

Brian R. Michael

Partner

*Special Matters and Government
Investigations*

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Brian R. Michael, a trial lawyer and former federal prosecutor, represents companies, officers, directors, and executives in white-collar criminal cases, securities and regulatory enforcement matters, and related complex litigation. As a partner in the Special Matters and Government Investigations practice, Brian draws upon his two decades of experience in public service, private practice, and as Deputy General Counsel and Group Chief Compliance Officer at global media and entertainment company 21st Century Fox to defend entities and individuals in high-stakes matters, conduct internal investigations, and provide crisis management, as well as to advise on a wide array of legal and compliance subjects, including FCPA and anti-corruption, cybersecurity and data privacy, FinTech, blockchain technology and digital currency, trade sanctions, and workplace conduct. Brian has traveled extensively around the world to lead risk assessments and to design, implement and oversee effective and efficient compliance programs.

Hired by 21st Century Fox (then News Corp.) for a newly created position during the "UK phone hacking" crisis, Brian played a critical role in the company's successful response to multiple cross-border investigations. His responsibilities included overseeing compliance globally for Fox broadcast, cable, digital, and sports media business operations, including National Geographic Partners and more than 300 channels in over 180 countries.

Brian's career also includes eight years as an Assistant United States Attorney in both the Southern District of New York and the Central District of California, where he led many significant criminal investigations and prosecutions involving complex financial, securities and healthcare fraud, money laundering, cybercrime, organized crime and racketeering, and asset forfeiture, for which he received a number of commendations and awards. Brian also served as the Violence Against Women Act Coordinator and handled sensitive cases involving sexual and other offenses against women and children. Brian has tried numerous cases and briefed and argued appeals before the Second and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeal.

Along with his work as a federal prosecutor and an in-house leader, Brian brings extensive prior experience as a litigator at two AmLaw 50 law firms in both Los Angeles and New York. Early in his career, Brian clerked for former Chief Judge Gilbert S. Merritt of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Brian is a frequent public speaker and commentator on white-collar crime, securities and regulatory enforcement, and compliance topics. Brian serves on the Board of Directors of the Southern California Regional Subcommittee of the ABA's White Collar Crime Committee. While in-house, he was a member of the Association of Corporate Counsel's Compliance & Ethics and Sports & Entertainment Committees.

Credentials

EDUCATION

J.D., Vanderbilt University, Order of the Coif

B.A. History, University of California, Berkeley, distinction in general scholarship

ADMISSIONS

California

New York

CLERKSHIPS

Law Clerk, Honorable Gilbert S. Merritt, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit

Insights

CLIENT ALERT

January 15, 2021

Pumping the Brakes: FinCEN Reopens Comment Period for Controversial Crypto Reporting & Recordkeeping Rules

FEATURE

January 22, 2021

General Counsel Internal Investigations Decision Tree for the Technology Industry

January 21, 2021

General Counsel Internal Investigations Decision Tree for the Financial Services Industry

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Events

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

March 4, 2021

Brian Michael, Brandt Leibe to Speak on International Chamber of Commerce México Workshop

January 24, 2021

Brian Michael to Speak Virtually on Southern California Regional Compliance & Ethics Virtual Conference

January 24, 2020

Brian Michael to Speak at SCCE Southern CA Regional Compliance & Ethics Conference

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News

IN THE NEWS

April 6, 2021 • Source: LA Times, VICE, The Daily Beast and Dealbreaker

Brian Michael represents JJMT Capital, lead investor in One in a Million Capital (1inMM), a

purported content licensing business run by Zachary Horwitz

June 3, 2020 • Source: International Bar Association

Brian Michael explains how the violation of prisoners' rights have been compounded by COVID-19

RECOGNITION

December 21, 2020

Los Angeles Business Journal Names Jeanne Fugate, Brian Michael to its Thriving in Their 40s List

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