



Justin Weddle is a seasoned trial lawyer, appellate advocate, and litigation strategist with deep experience in high-stakes criminal, civil, and regulatory matters — both domestic and cross-border. He develops tailored strategies for clients facing government enforcement actions, corporate investigations, and complex appeals.

He has played key roles in some of the most high-profile and consequential matters of the past two decades, including:

- The OneCoin prosecution
- The WeBuildtheWall prosecution
- The Premium Point appeal and post-conviction proceedings
- The LIBOR criminal prosecutions
- The FIFA corruption case
- U.S. litigation related to Brazil's Lava Jato investigation
- The KPMG-PCAOB leaks trial in the Southern District of New York
- The Supreme Court's *Lucia* decision finding SEC ALJs unconstitutional
- Circuit court litigation on SEC disgorgement and Appointments Clause issues

Justin served for more than 12 years as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York, where he built and tried complex white collar cases. He served in the Computer Hacking and Intellectual Property section, the Major Crimes Unit, the Complex Frauds Unit, and the Securities and Commodities Fraud Task Force.

## Justin S. Weddle

### Founder

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### Education

Columbia University School of Law, J.D. 1995  
Managing Editor, Columbia Law Review  
Kent Scholar, Stone Scholar  
Haverford College, B.A. 1992

### Bar Admissions

New York  
Massachusetts  
U.S. District Courts: Southern District of New York, Eastern District of New York, and District of Massachusetts  
U.S. Courts of Appeals: First, Second, Third, Ninth, Tenth, D.C. and Federal Circuits  
U.S. Supreme Court

### Recognitions

Recognized by Super Lawyers as a Top Rated White Collar Crimes Attorney in New York, NY, since 2017  
Listed in Who's Who Legal, Business Crime Defense for both Corporates and Individuals

### Professional Activities

Formerly a member of the NYC Bar Association Federal Courts Committee and Chair of the Appeals Subcommittee  
Formerly Secretary of the NYC Bar Association Corrections Committee

### Teaching Experience

Adjunct Professor of Clinical Law, NYU School of Law, 2012-14

### Clerkship

Law Clerk for the Honorable Peter K. Leisure, Southern District of New York, 1995-96

His tenure culminated in his appointment as Deputy Chief of Appeals, where he supervised briefing and oral argument before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. He has personally argued eighteen cases before the Second Circuit.

From 2008 to 2010, Justin served as the Resident Legal Adviser for the U.S. Department of Justice in Bucharest, Romania, where he led cross-border law enforcement initiatives in Southeast Europe. He represented the United States in multilateral treaty negotiations establishing the Southeast European Law Enforcement Center (SELEC) and worked closely with EU institutions and European prosecutors to strengthen international cooperation.

## Experience

### Financial Fraud

- Appellate counsel in *U.S. v. Ahuja et al.*, an SDNY securities and wire fraud prosecution involving alleged mispricing of securities at a hedge fund.
- Represented one of the lead trial defendants in a federal criminal prosecution and four-week jury trial in the Southern District of New York alleging fraud charges based on the alleged leak of PCAOB inspection information to KPMG.
- Represented a class of plaintiffs seeking the return of approximately \$14.9 billion from the SEC for unauthorized disgorgement collections.
- Represented a former banker in a LIBOR-related investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice and Commodities Futures Trading Commission.
- Represented a whistleblower in an FCA case relating to alleged fraud on the United States.
- Represented U.S.-based independent directors of an AIM-listed entity in connection with U.K. investigations into the entity's financial reporting.

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### Publications

- "SEC Actions Against Musk Are Constitutionally Defective," *Law 360*  
Published October 13, 2023
- "Prosecutors Should Be Wary Of Overreach After Marinello," *Law 360*  
Published: March 30, 2018
- "Corporate Resolution Roundup," *Corporate Disputes*  
Published: Jan-Mar 2015 Issue
- "The Newman-Chiasson Decision: Cold Comfort for Hedge Fund Managers," *Hedge Fund Law Report*  
Published: December 2014
- "It's Not Just the Swiss," *Corporate Counsel*  
Published: September 1, 2014
- "BNP Paribas and Credit Suisse: Everything's Negotiable," *Corporate Counsel*  
Published: July 1, 2014

- Represented a former banker in a prosecution in the Southern District of New York relating to LIBOR.
- Advised an investment fund regarding insider trading and market manipulation restrictions.
- Represented an investment fund and an associated individual in connection with a World Bank Group Integrity Vice Presidency investigation.
- Represented the Special Claims Committee of the Financial Oversight and Management Board for Puerto Rico.
- Represented a former banker in a LIBOR-related investigation by the US Department of Justice and Commodities Futures Trading Commission.

#### Corruption

- Represented a lead defendant in FIFA-related extradition proceedings and corruption prosecution in the Eastern District of New York.
- Represented a former top executive of a bank in connection with an Eastern District of New York corruption investigation related to the creation of over a billion dollars in loans in Africa.
- Represented lead defendants in high-profile FCPA investigation and related U.S. securities class action litigation regarding alleged corruption in Brazil.
- Represented leading European executive in investigations and potential extradition proceedings relating to alleged bribery in Central America.
- Represented an executive of a multinational technology company based in Brazil relating to bribery and corruption allegations.

#### Health Care Fraud

- Represented a major medical company in U.S. Department of Justice civil and criminal investigations.

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- Advised surgeon in dispute regarding pharmaceutical billing.
- Advised ad hoc committee of lenders to laboratory company facing FCA and other actions related to hundreds of millions of dollars in alleged fraudulent billing.

