



Samantha Rubin Stratford

Associate

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Samantha focuses her practice on white collar criminal defense, Congressional investigations, and complex civil litigation. Samantha defends individuals, at various stages of criminal proceedings, who are facing charges for money laundering, loan fraud, securities fraud, criminal contempt, and other offenses. Samantha also guides individuals and organizations through Congressional investigations, and helps defend companies against fraud allegations in criminal matters and civil proceedings.

Samantha's representative experience includes defending clients in cases alleging fraud under the Paycheck Protection Program, the False Claims Act (FCA), the Anti-Kickback Statute (AKS), and the Federal Election Campaign Act (FECA). She has also represented administration officials before Congressional oversight and select committees.

Samantha maintains an active pro bono practice, assisting individuals with parole applications and representing parents and children in family law matters.

Prior to joining Cozen O'Connor, Samantha was a staff attorney at the D.C. Circuit, where she worked with a rotating slate of judges, helping to resolve emergency appeals, administrative law cases, and criminal matters. Samantha previously worked at a national law firm, where her practice focused on government contract cases, labor and employment matters, and commercial litigation.

Samantha earned her law degree from New York University, where she was the senior notes editor for the *Journal of Legislation and Public Policy*. Samantha earned her bachelor's degree from Cornell University, where she was recognized as a Merrill Presidential Scholar.

Experience

Criminal Matters

- Represented an individual charged with loan fraud under the Paycheck Protection Program and successfully moved to suppress the individual's post-arrest statements.
- Represented a high-profile attorney facing felony criminal contempt charges, negotiated a misdemeanor plea agreement, and secured a sentence of unsupervised probation and a fine.
- Represented a client charged with an international money laundering conspiracy in plea negotiations, resulting in a sentence of probation.
- Represented a client charged with violating the Federal Election Campaign Act in plea negotiations and sentencing, securing a reduced prison sentence of two months.

Congressional Investigations

- Represented a senior White House official throughout a Congressional select committee investigation.
- Represented a senior national security official throughout a Congressional oversight committee investigation.

Practice Areas

- Commercial Litigation
- White Collar Defense & Investigations

Education

- New York University School of Law, J.D., 2014
- Cornell University, B.S., 2011

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- New Jersey
- New York

Awards & Honors

- Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll, 2023

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- Represented a non-profit organization being investigated by a Congressional oversight committee.

Complex Civil Litigation and Investigations

- Successfully moved to dismiss a False Claims Act case brought by an employee relator against a defense contractor.
- Represented a health care company in civil investigations under the False Claim Act and the Anti-Kickback Statute.
- Conducted an internal investigation for a biotech company regarding misconduct allegations brought against an executive board member.