

Mitchell J. Lazris

Partner

Washington, D.C.

Biography

Mitch Lazris focuses on complex enforcement investigations in the life sciences industry and litigation relating to a range of health care issues. He is a member of the firm's Life Science industry sector team and the firm's White Collar and Fraud Steering Committee.

For over 20 years, Mitch has represented pharmaceutical, biologics, and medical device manufacturers, universities, academic health centers, and research institutes in a wide variety of government investigations, both civil and criminal, involving issues arising under federal and state laws. He has defended clients from disputes arising under the Anti-Kickback Act; the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act; the False Claims Act; and state consumer protection acts. His experience encompasses internal investigations, congressional investigations, GAO investigations, grand jury practice, as well as related civil litigation activity, such as the defense of qui tam litigation under the False Claims Act and related laws.

Prior to joining Hogan Lovells, Mitch was a trial attorney in the Civil Fraud Section of the Department of Justice. In that capacity, he investigated, litigated, and settled complex multimillion dollar civil False Claims Act matters, including numerous qui tam actions. His primary areas of focus were health care and defense contract fraud matters, which often involved parallel criminal and state investigations.



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Practices

Health

Investigations, White Collar, and Fraud

Litigation Services

Government Contracts

Industries

Life Sciences and Health Care

Aerospace and Defense

Areas of focus

False Claims Act and Qui Tam

Anti-Corruption Compliance and Due Diligence

State Attorneys General

Representative experience

Represents pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturers in connection with investigations of alleged violations of the FDCA due to cGMP non-compliance.

Represents universities, academic health centers, and research institutes in connection with False Claims Act investigations and litigation.

Negotiated civil DOJ settlement and CIA to resolve wide-ranging criminal and civil investigations of pharmaceutical manufacturer's sales, marketing, and pricing tactics.

Won numerous motions to dismiss on behalf of pharmaceutical and biologics manufacturers in False Claims Act qui tam lawsuits alleging sales, marketing, and pricing misconduct.

Represents pharmaceutical, biologics, and medical device manufacturers in connection with Congressional and GAO investigations.

Secured deferred prosecution agreement and civil settlement for global pharmaceutical manufacturer accused of cGMP-related misconduct.

Represents pharmaceutical, biologics, and medical device manufacturers regarding investigations of sales and marketing, pricing, and kickback allegations and related litigation.

Awards and rankings

- False Claims Act (USA, Nationwide), Band 4, *Chambers USA*, 2023
- Acritas Star, *Acritas Stars Independently Rated Lawyers*, 2018-2020
- BTI Client Service All-Star, *BTI Consulting Group*, 2022

Latest thinking and events

- News
 - The False Claims Act Guide: 2022 and the road

Education and admissions

Education

J.D., Harvard Law School, cum laude, 1992

A.B., Princeton University, magna cum laude, 1988

Bar admissions and qualifications

District of Columbia

Virginia

Court admissions

U.S. District Court, District of Columbia

U.S. District Court, District of Maryland

U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Virginia

ahead

- News
 - New circuit split on evidence needed to prove a kickback renders a claim false or fraudulent
- News
 - Fourth Circuit: Safeco defense applies to FCA claims and dooms Medicaid best price qui tam
- Insights and Analysis
 - FCA- Courts and Congress focus on which regulatory or contract violations give rise to FCA liability