Steptoe's white-collar defense practice is among the most well-respected and preeminent in the United States. For decades, we built this reputation by defending individuals and companies in the nation's highest-profile criminal prosecutions and investigations. The group is known for its active trial caseload, and we regularly take tough criminal cases to court and win. Steptoe lawyers find creative solutions to difficult problems and have guided many clients to favorable resolutions before a criminal indictment. We also conduct internal investigations on behalf of public and private companies, excelling at conducting complex, multijurisdictional investigations while maintaining our focus on the key issues under review.

Steptoe has garnered many accolades, including recognition by both Chambers USA and The Legal 500 as a top-ranked practice in this field. We were named The National Law Journal's Washington Litigation Department of the Year in White-Collar Crime in 2014, 2017, and 2018, and received the Law360 White-Collar "Group of the Year" three times. We were also ranked in Global Investigations Review (GIR) 100 as one of the Top 30 Firms for Investigations Worldwide in 2015-2019. Our team includes Reid Weingarten, called the "star of the criminal defense bar" by Chambers, and widely recognized as one of the premier white-collar defense lawyers in the country. Many of our litigators served in government with distinction before joining the firm, including several former US federal prosecutors with extensive trial experience. Our team includes several Fellows of the American College of Trial Lawyers, and our lawyers are consistently ranked as top criminal defense attorneys by Chambers, Best Lawyers in America, Euromoney's Expert Guides, Legal 500, Super Lawyers, and Washingtonian magazine.

Noteworthy

- Chambers Global, FCPA, US (2020)
- Legal 500 UK, Fraud: White-Collar Crime (advice to individuals) (2021)
Individual Representations

Steptoe aggressively defends individuals in government and internal investigations, trials, sentencings, and appeals nationwide and abroad. We have experience in all areas of white-collar criminal enforcement, including securities and accounting fraud, public corruption, Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, healthcare fraud, FDA violations, antitrust, tax, false claims, export controls and sanctions, environmental, perjury and false statements, and obstruction.

Our notable recent individual representations include:

- **United States v. Richard Ireland.** Steptoe obtained a Rule 29 judgment of acquittal on all counts for Dick Ireland, a Philadelphia businessman accused in a “pay to play” case of bribing former Pennsylvania State Treasurer Rob McCord to obtain asset manager contracts. Despite McCord’s guilty plea and cooperation, and dozens of hours of undercover recordings, the judge acquitted Ireland at the close of the government’s case, commending Steptoe’s performance as “some of the best trial work we have ever had the privilege to see in this or any courtroom.”

- **United States v. William Facteau.** Steptoe obtained an acquittal for ex-Accelarent CEO William Facteau of felony fraud charges brought by the government in an indictment returned in 2015. The jury unanimously acquitted the defendant of all 14 felony charges brought by the government: one count of conspiracy, three counts of wire fraud, and 10 counts of felony adulteration and misbranding.

- **United States v. David Rainey.** Steptoe secured an acquittal for David Rainey, the highest ranking BP executive charged in connection with the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, on a false statements charge tried in New Orleans, Louisiana. After the jury returned its not guilty verdict following two hours of deliberations, the judge stated on the public record that he “agreed with the verdict” and believed it was “a correct verdict based on the evidence.” The acquittal followed the court’s dismissal, on the first day of trial, of a related obstruction of Congress charge, after extensive pre-trial litigation in which the Steptoe defense team successfully argued that selective invocation of the Speech or Debate Clause privilege by congressional witnesses interfered with Mr. Rainey’s right to present a defense.

- **United States v. Lauren Stevens.** Steptoe obtained a Rule 29 judgment of acquittal on all counts for Lauren Stevens, former general counsel of GlaxoSmithKline, who was accused of obstructing a federal inquiry and making false statements to investigators related to an FDA investigation of the drug Wellbutrin SR. The acquittal came after the court found that it would have been a “miscarriage of justice” to permit the case against Stevens to go to the jury.

