

# Prerak Shah

## Of Counsel

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Houston

Prerak Shah is Of Counsel in the Houston office of Gibson Dunn. With extensive experience at the highest levels of the U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Congress, and Texas Attorney General's office, he specializes in state, federal, congressional, and internal corporate investigations. He also represents clients in high-stakes civil litigation, with a particular expertise in state attorney general and federal enforcement actions.

Prerak rejoined the firm after serving as the Acting United States Attorney for the Northern District of Texas. As the chief federal law enforcement officer of a district of over 8 million people, he led a team of approximately 120 Assistant U.S. Attorneys handling a wide range of cases, including securities fraud, health care fraud, the False Claims Act, computer crime, national security, tax fraud, money laundering, public corruption, and terrorism.

During his tenure, the office pursued numerous high-profile criminal and civil investigations, including convicting a cryptocurrency founder for securities fraud, investigating the death of MLB pitcher Tyler Skaggs, extraditing a Serbian national charged with duping crypto investors out of \$70 million, convicting a would-be bomber plotting to attack an Amazon facility, prosecuting a multinational medical device corporation, convicting a real estate developer for bribing Dallas City Council members, and capturing a capital murder suspect on the FBI's "10 Most Wanted" list.

Before joining the Justice Department, Prerak served as Chief of Staff to Senator Ted Cruz and as a Chief Counsel on the Senate Judiciary Committee. He ran the Senator's official office, providing strategic counsel on all policy, communications, political, and legal matters. In this role, Prerak also handled numerous high-profile Congressional investigations and hearings, including hearings involving the CEOs of Facebook, Microsoft, T-Mobile, Softbank, Equifax, and dozens more corporate officers and government officials, as well as the confirmation hearings of Justices Neil Gorsuch and Brett Kavanaugh.

Additionally, Prerak personally shepherded the selection, nomination, and confirmation of over 20 federal judges in Texas, developing relationships with judges across the state. Including his time at the Justice Department, he worked on the confirmation of over 150 federal judges across the country. Prerak was also recently appointed by Senators John Cornyn and Ted Cruz to serve on their Federal Judicial Evaluation Committee, which advises the senators on all judicial and US Attorney appointments in Texas. He also twice been appointed by the judges of the Eastern District of Texas to serve on the court's Magistrate Judge Selection Committee.

Prerak was also previously the Senior Counsel to the Attorney General of Texas, where he served on the agency's executive management team and advised the Attorney General on major litigation, criminal and civil investigations, policy issues, and media strategy. He also coordinated with multistate Attorney General groups on national lawsuits and



### Capabilities

- Litigation
- Appellate and Constitutional Law
- National Security
- Public Policy
- Trials
- White Collar Defense and Investigations

### Credentials

#### Education

- University of Chicago - 2010 Juris Doctor
- Drexel University - Pennsylvania - 2007 Bachelor of Science

#### Admissions

- Texas Bar

#### Clerkships

- US Court of Appeals, 5th Circuit, Hon. Jerry E. Smith, 2010 - 2011

investigations, in areas including antitrust, consumer fraud, environmental litigation, and more.

Prerak has also held several leadership positions at the Department of Justice, including Deputy Associate Attorney General in the office overseeing the work of the Antitrust, Civil, Civil Rights, Environment & Natural Resources, and Tax Divisions. He was also the Deputy Assistant Attorney General running the Department's Natural Resources Section, which was responsible for representing the United States in major investigations and litigation concerning oil and gas pipelines, nuclear waste, chemical waste, and corporate compliance with environmental statutes. In that role, he worked on numerous high-profile matters, including the litigation surrounding the Keystone XL Pipeline, the Dakota Access Pipeline, the government's Fracking Rule, the invalidation of Nationwide Permit 12, and the salvage of the wreckage of the infamous Titanic.

Prerak received his law degree with honors from the University of Chicago Law School. After law school, he clerked for the Honorable Jerry E. Smith of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

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