

Stephen

Partner

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Stephen Braga chairs the firm's national Government Enforcement & Investigations practice. He has over 40 years of experience representing individuals and companies in their most important government enforcement matters. Whether it be handling sensitive criminal investigations or litigating the fall-out from such investigations in court, Steve has the sound judgment clients need to guide them carefully through such difficulties.

Over the course of his career, he has played a leading role in many of the most high-profile white collar cases and investigations in Washington, DC. This work has included the representation of numerous Executive Branch and Congressional officials in addition to private individual and corporate clients. In the course of this work, as exemplified below, Steve has represented numerous Executive Branch and Congressional officials in addition to private individual and corporate clients. Other career highlights include acting as lead counsel in securing the release in two separate high-profile representations of men who had spent decades in prison for wrongful murder convictions: Marty Tankleff, who was exonerated on an appeal argued by Steve, and Damien Echols, a member of the "West Memphis Three," who was freed from death row on a deal negotiated by Steve.

Steve was elected a fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers in 2008.

Practices

[Government Contracts](#)

[Government Enforcement & Investigations](#)

[Litigation](#)

[False Claims Act](#)

Credentials

Education

- Georgetown University Law Center, J.D., 1981, *magna cum laude*
- Fairfield University, B.A., 1978, *cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia

Chambers USA

- DC Litigation: White Collar Crime & Government Investigations, 2022 – 2024

The Legal 500 United States

- Dispute Resolution: Corporate Investigations and White Collar Criminal Defense, 2020 – 2024 (Leading Lawyer, 2023 – 2024)

BL Rankings

- *Best Lawyers*, Bet-the-Company Litigation, 2010 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Commercial Litigation, 2007 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Criminal Defense: General Practice, 2010 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Criminal Defense: White Collar, 2006 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Legal Malpractice Law: Defendants, 2011 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Litigation – Regulatory Enforcement (SEC, Telecom, Energy), 2011 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Litigation – Securities, 2011 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Professional Malpractice Law – Defendants, 2011 – 2025
- *Best Lawyers*, Washington, DC Lawyer of the Year, Bet-the-Company Litigation, 2023

Lawdragon Inc.

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

Fairfield University

- Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree, 2018

National Law Journal

- Pro Bono Hotlist, 2012

Death Penalty Focus Abolition Award, 2012

New York State Gideon Champion of Justice Award, 2008

US District Court for the District of Columbia

- Law Clerk

Resources

Demystifying Congressional Investigations: A Conversation With Stephen Braga

Podcast

White Collar Crime, West Memphis and Warlocks: An Interview With Stephen Braga

Podcast

Antitrust Enforcement in Federal Procurement – DOJ’s New Lawsuit to Block a Merger Suggests that Things May Be Getting Interesting

Update

The ENRC Saga – Not Just a UK Concern

Blog Post

Is it a Tip or a Bribe? Supreme Court Narrows Scope of Anti-Corruption Statutes for State and Local Officials

Update

Creating an Army of In-House Investigators

Update

“No Harm, No Foul”: Who Will Referee Future White-Collar Prosecutions?

Update

How High Court May Rule in First Step Act Resentencing Case

Article

Publications & Speeches

- "How High Court May Rule in First Step Act Resentencing Case," *Law360*, February 3, 2025.