- **In re Special Proceedings.** Steptoe defended a DOJ trial attorney in the Public Integrity Section, one of six federal prosecutors involved in the prosecution of Alaska Senator Ted Stevens on corruption charges. Following a three-year investigation by a Special Prosecutor appointed to investigate potential obstruction of justice, and a parallel ethics investigation by DOJ’s Office of Professional Responsibility, our client was cleared of any wrongdoing.

Corporate Representations

Steptoe has represented some of the largest public and private companies in the world in major government and internal investigations. Through decades of experience, Steptoe has earned a national reputation as a go-to firm for boards, audit committees, special committees, companies, and other institutions in need of outside counsel to handle government investigations, sensitive internal investigations, and compliance reviews.

Our notable recent corporate representations include:

- **United States v. Volkswagen AG.** Steptoe represented Volkswagen AG in the diesel emissions case and successfully negotiated the largest corporate criminal and regulatory settlement in recent history.

- **Pilot Flying J.** Steptoe conducted an independent investigation for a Special Committee of the Board of Directors of Pilot Flying J regarding allegations that the country’s largest travel center chain and diesel fuel provider defrauded some of its trucking company customers.

- **United States v. Control Components, Inc.** Steptoe represented UK conglomerate IMI plc, and its US subsidiary Control Components Inc., in a global FCPA investigation. After a self-disclosure and extensive cooperation, Steptoe successfully obtained a declination for IMI and negotiated a plea agreement for CCI that included a substantially below-Guidelines fine amount.

- **United States v. Japan Airlines.** Steptoe represented Japan Airlines in the air cargo cartel investigation and successfully negotiated a guilty plea for the company.
Representative Matters

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- **Pilot Flying J.** Steptoe conducted an independent investigation for a Special Committee of the Board of Directors of Pilot Flying J regarding allegations that the country’s largest travel center chain and diesel fuel provider defrauded some of its trucking company customers.

- **United States v. Control Components, Inc.** Steptoe represented UK conglomerate IMI plc, and its US subsidiary Control Components Inc., in a global FCPA investigation. After a self-disclosure and extensive cooperation, Steptoe successfully obtained a declination for IMI and negotiated a plea agreement for CCI that included a substantially below-Guidelines fine amount.

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News & Publications

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Advocating Against 'One-Size-Fits-All' Protective Orders During the COVID-19 Pandemic**

*Daily Journal*

January 6, 2021

By: Ashwin J. Ram, Jennifer Shulkin, Michael A. Keough, Nicholas P. Silverman

**MEDIA MENTIONS**

**Am Law Litigation Daily** Quotes Mike Miller on 2021 Litigation Forecast

January 6, 2021

**PRESS RELEASES**

**Steptoe Announces Promotions**

January 4, 2021

**MEDIA MENTIONS**

**Law.com** Quotes Ashwin Ram on Attorney-Client Privilege in White-Collar Investigations

December 23, 2020

**PRESS RELEASES**

**Former SDNY Assistant US Attorney Ryan Poscablo Joins Steptoe in New York**

December 15, 2020

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Virtual Hearings May Serve Justice Better Than A Courtroom**

*Law360*

December 14, 2020

By: Jennifer Shulkin

**CLIENT ALERTS**

**Second Circuit’s Decision in Mangouras: Implications for Privilege Assertions in Cross-Border Investigations**

December 4, 2020

By: Patrick F. Linehan, Zoe Osborne, Nicholas P. Silverman, Alexandrea Rahill

**PRESS RELEASES**

**Washingtonian** Names Steptoe Partners to 'Top Lawyers’ List

December 3, 2020

**PRESS RELEASES**

**Former FINRA Associate Director Erica Gerson Returns to Steptoe**

December 1, 2020

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Insider Trading on Government Information**

*New York Law Journal*

December 1, 2020

By: Michael Campion Miller, Michelle L. Levin, Bruce C. Bishop, David B. Hirsch
Events
WEBINARS
Investigations & Enforcement Webinar Series
Quarterly Investigations Update
October 27, 2020
Speakers: James D. Barnette, Christopher R. Conte, Paul R. Hurst, Patrick F. Linehan, Lucinda A. Low, Michael Campion Miller, Brittany Prelogar, Wendy Wysong

