight listings apiece. They are closely followed by UK firms Kingsley Napley and Peters & Peters and New York-based Morvillo Abramowitz Grand Iason & Anello, each of whom have seven individuals singled out. Similarly BCL Burton Copeland, Jones Day and Williams & Connolly all perform strongly this year.

We also identify the most highly regarded lawyers in the world in three different sections: the US, England and the rest of the world, as well as the top six barristers at the UK bar.

Who's Who Legal: Business Crime Defence 2014

Most Highly Regarded Individuals

Lawyer	Firm
Reid Weingarten	Steptoe & Johnson, Washington, DC
John Kecker	Kecker & Van Nest, San Francisco
Elkan Abramowitz	Morvillo Abramowitz Grand Iason & Anello, New York
Dan Webb	Winston & Strawn, Chicago
William Jeffress Jr	Baker Botts, Washington, DC

Brian Sun	Jones Day, Los Angeles
Gary Naftalis	Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel, New York
Abbe David Lowell	Chadbourne & Parke, Washington, DC

THE US

With eight listings in our research, “leading” litigation outfit Zuckerman Spaeder is one of the best-represented firms in this edition. Its Washington, DC office is a “hub of activity” with five lawyers singled out, including founding partner Roger Zuckerman. He is described as a “dean” of white-collar criminal law in the US and career highlights include representing the president of Enron throughout lengthy grand jury, SEC and civil matters arising from the company’s collapse, and the president of the Stanford International Bank in connection with the collapse of the Stanford Financial Corporation. William Taylor III is hailed as a “superstar” and has over four decades of litigation experience. He has been involved in some of the most notable criminal cases of recent years, including representing Dominique Strauss-Kahn, Representative Tom Feeney and Thomas Welch, the former president of the Salt Lake City Olympic Committee.

“Formidable” trial lawyer Paula Junghans acts for clients in an “impressively broad range” of criminal matters, including conspiracy, bank and health care fraud, currency transactions offences, environmental crime and money laundering. The “fantastic” Steven Salky is currently acting for the former chief business officer of Freddie Mac in class action and also SEC cases arising from disclosures concerning the company’s single family guarantee portfolio. The former chair of the District of Columbia Bar Criminal Law and Individual Rights Section, Blair Brown is a “must for inclusion” according to our sources.

Three further individuals are recognised; in Baltimore the “gifted” William Murphy has tried to verdict numerous criminal cases at both state and federal level. New York lawyer Paul Shechtman is considered an “industry guru”, with clients praising his “flexibility and professionalism”. At the Tampa office “wonderful” Morris “Sandy” Weinberg boasts an “outstanding track record” and is considered to be a “really safe pair of hands”.

Specialist outfit Morvillo Abramowitz Grand Iason & Anello is home to seven of our experts, including Elkan Abramowitz, one of our most nominated practitioners in the US. Our sources describe him as a “towering figure” in the legal market and “cannot recommend him highly enough”. He is a “superb strategist and tactician” who has represented a host of well-known individuals and corporates over the course of his “illustrious career” to date. Jodi Misher Peikin is a “leading light” of the criminal defence bar who “knows everything there is to know” about regulatory enforcement. Lawrence Iason is hailed as the “cream of the crop” for securities regulation and enforcement, and frequently represents clients in SEC, DOJ and Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) proceedings. The “marvellous” Robert Anello “stands out” for his “first-class” litigation skills and currently serves as president of the Federal Bar Council.

The “very well-known” Paul Grand recently represented Anil Kumar, a key witness in the trial of Raj Rajaratnam, and successfully argued for a sentence of probation. The “smart, intelligent and thoughtful” Richard Weinberg and the “technically brilliant and extremely reliable” Jonathan Sack complete the firm’s listings.

Six US-based practitioners from Jones Day are singled out, with Brian Sun of the Los Angeles office earning a high number of accolades. He is considered “one of the most prominent trial lawyers in the country” and a “simply outstanding practitioner”. His notable cases include representing former Clinton fundraiser Johnny Chung and former Orange County Sheriff Michael Carona. In Washington, DC, the “distinguished” Peter Romatowski oversees the firm’s securities litigation and SEC enforcement practice. Chicago-based Daniel Reidy “brilliantly leads” the business and tort litigation practice and is a “top choice of counsel” for companies under criminal investigation. George Moscarino is one of two individuals recognised from the Cleveland office. He is “undeniably a star”, having advised numerous corporations and their management in complex criminal cases including General Motors, JC Penney and the Philippine National Bank.

Leading Washington, DC litigation firm Williams & Connolly is home to six individuals selected for inclusion. Brendan Sullivan Jr is a “truly fine lawyer” with one peer stating that “everyone aspires to his level within the legal market”. He is “especially well known” for his representation of individuals, which has included former HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros and Senator Ted Stevens. The “frighteningly bright” John Villa is “the guy for securities and financial services-related litigation on the East Coast”. He is especially

renowned for his expertise in representing law firms when they are in difficulties. Robert Cary is the “first choice” when it comes to high-stakes appeals, with clients valuing his “responsive and calm approach”. The “excellent” David Zinn is noted for his “pragmatism and deep commercial understanding”.

