

TRAILBLAZERS

WHITE COLLAR, REGULATORY & COMPLIANCE

STEPHANIE BROOKER
GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP



PIONEER SPIRIT Stephanie Brooker always knew she wanted to pursue both government service and private practice. She went to work for the U.S. attorney's office in the District of Columbia, serving first as a trial attorney and ultimately becoming the first chief of the office's asset forfeiture and money laundering section. "I was interested in the opportunity, but it was really born out of the culture of meeting the needs of the office and a request from my U.S. attorney. It set me on a meaningful and interesting career path." Then, a DOJ colleague joined the Department of Treasury's Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), and she was asked to establish the agency's first stand-alone Enforcement Division. "Having a combination of white-collar and anti-money laundering (AML) regulatory experience set me on a path that I wasn't expecting at the beginning of my legal career."

TRAILS BLAZED Brooker now co-chairs the firm's financial institutions practice group and is a member of the white-collar defense and investigations practice group. "I am able to work on behalf of clients in multi-agency enforcement actions involving anti-corruption, securities and criminal tax issues, sanctions, and AML." She strategically navigates matters to achieve the best possible outcome for her clients. "There are challenging issues with multiple enforcement agencies—we focus on providing the best representation we can for clients in an often-tricky situation." She also advises clients on Bank Secrecy Act and AML compliance. "It's complicated from a regulatory perspective. We work to develop compliance solutions that adhere to the highest levels of compliance, while still achieving clients' business goals."

FUTURE EXPLORATIONS Indications from the current administration are that the robust Bank Secrecy Act/AML enforcement climate will continue. There has also been recent congressional activity around reform efforts for AML. "It will be interesting to see where it goes from a statutory and regulatory perspective."