



# Sarah Krissoff

## Member

## New York

skrissoff@cozen.com | (212) 908-1388

Sarah is a highly sought after white collar defense attorney and seasoned former federal prosecutor. She has an impressive track record of vigorously representing companies and individuals in government and internal investigations, criminal cases, and complex civil litigation in federal and state courts.

Sarah served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Southern District of New York (SDNY) from 2008 to 2021 and led numerous high-profile government investigations that required coordination of law enforcement agencies across multiple jurisdictions. Sarah is an experienced courtroom advocate who has led a dozen criminal and civil jury trials and has briefed and/or argued many cases before the Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

Her caseload in the SDNY included investigations into complex financial fraud and money laundering, racketeering, health care fraud, cyber crime, and violent crime. Sarah gained particularly deep experience in the public corruption and asset forfeiture units, and served as acting deputy chief counsel of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) in Washington, D.C., in 2015, overseeing a team of 80 ATF attorneys across the country.

Sarah now focuses on defending clients against criminal and civil fraud allegations, as well as responding to a broad range of government enforcement actions by state and federal agencies, including the Securities Exchange Commission, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and Federal Trade Commission. Both before and after her tenure at the SDNY, Sarah practiced for several years at two other sophisticated Am Law firms.

Sarah is a respected source for major media outlets such as *the Wall Street Journal*, BBC World News, CNN, ABC News, National Public Radio, MSNBC, Reuters, *Bloomberg News*, *New York Post*, and NBC News, among others. She publishes regularly on asset forfeiture, business litigation, and trial practice.

Sarah earned her B.A. in political science from Brown University and her J.D. from Columbia University's School of Law, where she was on the staff of the *Columbia Business Law Review*.

## Experience

Represented a group of Brazilian iron producers in a decade-long dispute with a global steel magnate over the enforcement of a \$48 million arbitral award. Obtained a confidential, high-profile settlement following the first day of a jury trial in Manhattan.

Represented a university and its employee in connection with the Varsity Blues investigation.

Represented a financial services firm in connection with investigations brought by the United States Attorney's Office, Southern District of New York, and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Defended an offshore fund in a civil lawsuit brought in New York State Supreme Court, Commercial Division.

## Practice Areas

- Commercial Litigation
- White Collar Defense & Investigations

## Education

- Columbia University School of Law, J.D., 2002
- Brown University, B.A., 1999

## Bar Admissions

- New York

## Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court -- Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court -- Southern District of New York
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

## Affiliations

Federal Bar Council

New York City Bar Association

Women's White Collar Defense Association

## Awards & Honors

- Attorney General's Award for Exceptional Service, Department of Justice, 2017
- Nominee, Prosecutor of the Year, Women in Federal Law Enforcement, 2021
- Decorated by the Kingdom of Cambodia as a Commander in the Royal Order of Sahemetri, in connection with work on a case which resulted in the return of a priceless statue to Cambodia, 2014
- Federal Prosecutor of the Year Award, Federal Law Enforcement Foundation, 2012
- Legal Aid Society's Pro Bono Award, 2006

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Represented an individual prosecuted by Main Justice for mail and wire fraud in connection with the sale of unregistered securities.

Represented an individual charged in federal court in Manhattan with health care fraud offenses related to durable medical equipment.

Represented an individual charged with bank and wire fraud in connection with an alleged loan fraud conspiracy.

Conducted an internal investigation for a telecommunications company into allegations of employee cyber harassment.

Defended a major securities fraud class action in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, resulting in a \$93 million settlement.