

John Keller

PARTNER

212 335 2049
jkeller@whwllp.com

EDUCATION

University of Illinois College of Law, J.D.,
summa cum laude; *Order of the Coif*
(2007); academic scholarship recipient;
topics editor, *Illinois Law Review*
Washington University in St. Louis, B.A.
with honors (2003)

CLERKSHIPS

Hon. Barry G. Silverman, U.S. Court of
Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia
New York
Illinois
U.S. District Court for the Southern and
Eastern Districts of New York
U.S. District Court for the Northern
District of Illinois
U.S. District Court for the District of
Columbia
United States Court of Appeals for the
Ninth Circuit
United States Court of Federal Claims



John Keller is a seasoned trial and appellate lawyer and trusted counselor to companies, executives, and public officials. Drawing on nearly 20 years of government experience, most recently as the Acting Chief of DOJ's Public Integrity Section (PIN), John helps clients navigate high-stakes government investigations, congressional inquiries, white-collar prosecutions, and complex enforcement matters.

John spent more than fifteen years at the Department of Justice, including over a decade at PIN where he served for five years as Principal Deputy and Acting Chief of the Section. He led hundreds of investigations and prosecutions involving criminal abuses of the public trust by federal, state, and local public officials, companies, and corporate officers. These matters involved procurement, healthcare, mortgage, securities, and honest services fraud, bribery, money laundering, election crimes, national security, and tax offenses. John also previously worked as an Assistant United States Attorney and an Assistant Federal Public Defender and practiced in the litigation department of a leading global law firm. John has tried sixteen federal cases, both as a prosecutor and defense counsel, handled twenty appeals, and supervised dozens of additional trials and appeals nationwide. John also regularly interfaced with House and Senate committees regarding parallel congressional investigations and proposed legislation; handled congressional inquiries directed to the Department of Justice; and prepared Department officials for congressional testimony, including the Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, and Assistant Attorney General for the Criminal Division.

In addition to his active practice, John teaches a constitutional law course at Georgetown University Law Center and was an instructor at DOJ's National Advocacy Center on Developments in Fraud, Public Corruption, and Election Law; Jury Instructions; and Investigative Techniques. He is a frequent speaker on issues of national security and election law, and has appeared on NPR, CNN, NBC, and the Lawfare Institute.

Experience

Represented client in multidistrict litigation, class-action, antitrust lawsuit, successfully developing and leveraging favorable facts through discovery and depositions to resolve matter for less than 20% of settlement demand.

Successfully settled False Claims Act matter for corporate client using one of the lowest multipliers ever agreed to by DOJ.

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Successfully resolved seven-figure arbitration demand through mediation for less than half of the demand.

Represented client in congressional inquiry resulting in no issuance of a subpoena or other request for documents or testimony.

Represented university faculty in a DEI-related DOJ inquiry, successfully narrowing the scope of the inquiry.

Led DOJ's Public Integrity Section responsible for investigating and prosecuting the most sensitive cases in the Department involving abuse of the public trust by government officials. Prepared the Assistant Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, and Attorney General for congressional testimony and oversight and media inquiries. Oversaw the Section's review and consultation on matters involving campaign finance, ballot fraud, or other corruption of the election process; congressional investigations and prosecutions; and investigations and prosecutions of federal judges.

Led the AG and DAG's Election Threats Task Force responsible for assessing, investigating, and prosecuting criminal threats of violence targeting election officials nationwide and ensuring compliance with the First Amendment.

Investigated and prosecuted select cases of first impression including *United States v. Prakazrel ("Pras") Michel*; *United States v. Ahmad Khawaja*; *United States v. Kyle Prall*; *United States v. Joe Arpaio*; and *United States v. Theodore Suhl*.

Recognitions

Lawdragon 500 Global Leaders in Crisis Management (2026)

Legal 500 New York Elite – White Collar Crime (2026)

Assistant Attorney General's Awards (2015, 2016, 2021, 2023, 2024)

Activities

Barrister, Edward Bennett Williams Inn of Court in DC