

Government Enforcement & Investigations

Experienced Counsel for High-Stakes Matters

When the stakes are high, companies and individuals turn to Bracewell's government enforcement and investigations team. We have one of the most respected teams in the United States and the UK, with decades of collective experience as defense lawyers, former prosecutors, regulators, federal judges and in-house counsel. We were named **White Collar Group of the Year** --> by *Law360* in 2018, and our lawyers and practice consistently receive high rankings in *Chambers USA*, *Chambers UK*, *Legal 500 US* and *Legal 500 UK*.

We draw on our broad and diverse experiences to provide strategic, informed advice to companies and individuals faced with federal or state enforcement actions and investigations.

We focus on four main areas:

- **Prevention** — Our team conducts internal investigations on behalf of companies, audit committees and special board committees. We develop, review and audit corporate compliance programs to help minimize the risk of violations and reduce the likelihood of prosecution in government investigations.
- **Detection** — We help companies identify and address issues related to discrimination, harassment and retaliation. If we uncover past misconduct during an internal audit and investigation, we make confidential recommendations on the best way to handle the situation and avoid similar issues in the future.
- **Defense** — We vigorously defend individuals and companies in white-collar investigations and prosecution at various levels of government. Our team has been at the forefront of numerous notable actions and secured favorable outcomes in highly sensitive, and often complex, matters.

Areas of Focus

FCPA

Internal Investigations

Monitorships

False Claims Act

BRACEWELL

- **Resolution** — Our lawyers are highly regarded among their peers and are frequently sought out by judges and corporate executives to monitor compliance with policies, procedures, laws, regulations and ethics programs. We regularly serve as court-appointed monitors in high-profile cases, as well as independent external reviewers.

Our lawyers represent clients across an array of enforcement and investigation matters, including:

- accounting and financial fraud
- antitrust issues
- broker-dealer violations
- cyber threats and data security
- economic and financial sanctions and export control
- environmental and ESG litigation
- Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and Bribery Act diligence and litigation
- False Claims Act and Qui Tam matters
- government contracts
- healthcare fraud
- insider trading
- money laundering
- tax issues

Key Contacts



Seth

Partner

NEW YORK +1.212.508.6165

seth.ducharme@bracewell.com

Experience

Our team provides strategic counsel to companies and individuals across the United States and throughout the world.

Mustafa Abdel-Wadood

- a former managing partner at Abraaj Capital, in connection with US fraud and conspiracy charges

Archdiocese of New York

- in a year-long investigation into whether the Archdiocese was following the policies and procedures for responding to allegations of sexual abuse within the Archdiocese

Charter Communication

- as independent compliance officer, regarding the conditions placed on the company by the FCC in connection with the acquisition of Time Warner Cable, Inc. and Bright House Networks

Michael Cohen privilege review

- as special master appointed by the US District Court for the Southern District of New York

Digital Currency Group

- a major cryptocurrency parent company, in parallel investigations involving allegations that a wholly owned subsidiary engaged in fraud with representations about its financial condition following a massive default by a crypto counterparty

International Brotherhood of Teamsters Union (IBT)

- as an independent monitor with disciplinary authority over the IBT relating to internal corruption charges, disciplinary decisions and review of trusteeships imposed by the IBT over local unions, as well as other investigative matters

Charles McGonigal

- a former special agent in charge of the Counterintelligence Division of New York Field Office, in an investigation for possible FARA violations, as well as an investigation for possible money laundering in connection with services rendered to clients in Albania and Ukraine following his retirement from the FBI

New York City District Council of Carpenters

- in connection with its court-appointed monitorship

New York Police Department

- in a full-scale review of the New York City Police Department's disciplinary policies

Norman Seabrook

- former head of the New York City Correctional Officers Benevolent Association (COBA), on federal charges concerning the acceptance of kickbacks in return for investing COBA funds in a hedge fund

Michael Siva

- a Morgan Stanley broker and financial adviser, in connection with charges of insider-trading

Specialty Response Services and its principal Chip Day

- in all matters arising out of their work in connection with the Norfolk Southern train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio

University of Michigan

- as an independent external reviewer, in connection with student disciplinary actions under the University's Policy and Procedures on Student Sexual and Gender Based Misconduct

Recognition

Our handling of complex and sensitive matters consistently earns us praise within the legal industry. In 2018, *Law360* honored us as a **White Collar Group of the Year**. Our lawyers and practice have also been ranked among the leading law firms in *Chambers USA*, *Chambers UK*, *Legal 500 US*, *Legal 500 UK* and other legal directories.

Chambers UK

- Energy & Natural Resources: Dispute Resolution

Chambers USA

- New York Litigation: White-Collar Crime and Government Investigations;
Texas Litigation: White Collar Crime & Government Investigations

Legal 500 UK

- Commercial Litigation: Premium; International Arbitration

Legal 500 US

- Dispute Resolution: Corporate Investigations and White-Collar Criminal Defense; Dispute Resolution: Corporate Investigations and White-Collar Criminal Defense: Advice to Individuals

U.S. News – Best Lawyers

- National Criminal Defense: White Collar (Tier 1); Houston Criminal Defense: White Collar; New York Criminal Defense: White-Collar (Tier 1); Washington, DC Criminal Defense: General Practice; Washington, DC Criminal Defense: White-Collar; Washington, DC Professional Malpractice Law: Defendants