

Financial Institutions Investigations Practice

Trusted Judgment—When You Need It Most



Breadth of Experience & Depth of Expertise

King & Spalding’s government investigations team leverages its decades of experience on both sides of the table and its strong network of relationships in the global enforcement community to deliver favorable results for our financial institutions clients when the stakes are highest.

Our lawyers have broad expertise related to all aspects of financial services regulation and investigations, from complex internal investigations to guiding our clients through criminal and civil matters, including litigation when necessary, in the United States and around the world.

The team has handled matters involving a wide range of legal challenges impacting financial institutions, including:

- Risk management and valuation
- Market manipulation and insider trading
- Bank Secrecy Act and anti-money laundering
- Tax evasion involving offshore accounts
- Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act
- Data privacy, security, and breach response
- Anti-bribery and corruption, including the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act
- Bank, wire, and accounting fraud
- Various issues relating to individuals affiliated with financial institutions

Seasoned Capabilities Spanning Issues & Geographies

You may not have heard of some of our best work, which is precisely the point—our representations are frequently nonpublic as a result of successful resolutions without any action against our clients and without unwanted publicity. When necessary and strategically sensible, however, we also fight in court at the administrative, trial, and appellate levels, and we know how to win.

King & Spalding has “extensive experience in representing banks and insurance companies in financial fraud cases.”
– *Chambers USA 2017*





Ranked a leading firm for Corporate Crime and Investigations, Securities Regulation, and White Collar matters.

– *Chambers USA*



KING & SPALDING LLP

We have handled investigations before 73 of the 93 U.S. Attorneys’ Offices in the United States and every litigating division of the Department of Justice. We have likewise appeared before the SEC in Washington, D.C., and all 12 of its regional offices, as well as before all its specialized enforcement units.

We also frequently represent clients in connection with investigations by:

- Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- Federal Reserve
- Office of the Comptroller of the Currency
- Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Treasury Department
- Internal Revenue Service
- Financial Industry Regulatory Authority
- New York State Department of Financial Services
- State Attorneys General
- Non-U.S. authorities, such as the UK Financial Conduct Authority, the German BaFin, the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority, the Brazilian Federal Prosecution Office, the Securities & Futures Commission of Hong Kong, and Transport Canada

Through our experience, we have earned a high level of credibility with enforcement authorities that allows us to advise clients to the best possible outcome.

Recognized Leaders in the Field

Former government attorneys with experience leading investigations of financial sector entities choose King & Spalding’s elite investigations group as their private practice home.

Our group consists of over 100 lawyers who have held such high-ranking government posts as:

- Acting Assistant Attorney General in charge of the DOJ’s Civil Division
- Acting U.S. Deputy Attorney General
- Chief of Staff to the Attorney General
- Assistant Director in the SEC’s Division of Enforcement
- Regional Director of the SEC’s Northeast Regional Office
- United States Attorneys from four different districts
- Chief of the Securities and Commodities Fraud Task Force in the U.S. Attorney’s Office in the Southern District of New York
- Supervisors from multiple U.S. Attorneys’ Offices, including the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York
- Chief Counsel and Staff Director of the United States Senate’s Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations
- Numerous Deputy Assistant Attorneys General from the DOJ’s Criminal, Civil, and Antitrust Divisions

These expert professionals are complemented by other seasoned lawyers who have



“Lawyers at the ‘excellent’ King & Spalding LLP are ‘responsive, knowledgeable and proactive.’”
– *2017 Legal 500*

“Clients are kept out of the public eye [by a team] packed with former federal prosecutors.”
– *Global Investigations Review*



devoted their careers to government and internal investigations, including over 40 former federal prosecutors and other senior enforcement officials.

When you engage us for your investigations matters, you get a world-class team of seasoned attorneys with decades of investigative experience around the world.

Advice on Complex Matters—When and Where You Need It

We pride ourselves on offering our clients in the financial institutions sector discretion, cost-efficient solutions, and complete commitment to their cases. There is neither any issue too challenging nor any jurisdiction too remote.

We don’t just handle client crises—we also help prevent them. We provide comprehensive advice on governance, risk management, and ongoing compliance initiatives for financial institutions. In all scenarios, we proactively work with clients to identify methods to detect and prevent potential problems.

Representative Matters

- Negotiated a historic global settlement on behalf of a multinational financial services holding company in a DOJ multiyear tax and securities investigation of the Swiss banking industry’s assistance to U.S. tax evaders. We also represented the client in parallel investigations by the SEC, the Federal Reserve, the New York State Department of Financial Services, and the U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, and during the multiyear monitorship of the bank that followed the settlement with the DFS.
- Secured conditional amnesty from criminal prosecution for a multinational banking and financial services corporation and all its cooperating executives in parallel investigations by the DOJ, the SEC, the IRS, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Reserve, and numerous State Attorneys General regarding allegations of bid-rigging in the municipal derivatives industry, negotiating a global regulatory resolution with the SEC, the IRS, the OCC, the Federal Reserve, and a working group of over 20 State Attorneys General.
- Represented a global banking and financial services company in a multiyear SEC investigation involving credit derivatives trading, risk management, and valuation practices, with the SEC and the bank resolving the matter through a settlement on a no-admit/no-deny basis.
- Negotiated a settlement for an international bank in a multiyear DOJ civil action alleging FIRREA violations in connection with the bank’s participation in the Federal Housing Administration Direct Endorsement Lender Program.
- Negotiated a favorable settlement for an online foreign exchange market broker in a CFTC investigation and subsequent litigation alleging capitalization and reporting violations arising out of the unprecedented FX market events of January 15, 2015, when the Swiss National Bank announced that it would allow the Swiss franc to trade freely against the euro.
- Advised a multinational financial services company in a sanctions investigation by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the DOJ, and the New York District Attorney that resulted in a concurrent settlement with OFAC and federal and state prosecutors.

Abu Dhabi
Atlanta
Austin
Charlotte
Dubai
Frankfurt
Geneva
Houston
London
Los Angeles
Moscow
New York
Paris
Riyadh
San Francisco
Silicon Valley
Singapore
Tokyo
Washington, D.C.

- Represented a global bank in a multiyear, large-scale inquiry by the OCC and Federal Reserve into allegations of foreclosure abuses. The matter was resolved through a global settlement that encompassed 13 other major financial institutions.
- Represented numerous individual directors, officers, lawyers, auditors, accountants, bankers, portfolio managers, analysts, and employees in a variety of investigations concerning their activities relating to federal securities laws, including disclosure, accounting, internal controls, securities trading, benchmark manipulation, compliance procedures, customer protection, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, the False Claims Act, valuation, fees, registration, conflicts of interest, ethics, and suitability.

Representative Clients

Following are some of the financial institutions for which King & Spalding's government investigations team has acted:

- Credit Suisse
- Bank of America
- Deutsche Bank
- Forex Capital Markets
- JPMorgan Chase
- Kroll Bond Rating Agency
- Platinum Capital Management
- PNC Bank
- SunTrust Banks
- Tiger Asia
- Wells Fargo Bank
- Willis Towers Watson
- World Bank

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