

Jake M. Shields

Partner

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Washington, D.C.

Jake M. Shields is a partner in the Washington, D.C. office and a member of the firm's False Claims Act and White-Collar Defense and Investigations Practice Groups.

An expert in the False Claims Act (FCA), Jake was a Senior Trial Counsel at the Fraud Section of the Civil Division of the U.S. Department of Justice where, over an eight-year career spanning administrations of both major political parties, he investigated and litigated FCA cases on behalf of the federal government. During his time at DOJ, Jake was involved in dozens of FCA matters that collectively resulted in the recovery of hundreds of millions of dollars to the federal government, including respectively the single largest civil and FCA recoveries in the history of two separate federal jurisdictions (Houston and Nashville).

Both in and out of government, Jake has extensive experience handling matters involving allegations of healthcare, financial, customs, and procurement fraud, as well as violations of the Anti-Kickback Statute (AKS), Stark Law, Tariff Act, Payroll Protection Program, and restrictions on the off-label marketing of prescription drugs. Jake also has experience defending government contractors in DEI investigations under the FCA.

In addition to his investigations work, Jake has served as lead counsel in multiple FCA litigations, including a major AKS case that resolved a number of novel legal issues regarding the scope of discovery of the government in FCA cases.

Jake is an expert in federal cybersecurity enforcement against government contractors having served as lead counsel in the first FCA litigation that the United States ever filed against a contractor for alleged cybersecurity violations pursuant to DOJ's Civil Cyber-Fraud Initiative, as well as several other cybersecurity matters both on behalf of the federal government and in response to DOJ investigations of government contractors.

Jake is also experienced in FCA enforcement against private equity and other investment firms, having worked on these matters in the government and on behalf of private equity firms and their portfolio companies.

With a truly national practice, Jake has worked on FCA cases with more than two dozen U.S. Attorney's Offices, including those in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Chicago, Brooklyn, Newark, Baltimore, Miami, Tampa, Houston, Dallas, Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Cincinnati, Atlanta, Nashville, Charlotte, New Orleans, Columbia, Savannah, Seattle, Sacramento, Las Vegas, Wilmington, and Washington D.C.

Jake has also worked with government agencies on FCA cases, including the Offices of Inspector General (OIG) and Offices of General Counsel (OGC) at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and its sub-agencies the Centers for Medicare and



Capabilities

White Collar Defense and Investigations
Aerospace and Defense
Antitrust and Competition
Consumer Protection
FDA and Health Care
False Claims Act / Qui Tam Defense
Government Contracts
Life Sciences
Litigation
Privacy, Cybersecurity, and Data
Innovation

Credentials

Education

University of Virginia - 2003 Juris Doctor
Dartmouth College - 1999 Bachelor of Arts

Admissions

District of Columbia Bar
New York Bar

Clerkships

US Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit, Hon.
Emilio M. Garza, 2003 - 2004

Medicaid Services (CMS) and Food & Drug Administration (FDA), Department of Defense (DoD) and its service branches (Army, Navy, & Air Force) and sub-agency the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency (DARPA), Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and its sub-agencies Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Department of Commerce, Department of Treasury, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and Small Business Administration (SBA).

In addition to his work at DOJ's Civil Frauds Section, Jake spent a year on detail to DOJ's Antitrust Division where he served as a member of the litigation team in the Google search antitrust enforcement action.

Prior to joining the Justice Department, Jake spent twelve years in private practice at two prominent international law firms in New York and Washington D.C. where his practice focused on complex civil and financial litigation at the trial and appellate levels. During this period, Jake litigated cases in both federal and state courts across the country, and argued appeals in the Second and Eighth Circuits, as well as state appellate courts in New York and Maryland.

Jake received his J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law in 2003, where he served on the editorial board of the *Virginia Law Review*. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1999 with an A.B. in Government. Following law school, Jake clerked for the Honorable Emilio M. Garza on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Select Representations:

- Representing a large government contractor in a DEI investigation under the False Claims Act.
- Representing a large government contractor in a cybersecurity investigation under the False Claims Act.
- Representing a pharmaceutical company in a False Claims Act investigation regarding alleged violations of the Anti-kickback Statute and restrictions on off-label marketing of drugs.
- Representing a government contractor in the defense sector in a bid rigging investigation under the False Claims Act.
- Representing a private equity firm and its former portfolio company in a False Claims Act investigation of a loan made pursuant to the Payment Protection Program.
- Representing a government contractor in the healthcare sector in a cybersecurity and offshoring investigation under the False Claims Act.
- Advising a number of companies on False Claims Act risks in the area of customs and tariff enforcement.
- Advising a number of companies on False Claims Act risks in the area of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion.

Speaking Engagements:

- Panelist, "Cybersecurity Fraud Enforcement: Key Developments and Issues," panel sponsored by American Bar Association Public Contract Law Section Procurement Fraud and False Claims Committee and the Cybersecurity Privacy and Emerging Technology Committee, Washington, D.C., June 3, 2025.
- Panelist, "CMMC and Cybersecurity Enforcement in Higher Education," PreVail Higher Education Summit, May 13, 2025.
- Panelist, "Expanding the Scope: Private Equity Liability in False Claims Act Cases," ACI's False Claims and Qui Tam Enforcement Conference, New York, NY, January 28, 2025.

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- Co-Chair, "The Government and Modern FCA Practice," Federal Bar Association's 2024 Qui Tam Conference, Washington, D.C., February 23, 2024.

Publications:

- Jake M. Shields, Michael R. Dziuban, & Andrew Becker, *Trump Tariffs Promise Increased False Claims Act Scrutiny for Companies Throughout the Import Chain*, Global Trade Magazine, April 23, 2025.
- Jake M. Shields, Michael R. Dziuban, & Danilo Risteski, *Assessing PE Risk After Mass. False Claims Act Amendments*, Law360, February 28, 2025.
- Jake M. Shields & Ellen Bowden McIntyre, *Illegal Payment of Kickbacks to Medicare Beneficiaries: Routine Copayment Waivers, Copayment Assistance Charities, and Free Items and Services*, Department of Justice Journal of Law and Practice, v. 70. n. 3, August 2022.

Press Mentions:

- Quoted in: Tom Auchterlone, *Massachusetts Pressures GPs with False Claim Act Update*, Private Funds CFO, August 4, 2025.
- Quoted in: Corrine Ramey, *Battling Tariff Fraud Is a Little-Known Front in Trump's Trade War*, Wall Street Journal, July 14, 2025.

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