

## Christopher C. Burris (Chris)

Partner  
*Special Matters and Government  
Investigations*

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Chris Burris focuses on white-collar criminal defense, corporate internal investigations, regulatory enforcement action defense and complex litigation. As a partner in our Special Matters and Government Investigations practice, Chris defends corporations and individuals in a variety of criminal, regulatory, False Claims Act and other matters.

As a defense lawyer, Chris represents leading corporations and individuals in criminal and regulatory enforcement matters. He has particular experience with defending clients in False Claims Act/*qui tam* matters, handling dozens of cases concerning a variety of issues.

In addition, Chris counsels clients in matters concerning privacy, information security and related issues. He also conducts internal investigations on behalf of management, boards of directors and audit committees.

Previously, Chris served on active duty in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps for nearly six years, where he gained broad experience in trial prosecution and defense, appeals and internal investigations. As a Commander in the Naval Reserves, he currently serves as the Executive Officer of the Navy Reserve unit overseeing issues involving international and operational law, admiralty and maritime law, environmental law, and information operations and intelligence law.

### Matters

Represented **a major international financial institution** in the internal investigation and self-disclosure of accusations of employee participation in an alleged Ponzi scheme.

Represented **a large publicly traded manufacturing company** in the internal investigation and self-disclosure of potential Bank Secrecy Act violations.

Represented **an elected state official** during a federal investigation of public corruption, which led to no charges being filed.

Represented **an owner of a large privately held manufacturing company** in the defense of a federal criminal tax investigation.

Represented **an owner of a privately held national pharmaceutical distributor** in Section 2255 proceedings regarding his conviction on mail/wire fraud and RICO charges stemming from allegations of grey market recycling of drugs.

Represented **numerous national retail and specialty pharmacy chains** in multiple False Claims Act /*qui tam* matters focusing on a variety of issues, including allegations of the payment of kickbacks, improper submission of dosage quantities, the failure to timely refund credit balances, coordination of benefits issues, the submission of incorrect “usual and customary” prices to government payors and the dispensing of expired drugs.

Represented **a major national financial institution** in False Claims Act /*qui tam* litigation involving allegations of charging borrowers unallowable fees under the Veteran Administration's Home Loan Guaranty Program.

Represented **a major national skilled nursing facility chain** in False Claims Act /*qui tam* litigation focusing on quality of care issues.

Conducted independent internal investigations on various issues, including allegations of improper accounting, theft of corporate resources, backdated stock option, FCPA violations, and misconduct in the execution of government contracts and grant programs.

Conducted an internal review for **an international nongovernmental organization** regarding potential FCPA issues related to an ongoing cooperative project with a foreign government.

Represented **a large publicly traded corporation** in one of the first national investigations by a multi-state attorneys' general task force focusing on the loss of consumer information held by the company.

Represented **a Fortune 500 financial services company** in a data breach response and in ensuing investigations by the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), which focused on Regulation S-P's requirement to safeguard consumer financial and personal information.

Represented **a Fortune 100 healthcare company** in responding to a data security incident — and an ensuing DHHS OCR investigation — involving the theft of customers' personal and medical information. The internal investigation that was conducted led to DHHS OCR and customer disclosures pursuant to the requirements of HIPAA and various state data breach disclosure statutes.

Represented **a major international telecommunications company** in its response to the disclosure of the United States' Terrorist Surveillance Program (TSP), and issues and litigation arising from the company's alleged cooperation with the TSP.

## Credentials

### EDUCATION

LL.M., Georgetown University, with distinction

J.D., University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with honors

B.A., Vanderbilt University

### ADMISSIONS

Supreme Court of the United States

U.S. District Court for the Western District of North Carolina

Georgia

## Insights

### CLIENT ALERT

*April 28, 2020*

Constitutional Limitations On Emergency Authority

*April 9, 2020*

False Claims Act Considerations Related to the CARES Act's Small Business Administration Loan Program

*September 12, 2019*

AseraCare Saga Illustrates the Importance of Internal Compliance

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## Events

### WEBINAR

*June 24, 2020*

Issues Facing SNFs and Other Post-Acute Providers from a Compliance, Liability, and Enforcement Perspective Amidst the COVID-19 Pandemic

*May 27, 2020*

Cybersecurity and Privacy Webinar Mini-Series Part 3: Data Privacy and Security Risk Management: Securing the Enterprise and Beyond

*May 14, 2020*

FCA Fundamentals for the COVID-19 Landscape

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## News

### CASES & DEALS

Independent Investigation for Audit Committee of Fortune 250 Technology Committee