WEBINARS
Navigating the Road Ahead: Congressional and DOJ Investigations into Waste and Abuse Related to COVID-19 Relief Funds
September 14, 2020

WEBINARS
The Limits of US "Long-arm" Jurisdiction
August 4, 2020
Speakers: Michelle L. Levin, Wendy Wysong

WEBINARS
Investigations & Enforcement Quarterly Webinar Series
Midyear Update
July 16, 2020
Speakers: James D. Barnette, Christopher R. Conte, Paul R. Hurst, Patrick F. Linehan, Lucinda A. Low, Michael Campion Miller, Brittany Prelogar, Wendy Wysong

WEBINARS
FCPA Year in Review
February 27, 2020
Speaker: Lucinda A. Low
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Assessing the Impacts of Executive Order 13936 on Hong Kong’s Status, One Month Later
August 25, 2020
By: Alexandra Baj, Ali Burney, Brian Egan, Eric C. Emerson, Edward J. Krauland, Michelle L. Levin, Patrick F. Linehan, Meredith Rathbone, Wendy Wysong, Elizabeth (Liz) Laskey LaRocca, Hena Schommer, Nicholas Turner, Dana J. Delott, Anthony Pan, Zachary Simmons, Martin Willner, Jacob Nelson (International Trade Assistant)

INTERNATIONAL LAW ADVISORY

Kokesh’s Open Question Resolved: SCOTUS Upholds But Limits Equitable Disgorgement in SEC Civil Actions
June 23, 2020
By: Lucinda A. Low, Christopher R. Conte, Brittany Prelogar, Patrick F. Linehan, Jessica Piquet Megaw

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June 4, 2020
By: Lucinda A. Low, Brittany Prelogar, Patrick F. Linehan, Yasmin Almeida

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Considerations for Conducting Internal Investigations Remotely
March 30, 2020
By: Patrick F. Linehan, Zoe Osborne, Brittany Prelogar, Katherine M. Dubyak, Jefferson Klocke

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The Asia Pacific Top Ten FCPA Enforcement Actions of 2019
February 3, 2020
By: Wendy Wysong, Richard J. Battaglia, Susan Munro, Ali Burney, Hena Schommer, Nicholas Turner, Anthony Pan

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FCPA/Anti-Corruption Developments: 2019 Year in Review
January 21, 2020
By: Lucinda A. Low, Brittany Prelogar, Brigida Benitez, Wendy Wysong, Zoe Osborne, Steven J. Barber, Alexandra Melia, Susan Munro, Richard J. Battaglia, Ali Burney, Fernando O. Merino, Rachel B. Peck, Nicholas Turner, Hena Schommer, Alexandra Baj, Jessica Piquet Megaw, Elizabeth Arkell, Jefferson Klocke, Yasmin Almeida, Yas Froemel, Veronica Ganzitti, Chris Han, Jessica D. Maneval, Lia Metreveli, Anthony Pan, Alexandria Rahill, Troy Shephard, A. Cherie Tremaine, Stefan Tsakanaklis, Melhui (May) Xiao, Lin Yang, Bo Yue

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DOJ Revamps Corporate Compliance Program Guidance, Broadens Application
May 9, 2019
By: Lucinda A. Low, Brittany Prelogar, Patrick F. Linehan, Rachel B. Peck, Jessica Piquet Megaw
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February 28, 2019
By: Lucinda A. Low, Brittany Prelogar, Brigida Benitez, William L. Drake, Alexandra Meila, Fernando Q. Merino, Simon Hirsbrunner, Alexandra Baj, Rachel B. Peck, Jessica Plquet Megaw, Evan T. Abrams, Elizabeth Arkell, Katherine M. Dubyak, Chris Han, Jessica D. Maneval, A. Cherie Tremaine, Lin Yang, Bo Yue, Yasmin Almeida, Alexandria Rahill, Troy Shephard

Long-Awaited Decision Issued on FCPA’s Reach Over Non-Resident Foreign Nationals
September 5, 2018
By: Lucinda A. Low, Brittany Prelogar

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