



Member  
cconnor@smithpachter.com

8000 Towers Crescent Drive, Suite 900  
Tysons Corner, VA 22182  
P: (703) 847-6300  
F: (703) 847-6312

## Cormac T. Connor

Cormac Connor is a trial lawyer and litigator with experience in a wide variety of criminal and civil litigation matters. Mr. Connor has assisted clients during or in anticipation of investigations by agencies including the Department of Justice, various United States Attorneys' Offices, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Defense, Office of Foreign Asset Control, Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General, Internal Revenue Service, the National Credit Union Administration and several State investigative agencies. These investigations have involved allegations related to mail and wire fraud, the False Claims Act, embezzlement, accounting fraud, procurement fraud, criminal antitrust violations, obstruction of justice, income tax evasion, money laundering, import/export and customs violations and, during these investigations, Mr. Connor has helped clients respond to subpoenas and civil investigative demands, prepare for Grand Jury testimony, deliver presentations to investigative agencies, negotiate resolutions and prepare for trial. He has assisted clients in a variety of industries including: oil and gas, automotive manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, banks, credit unions, casinos, automotive, government contractors, chemical manufacturing and distribution, health care, freight shipping, and textiles as they manage and respond to government criminal and civil investigations.

Before joining the Firm, Mr. Connor served as an Assistant United States Attorney for nearly four years with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia. Serving as the lead prosecutor on 24 criminal trials, he was responsible for investigating hundreds of criminal cases. As part of his investigative work, which included dozens of Grand Jury investigations, Mr. Connor interacted regularly with law enforcement personnel, located and interviewed witnesses, evaluated evidence and coordinated analysis of evidence by forensic expert witnesses.

Beyond his prosecutorial experience, Mr. Connor was a partner in the government investigations practice at one of the most prominent law firms in the country. He has worked as a civil litigator at law firms in Washington, D.C. and in Denver, Colorado. While in private practice, Cormac appeared and argued numerous cases before state and federal trial courts and courts of appeal, as well as private arbitrators and mediators. Throughout his career, Mr. Connor has represented clients in a broad range of industries and practice areas that have included commercial contracts, intellectual property issues and tort claims.

## Practice Areas

- White Collar
- Internal Investigations

## Representative Matters

- Represented individuals facing investigations involving criminal antitrust, False Claims Act and fraud allegations.
- Advised foreign bank during an investigation by Department of Justice, New York Department of Financial Services and bank's domestic regulator related to allegations of United States income tax evasion.
- Represented government contractor providing services to the Veterans Administration and facing False Claims Act allegations and related congressional and media inquiries. Investigation also involved interactions with local U.S. Attorney's Office and investigators from the VA's Office of Inspector General.
- Represented chemical manufacturer and distributor during a criminal antitrust investigation and assisted with negotiation of plea agreement that included a recommended fine amount well below applicable Sentencing Guidelines due to client's demonstrated inability to pay. Represented same client in defending against class action antitrust and related civil lawsuits that arose after plea agreement was publicized.
- Advised individual facing criminal investigation and indictment in former Eastern bloc nation and possible extradition proceedings in United States courts.
- Represented Chinese computer equipment manufacturer with operations located in United States regarding responses to federal Grand Jury subpoena and limitations

to same based on international law.

- Advised numerous private equity fund clients during due diligence evaluations of target businesses, evaluating possible risk exposure areas related to suspected compliance or legal violations.
- Assisted casino and entertainment business with responses to Grand Jury subpoenas and related Bank Secrecy Act and Anti-Money Laundering investigations by various agencies, including local U.S. Attorney's Office, Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration and Internal Revenue Service.
- Represented medical device manufacturer in relation to joint civil and criminal investigations by the Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Justice, resulting in government's declination to pursue criminal prosecution.
- Represented Volkswagen related to diesel emissions investigation by various regulatory and law enforcement authorities, including Department of Justice, Environmental Protection Agency and California Air Resources Board.
- Advised European auto parts manufacturer during internal evaluation of possible criminal antitrust exposure under the Sherman Act.
- Represented oil and gas exploration and distribution business during a federal criminal investigation related to *Deepwater Horizon* incident and allegations of Clean Water Act violations, Obstruction of Congress, Misconduct or Neglect of Ship Officers and Migratory Bird Treaty Act violations.
- Represented chemical manufacturer and distributor in relation to a criminal antitrust investigation by Department of Justice, Antitrust Division.
- Represented board of directors of pharmaceutical manufacturer during an internal investigation related to whistleblower allegations.
- Represented board of directors for federal credit union during examination by National Credit Union Administration and then assisted with subsequent criminal investigation of employee misconduct by Federal Bureau of Investigation and Internal Revenue Service.
- Represented apparel manufacturer with major military supply contracts during an investigation related to possible Office of Foreign Asset Control and export restriction violations.
- Represented chemical manufacturer in response to Department of Homeland Security subpoena related to possible export restriction violations, but resulting in no prosecution by the government.
- Represented pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and medical device companies in healthcare fraud investigations conducted by federal and state enforcement agencies involving allegations of off-label promotion, improper sales and marketing practices, pricing issues, and alleged violations of the Anti-Kickback Statute and False Claims Act.
- Led internal investigation and fact development efforts related to energy generation and distribution company's execution of tax sharing agreements in relation to ongoing Chapter 11 bankruptcy matter.
- Assisted international bank with internal investigation related to possible anti-money laundering and compliance violations in its Mexican branch offices.

## Education

- Georgetown University Law Center (J.D., 2002)
- Davidson College (B.A., History, 1995)

## Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Virginia
- Colorado (inactive)

## Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, 2020
- U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, 2006
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Kentucky, 2003
- U.S. District Court, District of Colorado, 2002

## Publications

[U.S. DOJ Announced Further Updates of Its Guidance for Evaluation of Corporate Compliance Programs](#), SPM Client Alert, Co-Author, Cormac T. Connor, Vincent W. Li and Daniel A. Solomon, June 5, 2020.

*Assistant Attorney General Brian A. Benczkowski Promotes Transparency with the Business Community*, SPM Client Alert, Co-Author, March 21, 2019.

Law360: Smith Pachter Gains Former Kirkland White Collar Attorney in DC, May 8, 2019.

Law360: A Defense Counsel's Guide to the New DOJ Manual, October 2, 2018.

Law360: DOJ Focuses FCA Priorities on Small Business Contracts August 10, 2018.

## **Professional Associations**

Board Member, AUSA Association (an organization of current and former prosecutors at the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Columbia)

Firm liaison and pro bono volunteer with Legal Aid Society of Washington, D.C.

Legal Aid Society of Washington, D.C., Pro Bono Service Awards

Special Achievement Award from the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Columbia, 2011

Board of Trustees, Member with the Eagle's Nest Foundation, educational non-profit located in Pisgah Forest, NC