



Christopher Allen

Member

Washington, D.C.

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Practice Areas

- State Attorneys General
- Government and Regulatory Affairs
- Government Relations - Cozen O'Connor Public Strategies
- Environmental, Social & Governance

Industry Sectors

- Cannabis
- Climate Change
- Hospitality

Education

- George Washington University Law School, J.D., *with honors*, 2007
- Baylor University, B.A., 2004

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Virginia

Awards & Honors

- Best Lawyers in America®: Consumer Protection Law (2025)

Chris offers clients the unique combination of legal acumen, policy understanding, political insight, and boots-on-the-ground practicality he has cultivated through practicing in the State Attorneys General niche for more than a decade. He understands the important strategic considerations that distinguish handling a State Attorney General (AG) matter from private litigation or litigation against the federal government, and he uses this savvy to guide his clients through complex investigations, litigation, and public policy advocacy on the state and federal levels. Chris also provides advice and counsel on the myriad compliance issues his clients face daily.

Representing clients ranging from small startups to the third-largest company in the United States, Chris has a truly national practice with particular focus in the areas of consumer protection, antitrust, data privacy (including data breaches, data security, and data collection), and the False Claims Act. Outside the State Attorneys General realm, Chris also has significant experience representing consumer products manufacturers and distributors in product recalls, compliance matters, and industry-wide investigations led by the Consumer Products Safety Commission.

Chris strives to be a true partner to his clients, helping those facing a State AG investigation navigate the attendant political and policy concerns, nuances among the various state laws at issue, and the strategic considerations unique to State AG matters. Drawing upon the vast institutional knowledge of the firm's State Attorneys General Practice, Chris has the perspective on State AGs and their staff needed to identify and examine all of the possible factors driving an investigation. He uses this insight to help his clients articulate their defense in a thorough, consistent, and persuasive manner.

His broad client base encompasses companies in industry sectors including telecommunications, pharmaceuticals, disruptive technology, telemedicine, cannabis, transportation, hospitality, and nutrition/personal health. Chris also has significant experience representing trade associations. He regularly handles issues centering on state Unfair and Deceptive Acts or Practices laws, state data breach reporting and notification laws, Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission Act, state and federal False Claims Acts, state Medicaid Fraud Acts, the Sherman Act, the Clayton Act, and the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act, among others.

Chris was a recipient of the Phi Delta Phi Award for Excellence in Jurisprudence and Professional Responsibility. He also maintains an active pro bono practice, including representing a number of clients with cases pending before the U.S. Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review. In addition, he regularly serves as a guest judge for collegiate and law school mock trial and moot court competitions.

Experience

Representing a Fortune 500 company in an ongoing high-profile multistate AG and FTC data breach investigation.

Advising a major drug manufacturer on issues related to the importation of pharmaceuticals into the United States from Canada and the threat presented to the drug industry and consumers by international counterfeiters. We are working with State Attorneys General to represent our client's

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interests and address consumer protection concerns.

Secured dismissal of a *qui tam* action filed against our client, a provider of mortgage lender processing services, alleging violations of the federal False Claims Act, as well as those from almost two dozen states, stemming from allegedly faulty assignments created in connection with mortgage-backed-securities trusts. In dismissing the action, the federal district court accepted the argument that the relator had not offered specific facts necessary to plead that the allegedly fraudulent scheme resulted in the submission of specific false claims nor did she plead allegations sufficient to create a reasonable inference that false claims necessarily were submitted. This result was affirmed by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

Represented clients regarding proposed federal legislation regulating manufacturers' use of specific chemicals.

Counseled clients with respect to compliance and other issues regarding California's unique Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act ("Proposition 65").

Represented a recreational products manufacturer in an industry-wide investigation by the CPSC into safety standards and testing.

Counseled a children's apparel company on consumer product safety compliance.

Counseled a distributor of children's products on compliance issues and represented that company in conducting several recalls based on children's product and general safety standards, including flammability.

Represented clients with state and federal False Claims Act ("FCA") matters concerning student lending standards and practices; allegations of "robo-signing" and other mortgage lending practices; and consumer debt collection practices.

Assisted a major pharmaceutical company in connection with multistate investigations and litigation on prescription drug pricing and continues to represent pharmaceutical clients in designing outreach strategies to state governments on pricing and prescription drug coverage.