

Zachary Fardon (Zach)

Partner
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Former U.S. Attorney Zach Fardon is Managing Partner and Head of Litigation of our Chicago office and a partner in the Special Matters and Government Investigations practice. As a former United States Attorney in Chicago, Zach led one of the top prosecutor's offices in the country and oversaw successful investigations and prosecutions in areas of financial crime, corporate misconduct, fraud, public corruption, gangs, terrorism and other criminal and civil matters. During his 25 years in the private and public sectors, including over 12 years as a federal prosecutor, Zach has built a reputation as a careful, discrete problem solver and an elite trial lawyer. A Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers and the American Bar Association, Zach has extensive experience in bet-the-company civil and criminal trials as well as high-stakes government and internal investigations. He has tried numerous cases, on both sides of the table, including the successful corruption trial of former Illinois Governor George Ryan. In the private sector, Zach previously chaired the Litigation Department for the Chicago office of one of the world's largest law firms.

Legal 500 US named Zach a "Leading Lawyer" for Corporate Investigations and White-Collar Criminal Defense: Advice to Corporates in its 2018 edition, making him one of only 13 lawyers nationwide to receive that designation.

As U.S. Attorney, Zach served over nine million constituents in Northern Illinois, and even more broadly served in roles with national reach. He worked closely with the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) leadership, U.S. Attorneys across the country, and other enforcement officials on two Attorney General Advisory Committees (AGACs). He co-chaired the AGAC White Collar Crime Subcommittee and co-chaired the Securities and Commodities Fraud Working Group which includes the DOJ, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Securities and Exchange Commission, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and other agencies.

Zach is a frequent speaker on various subject matters including violent crime and anti-violence initiatives, corporate anti-bribery compliance programs, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), the UK Bribery Act, honest services fraud, internal investigations, and insider trading laws. He is a Visiting Distinguished Scholar at Northwestern University School of Law where he previously

served as an Adjunct Professor of Trial Advocacy. For the 2017-18 academic year, he led a series of talks about gun violence in Chicago and also moderated conversations on this topic with stakeholders from the legal, nonprofit, and law enforcement communities.

Zach has received numerous awards and recognition for outstanding service including the Chicago Crime Commission Stars of Distinction Award, the Chicago Federal Bureau of Investigation Award in Recognition of Outstanding Service and Dedication, and the U.S. Department of Justice Director's Award for Superior Performance.

Zach has served on the not-for-profit Boards of Directors of A Better Chicago, Metropolitan Family Services of Chicago, and the Legal Aid Society of Chicago, which he Chaired. He is on the Board of Advisors of Vanderbilt Law School and the Advisory Council of BAM (Becoming a Man). He remains a committed advocate for the broader Chicago community.

Credentials

EDUCATION

J.D., Vanderbilt University

B.A., Vanderbilt University

ADMISSIONS

Illinois

Tennessee

Recognition

Leading Lawyer

CORPORATE INVESTIGATIONS AND WHITE-COLLAR CRIMINAL DEFENSE - LEGAL 500 US
2018

Fellow

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF TRIAL LAWYERS (2016)

Insights

ARTICLE

July 24, 2019 • Source: Thomson Reuters Practical Law

Spoofting US Law and Enforcement

CLIENT ALERT

Spoofting the Market: A Comparison of US and UK Law and Enforcement

NEWSLETTER

June 24, 2019

Tokyo Dispute Resolution & Crisis Management – June 2019

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Events

CONFERENCE

October 25, 2018

State AG Enforcement Trends: A Dialogue

September 6, 2018

11th Annual King & Spalding Medical Device Summit

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

February 6, 2019

Zach Fardon, Jade Lambert to Speak at Metropolitan Club About Hot Trends in DOJ and SEC Enforcement and Litigation

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News

RECOGNITION

August 16, 2019

The Best Lawyers in America Recognizes 115 King & Spalding Lawyers in its 2020 Guide

June 3, 2019

Crain's Chicago Business Recognizes Zach Fardon as a Notable Gen X Leader in Law

May 30, 2019

King & Spalding Earns Top-Tier Rankings in Legal 500 United States 2019 Guide

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