

THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL

THE 2024 NLJ AWARDS: PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE— LITIGATION DEPARTMENTS OF THE YEAR WHITE COLLAR

OCTOBER 31, 2024

WINNER: GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER

Answered by: Patrick Stokes, Partner and Co-Chair of the Anti-Corruption and FCPA Practice Group

■ Describe your firm's approach to litigation and your strategy for building successful teams for trials or other matters.

We aim to resolve matters in the most favorable way, which requires bringing a credible threat of litigation even if we ultimately avoid litigation. To achieve success, we staff teams leanly and with the right expertise to address the most challenging issues.

■ Discuss the two biggest litigation cases your firm worked on in 2023 and how you reached successful outcomes.

Our client successes are a collaborative effort. We work side-by-side with our clients to take the long view, look around corners, and adapt to changing circumstances. We regularly call on our experienced and talented attorneys located across time zones, in other practice groups, and with specialized expertise to address the demands of each unique matter. Our inclusive culture is a powerful motivator to achieving the most favorable results. This culture has helped us achieve the successful outcomes for the two biggest and each investigation highlighted in this submission.

■ What are the most challenging and satisfying aspects of your work in litigation?

Distilling challenging concepts to clear, concise, and compelling advocacy can be the most challenging aspect of our work. Working with clients and a team of attorneys to successfully accomplish this is enormously satisfying.

■ What is the most important piece of advice you'd share with young lawyers?

The opportunities for young lawyers are vast, so be prepared to pivot as new opportunities arise. Digging in and "owning" your part of a matter, no matter how big or small, are crucial elements of success.