Gibson Dunn & Crutcher has five individuals across three of its US offices singled out. Joseph Warin is chair of the firm’s Washington, DC office and one of two lawyers it fields to this edition. He is a “pleasure to come across” according to peers, who also cite him as “at the top of his game” for defending against regulatory enforcement actions. In New York, the “incredible” Lawrence Zweifach is a “huge name” in the white-collar crime and investigations field having represented UBS in resolution of investigations involving the alleged manipulation of LIBOR. He is also a “real favourite” with accountancy firms for audit liability; he successfully acted for Ernst & Young in class actions and related proceedings arising from the Madoff investment scandal. Los Angeles-based Debra Wong Yang is co-chair of the firm’s crisis management, white collar defence and investigations, and information technology and data privacy practice groups. She is a former US attorney for the central district of California and was selected to serve on President George W Bush’s corporate fraud task force. She is described as “one of the most respected and admired practitioners in the country” and is considered to be “the gold standard” of the legal market for the West Coast.

Five practitioners from Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison’s “stellar” white collar crime practice garner recognition, including co-chair of the litigation team Theodore Wells Jr. He is “greatly valued” by his clients due to his “responsiveness, sensitivity and creativity” and is an “extremely effective advocate” according to those who come up against him in court. Also in New York is the “unbelievably good” Mark Pomerantz who is the “first port of call” for CEOs in need of representation for proceedings brought against them by the DOJ or SEC. At the Washington, DC office Beth Wilkinson is a “star of the courtroom” and boasts a “phenomenal roster of clients” that includes Pfizer, Philip Morris and the National Football League. She is recognised for playing a “pivotal role” in turning the tide in some of the most significant cases of the past decade and was also appointed by the Federal Trade Commission to lead its investigation into Google in 2013.

Sidley Austin achieves five inclusions, with individuals from its Washington, DC, Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco offices selected. Kimberley Dunne co-chairs the firm’s white collar: government litigation and investigations group and is the former chief of the public corruption and government fraud

section of the United States Attorney's Office in the Central District of California. She is hailed as a "brilliant litigator" and an "uncontested specialist" in healthcare fraud and abuse. "Investigations guru" Scott Lassar has "unbelievable experience" in both public and private practice, and Karen Popp is "hugely sought after" in matters pertaining to SEC enforcement and congressional inquiries.

William Jeffress Jr of Baker Botts is one of the most highly rated individuals in the world according to our research. Based in Washington, DC, he has nearly four decades of experience and is known for his "truly exceptional handling of highly complex criminal cases". Peers around the globe remark on "the breadth and depth of his expertise", which includes fraud, government procurement and public corruption. He has represented Lewis "Scooter" Libby, Vice President Cheney's former chief of staff, and acted for ABC News in a landmark case alleging fraud and trespass during news gathering. Three other lawyers from the firm's DC office are also singled out, with Mary Spearing achieving particular acclaim. A former chief of the fraud section at the DOJ, she has "almost unequalled experience" in FCPA matters and recent clients include the former CEO of Rite Aid, Noble and the Sinclair Oil Refinery.

John Keker, co-founding partner of Keker Van Nest in San Francisco, is "one of North America's finest practitioners". He has acted in corporate criminal trials for over 40 years and is "much admired" by peers who comment on his "profound impact" on this field of law in the US. Three further lawyers from the firm feature, with Jan Nielsen Little coming particularly highly nominated. She is described as a "first-rate strategic thinker" and an "obvious choice" for recognition in this guide.

Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel is home to the "magnificent" Gary Naftalis; a "point of reference" in the New York legal market. He is the firm's co-chair and "superbly leads" its litigation department. He boasts an "unrivalled history" in this field, having been involved in numerous notable cases including representing Michael Eisner, the CEO of The Walt Disney Company, in the shareholders, derivative lawsuit relating to the hiring and termination of Michael Ovitz, and the City of New York in the inquiry by the New York County District Attorney relating to the fire at the Deutsche Bank building. The "really excellent" Barry Berke is "incredibly effective in the courtroom".

Reid Weingarten of Steptoe & Johnson in Washington, DC, is our most highly regarded individual in the US and a worldwide leader in this field. He is described as a "giant" of the international business crime bar and is a "force to be reckoned with" in the courtroom according to those who have come up against

him. He is renowned for having a “winning way with judges and juries” and peers especially admire his “brilliant analytical mind and engaging approach”.

Chadbourne & Parke’s chair of white-collar defence, regulatory investigations and litigation Abbe David Lowell is considered an “icon” in this area due to his “phenomenal track record”. His high-profile clients have included public officials, businessmen, international organisations, and state and local governments. Significant recent matters include *United States v John Edwards* and *United States v Hector Martinez*.