

Jeffery

Partner

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At the U.S. Attorney's Office, Jeff Vaden was responsible for directing criminal prosecutions and grand jury investigations in areas including U.S. export controls and sanctions, bank fraud, public corruption, immigration, money laundering, counterterrorism, and national security. His honors include the Director's Award for Superior Performance in 2008, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Assistant Secretary's Award in 2007, and the 20th Anniversary National Award, Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force in 2002.

He has worked on domestic and international matters with federal law enforcement and investigative agencies, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Internal Revenue Service, Department of Commerce-Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Labor Office of Inspector General, Department of the Treasury, Department of Housing and Urban Development, U.S. Postal Service Office of Inspector General, Secret Service, U.S. Marshal's Service, and the Diplomatic Security Service.

Industries

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[Environmental Litigation &](#)

[Enforcement Defense](#)

[FCPA](#)

Credentials

Education

- University of Law, London, J.D., 1994
- Transylvania University in Lexington, Kentucky, B.B.A., 1990

Bar Admissions

- Texas

Savoy Magazine

- Most Influential Lawyers in Corporate America, 2024

Chambers USA

- Texas Litigation: White Collar Crime & Government Investigations, 2017 – 2024

The Legal 500 United States

- Dispute Resolution – Corporate Investigations and White Collar Criminal Defense, 2017 – 2020, 2023 – 2024
- Energy: Regulatory, 2013

The National Black Lawyers

- Top 100, White Collar Criminal Defense, 2015

BL Rankings

- *Best Lawyers*, Criminal Defense: White-Collar, 2018 – 2025

Lawdragon, Inc.

- *Lawdragon 500 Leading Litigators in America*, White-Collar and Investigations, 2024 – 2025

US Department of Justice

- Executive Office for United States Attorneys, Director's Award, 2008

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

- Assistant Secretary Award, 2007

Organized Crime and Drug Enforcement Task Force

- 20th Anniversary National Award, 2002

US Attorney's Office

- Performance Award, 2001, Sisyphus Award, 2005

Resources

When the Government Comes Knocking – A Conversation With Jeff Vaden

Podcast

Biden Administration Prioritizes Increased and Broadened Anti-Corruption Enforcement

Update

Government Enforcement and Investigations Year-In-Review: The Administration Has Moved Its Pieces into Place

Update

Lifting the Fog on the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act: Enforcement and Compliance Trends to Watch in San Francisco

Update

Guiding Your Company Through Trump's New Latin America Enforcement Policy

Update

Publications & Speeches

- "FEPA's Role in Boosting FCPA Prosecutions in 2025: Dissecting the Landscape of Enforcement and Risk," Foreign Corrupt Practices Act Houston, January 23, 2025.
- Co-panelist, "Is Sanctions the New FCPA? Defending and Investigating Allegations Brought Under US Sanctions Laws," NACDL West Coast White Collar Conference, June 21, 2024.
- Co-panelist, "National Security, Economic Espionage and Sanctions: The Challenges of a Flattening World," ABA National Institute of White Collar Crime, March 6, 2019.
- Co-panelist, "Financial Crimes Outside the US: Money Laundering, Exports & Sanctions Enforcement," NACDL 8th Annual West Coast White Collar Conference, June 21, 2018.
- Co-panelist, "Under the Bus: Ethical Considerations in Corporate/White Collar Cases; Representing Corporations and Individuals," Southern District of Texas, Bench Bar Conference, November 3, 2017.

- Co-panelist, "The Art of the Snitch: Defending Them; Attacking Them," NACDL West Coast White Collar Conference, July 23, 2017.
- Co-panelist, "Liability for Cross-Border Activity: Increasing Enforcement of Economic Sanctions and Export Control Laws," ABA National Institute of White Collar Crime, March 8, 2017.
- Co-panelist, "Advising the GC on the Strategies, Issues and Themes in the Trial," ABA First Annual Foreign Corrupt Practices Act Mock Trial Institute, November 17, 2016.
- Co-panelist, "Avoiding Indictment: The FCPA & Prosecutorial Discretion," Business Crimes for Civil and Criminal Lawyers CLE, October 13, 2016
- "DOJ Announces First Declinations After Implementing FCPA Pilot Program," *Corporate Compliance Insights*, June 22, 2016.
- "Critical Moments & Critical Decisions: Conducting and Defending Congressional & Internal Investigations," South Asian Bar Association Conference, May 14, 2016.
- "What to Do When the Government Comes Knocking," Association of Corporate Counsel, Houston, January 14, 2014.
- "Foreign Corrupt Practices Act Compliance," Bilateral US-Arab Chamber of Commerce Insight Series, November 20, 2013.
- "In-House Complexities of Internal Investigations," Society of Corporate Secretaries & Governance Professionals, November 13, 2013.
- "Government Enforcement of Export Controls and Economic Sanctions: Perspectives From a Former Prosecutor," American Petroleum Institute's International Trade & Customs Conference, March 18, 2013.
- "Detecting Corruption in Your Local Operations: How to Conduct Effective Risk Assessments in High-Risk Markets," American Conference Institute's FCPA Boot Camp, January 24, 2013.
- "Foreign Corrupt Practices Act: Emerging Trends, Compliance and Ethical Issues," Houston Bar Association, July 26, 2012.