

Webcast: SDNY and EDNY Prosecution Trends

Webcasts | October 9, 2024

This webcast focuses on enforcement trends in the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York. The panel includes a former Assistant United States Attorney from the Southern District of New York and a former Assistant United States Attorney from the Eastern District of New York who cover key takeaways and trends from 2024 and look ahead at what these districts will prioritize in 2025.

Discussion topics include:

- Meaning and potential impacts of the DOJ's new whistleblower program and the related SDNY pilot program (www.justice.gov/d9/2024-02/sdny_wb_policy_effective_2-13-24.pdf)
- Key takeaways from indictments and civil lawsuits filed by the offices in 2024
- How this evolving and dynamic DOJ enforcement landscape may impact companies and executives.

Related People

[F. Joseph Warin](#)

[Zainab Ahmad](#)

[Karin Portlock](#)

PANELISTS:

Joseph Warin is chair of the 250-person Litigation Department of Gibson Dunn's Washington, D.C. office, and he is co-chair of the firm's global White Collar Defense and Investigations Practice Group. Mr. Warin's practice includes representation of corporations in complex civil litigation, white collar crime, and regulatory and securities enforcement – including Foreign Corrupt Practices Act investigations, False Claims Act cases, special committee representations, compliance counseling and class action civil litigation. Mr. Warin has handled cases and investigations in more than 40 states and dozens of countries. His credibility at DOJ and the SEC is unsurpassed among private practitioners – a reputation based in large part on his experience as the only person ever to serve as a compliance monitor or counsel to the compliance monitor in three separate FCPA monitorships, pursuant to settlements with the SEC and DOJ: Statoil ASA (2007-2009); Siemens AG (2009-2012); and Alliance One International (2011-2013). He has been hired by audit committees or special committees of public companies to conduct investigations into allegations of wrongdoing in a wide variety of industries including energy, oil services, financial services, healthcare and telecommunications. Mr. Warin is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia.

Zainab Ahmad is a partner in the New York office of Gibson Dunn, where she is co-chair of the firm's National Security Practice Group and a member of the White Collar Defense and Investigations, Privacy, Cybersecurity and Data Innovation and Labor and Employment Practice Groups. Zainab served as Senior Assistant Special Counsel in Special Counsel Robert S. Mueller's Office following a successful career as a prosecutor

and trial lawyer at the Department of Justice in both Washington, D.C. and the Eastern District of New York. As former Deputy Chief of the National Security and Cybercrime section at the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of New York, Zainab supervised a unit of over 20 attorneys, investigators, and staff prosecuting sensitive counterterrorism, counterespionage, and cybercrime cases. Zainab's practice focuses on white collar defense and investigations, as well as regulatory and civil litigation challenges, such as matters involving corruption, anti-money laundering, sanctions and FCPA issues. She also advises clients on cybercrime and intellectual property issues, including handling investigations, enforcement defense, and litigation. She has extensive experience with a wide range of federal, state, and international cybersecurity laws, regulations, and standards.

Zainab previously represented the DOJ at meetings of the World Economic Forum's Cybercrime Workshop and participated in development of WEF's Guidance on Public-Private Information Sharing Against Cybercrime. She also organized and led a Cybercrime Roundtable with former FBI Director James Comey and General Counsel and C-suite executives from various industries, including banking, media, health care and pharmaceutical companies, to discuss improved public-private partnership in combatting cybercrime. Zainab is admitted to practice in the State of New York.

Karin Portlock is a partner in the New York office of Gibson Dunn and a member of the White Collar Defense and Investigations, Litigation, Labor and Employment, and Crisis Management Practice Groups. As a former federal prosecutor, Karin has a broad-based government enforcement and investigations practice, ranging from government and internal corporate investigations to criminal defense and regulatory enforcement litigation through trial. She regularly represents individuals and companies under criminal investigation and indictment by the U.S. Department of Justice as well as in civil government probes by federal regulators and state Attorneys General.

Prior to joining Gibson Dunn, Karin was as an Assistant United States Attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York from 2015 to 2020. In that role, she tried multiple cases to verdict and prosecuted a broad range of federal criminal violations, including fraud, racketeering, and violent crimes, leading large-scale investigations of murder, firearms, and sex trafficking offenses as well as crimes involving minors and other vulnerable victims. She has particular expertise with victims of trauma and represents victims and witnesses at all stages of investigation and prosecution, including in cases involving highly sensitive subject matter. Karin is admitted to practice in the State of New York and before the U.S. District Courts for the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

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