

Professional Liability

We represent accounting firms in high stakes regulatory matters and litigation. Our attorneys understand the applicable professional standards, monitor legal developments on a weekly basis, and know how to defend professionals at trial. In the last decade, King & Spalding has handled more than 400 matters involving large accounting firms, including audit, consulting, and tax matters.

In recent years, King & Spalding has been lead counsel in four auditing malpractice cases that have gone to jury trials, three of which had potential exposure greater than \$1 billion. Two of those cases resulted in complete defense verdicts and two settled during trial. Although we stand ready to take any matter to trial, we also work with our clients to seek the most favorable resolution, taking into account all of the client's concerns, including reputational and institutional interests.

We also regularly represent accounting firms and their professionals in regulatory investigations and enforcement proceedings. Partners in our group have handled more than 100 investigations and enforcement proceedings in the last ten years, successfully dealing with, among others, the PCAOB, SEC, DOJ, OCC, FDIC, CFTC, FTC, HUD, HHS, IRS, Senate and House committees, the New York Attorney General's Office, the Florida Department of Financial Services, and various state agencies and accountancy boards. Our team includes former senior SEC and DOJ attorneys and a former PCAOB associate director.

Our team has significant experience representing the non-U.S. members of the global network firms. Our clients have included firms and individuals in more than a dozen countries, including Argentina, Australia, the Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, the Philippines, and the United Kingdom.

We leverage the experience of our partners in our

Capability Lawyers



James P. Cusick (Jim)
New York



Richard T. Marooney
New York



Michael R. Pauze
Washington, D.C.

Recognition

Named a "White Collar Group of the Year"
LAW360, 2017

Awarded three Benchmark Litigation awards, including the General Commercial Lawyer of the Year honor, given to partner Richard T. Marooney
BENCHMARK LITIGATION, 2017

Recognized as Leading U.S. Litigation Firm
BENCHMARK LITIGATION, 2016

Fifty-nine King & Spalding lawyers recognized as among the best in their respective practice areas in

Appellate, Securities Litigation, Special Matters/Government Investigations, and Financial Restructuring practices to address the full range of issues facing our clients. When appropriate, we involve our firm's industry experts in matters challenging an accounting firm's work relating to that industry. Through our weekly Auditor Liability Bulletin, we update our clients on legal and regulatory developments.

Cases & Deals

May 22, 2015

King & Spalding Achieves Appellate Victory in Pro Bono International Child Custody Case

May 20, 2015

King & Spalding Obtains Complete Defense Verdict for Deloitte Following Six-Week Jury Trial

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Insights

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November 5, 2020

Fifth Amendment Danger In Civil Cases

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November 3, 2016

Avoiding Pitfalls Protecting Privilege and Confidentiality

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March 3, 2016

Analyzing Early Returns On the Yates Memo

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Events

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

October 18, 2018

David Fine to Speak at American Law Institute's Accountants' Liability Conference

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News

IN THE NEWS

June 8, 2017

Dixie Johnson Quoted in the Washington Post, Courthouse News

IN THE NEWS

June 5, 2017

Supreme Court disgorgement ruling 'game-changer' for SEC cases

Georgia

SUPER LAWYERS, 2015

Twenty-One King & Spalding practices and 79 Lawyers Recognized in Annual Guide to Leading U.S. Law Firms LEGAL 500

Top rankings for the firm's litigation practices in six states, with 26 individual lawyers recognized BENCHMARK LITIGATION, 2016

Firm of the Year for Supreme Court and Appellate LEGAL 500, 2015

IN THE NEWS

November 11, 2016

Managers Still Fuzzy on SEC Biz Continuity Rule: Dixie Johnson

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