## Appeals

- Appellate counsel to We Build the Wall in challenging asset freeze obtained as part of a criminal case against individuals.
- Appellate counsel in New York Appellate Division, First Department, relating to civil dispute in New York County.
- Brief to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of amicus curiae the Constitution Project at the Project on Government Oversight in *Rodney Reed v. Texas*, a capital case involving new evidence of suppressed evidence and false science.
- Appellate counsel in *U.S. v. Ahuja et al.*, an SDNY securities and wire fraud prosecution involving alleged mispricing of securities at a hedge fund.
- Brief to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of an amicus curiae in *Lucia v. SEC* challenging the constitutionality of SEC administrative law judge appointments.
- Brief to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of the Innocence Project as amicus curiae in a certiorari petition relating to coram nobis relief for actual innocence.
- Brief to the U.S. Supreme Court on behalf of an amicus curiae in *Kokesh v. SEC* challenging SEC disgorgement orders.
- Briefs to the Second Circuit on appeal of securities and tax fraud convictions from the Northern District of New York.
- Briefs to the DC Circuit, Eleventh Circuit, and U.S. Supreme Court relating to defects in SEC administrative proceedings.

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- Brief to the Second Circuit on behalf of a prominent investment adviser and its principal in an appeal of a collateral challenge to the validity of an SEC administrative proceeding.
- Appellate counsel for the same investment advisor and its principal in an appeal to the DC Circuit from an SEC sanctions order.
- As Deputy Chief of Appeals in the U.S. Attorney's Office, supervised briefing and argument in more than sixty appeals to the Second Circuit, and as a prosecutor, authored twelve Second Circuit briefs.

#### **Trials**

- Trial counsel in a four-week criminal jury trial in the Southern District of New York in the KPMG-PCAOB leaks case.
- Trial counsel in a multi-week trial in the SDNY Bankruptcy Court regarding fraudulent conveyance, preference, and other claims arising out of multi-billion dollar leveraged buyout.
- As a prosecutor, trial counsel in ten trials, including tax fraud, bank fraud, health care fraud, accounting fraud, sanctions violations, criminal copyright violations, and gun trafficking.

#### **Internal Investigations**

- Conducted internal investigation for an entity that suffered embezzlement by a financial officer.
- Conducted internal investigations for a number of business entity clients in criminal and civil matters.
- As a prosecutor, conducted more than one hundred white collar criminal investigations.

#### **Anti-Money Laundering**

- Represented the former chief compliance officer of a financial institution in connection with U.S. Department of Justice and Office of

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the Comptroller of the Currency investigations relating to Bank Secrecy Act and Anti-Money-Laundering controls.

- Advised European bank on OFAC and NY Department of Financial Services issues.

#### Trade Secrets Theft

- Represented a manufacturer of optical devices in a federal investigation of allegations of trade secrets theft under the Economic Espionage Act and criminal copyright infringement.
- As a prosecutor, conducted two criminal copyright jury trials, and supervised Second Circuit appeals in two key cases involving the theft of high frequency trading code.

#### Extradition

- Represented a leading FIFA defendant in connection with U.S.-Switzerland extradition proceedings.
- Represented European executives in connection with potential U.S.-Spain-Guatemala extradition matters relating to alleged corruption.
- Represented a high-profile individual in connection with U.S.-Uruguay extradition proceedings.
- Negotiated the voluntary surrender to the Southern District of New York of a client who had fled to India.

#### Forfeiture

- Represent We Build the Wall in challenge to order freezing the entity's assets as part of a criminal proceeding that was not brought against the entity.
- Local counsel to claimant in civil forfeiture action.

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### Civil Litigation

- Represented a co-founder of tech startup in exit dispute with his company.
- Represent a co-founder of a tech startup in buyout of majority investors.
- Represent a venture capital firm in litigation with former lawyers.

### As a Prosecutor

- **LIRR Disability Fraud** (United States v. Ajemian et al.). Led the investigation and prosecution of a billion-dollar disability fraud committed by more than a thousand Long Island Railroad retirees, successfully convicting at trial and by plea doctors responsible for more than half of all LIRR disability claims, as well as dozens of other participants in the fraud.
- **Insider Trading** (United States v. Rajat Gupta). Supervised the Government's successful briefing and argument on appeal regarding the conviction of Rajat Gupta, a former Goldman Sachs board member, for an insider trading conspiracy with Raj Rajaratnam.
- **Tax Shelter Fraud** (United States v. KPMG and United States v. Stein et al.). Initiated and for three years helped lead the Southern District of New York's efforts to investigate and prosecute fraudulent tax shelters sold during the late 1990s and early 2000s by accounting firms, law firms, and banks. Those efforts resulted in dozens of convictions both at trial and by plea, several deferred prosecutions or non-prosecution agreements with professional services firms and banks, and the collection of monetary penalties exceeding \$1.3 billion.
- **Tollman-Hundley Bank and Tax Fraud** (United States v. Hundley, Freedman, Cutler & Zukerman). Co-lead counsel in a four-month jury trial of top executives of the Tollman-Hundley Hotel Group—former owners of Days Inn of America—for a \$100 million bank fraud and a \$29 million tax fraud.

- **Accounting Fraud** (United States v. Fasciana & Amato). Co-lead counsel in a three-month jury trial against the outside counsel and CFO for the New York securities industry division of a Fortune 500 company for a multi-million dollar accounting fraud.
- **Pirro Tax Evasion** (United States v. Albert Pirro & Anthony Pirro). Trial counsel in a six-week jury trial of Albert Pirro, a prominent Westchester lobbyist and lawyer and the husband of the then-Westchester County District Attorney, in a million-dollar tax evasion case.

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