

Karl Racine

Partner

Washington, D.C.

Biography

Karl Racine, the former and first-elected Attorney General of Washington, D.C. leads bet-the-company litigation, investigations, and enforcement actions, while also leading the firm's State Attorneys General practice.

Karl is a trailblazer. He built the D.C. AG's office into the top public law firm in America and established himself as a leader among U.S. attorneys general. Recognizing his sophisticated work and impressive results on national issues, the bipartisan National Association of Attorneys General awarded Karl the Kelley-Wyman Award—the top award given to an AG.

As AG, Karl focused locally on preserving affordable housing, cracking down on slumlords, battling wage theft, protecting consumers, reforming the juvenile justice system, and safeguarding public integrity. Nationally, his office rose to prominence on emerging issues that intersect with artificial intelligence, big data, privacy, competition, and ESG. Importantly, Karl's work made a name for D.C. as a model jurisdiction in consumer protection matters.

Karl draws on over 30 years of legal and leadership experience. Before becoming AG, he forged a distinguished private practice, becoming the first African-American managing partner of a top-100 American law firm. With a long history of success and high-profile work, he has defended leading companies in civil litigation, white-collar investigations and



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Languages

English

Practices

Antitrust and Competition

Commercial Litigation

Investigations, White Collar, and Fraud

Litigation Services

Crisis Leadership Team

Industries

Consumer

Private Capital

criminal matters. Previously, he served as Associate White House Counsel to President Bill Clinton and a D.C. Public Defender.

Karl serves on the board of directors of DXC Technology, a Fortune 500 global IT services business that helps clients modernize operations and drive innovation and Safe Harbor Financial, a financial services technology firm that serves the regulated cannabis industry.

Born in Haiti, Karl came to D.C. at the age of three. He earned a B.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, where he captained the basketball team, and a J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law.

Representative experience

Secured successful defense of a Fortune 100 company through five years of litigation in what was then one of the largest certified employment discrimination class actions. *

Achieved favorable resolutions for global pharmaceutical companies in matters brought by DOJ. *

Obtained favorable trial and sentencing on behalf of a foreign national CEO in a matter involving national security and alleged sale of prohibited materials to Iran. *

*Matter handled prior to joining Hogan Lovells.

Awards and rankings

- Community Champion, *Everyone Wins DC*, 2023
- Servant of Justice Award, *Legal Aid DC*, 2023
- Justice Potter Stewart Award, *Council for Court Excellence*, 2023
- Charles Hamilton Houston Medallion of Merit, *Washington Bar Association*, 2023
- Advocate of the Year, *Sasha Bruce*, 2023
- Philip Hart Public Service Award, *Consumer Federation of America*, 2022

Areas of focus

State Attorneys General

Antitrust and Competition Litigation

Class Actions and Group Litigation

Consumer Protection and Privacy

Product Litigation

Government Investigations

Consumer Finance Litigation

Education and admissions

Education

J.D., University of Virginia, 1989

B.A., University of Pennsylvania, 1985

Bar admissions and qualifications

District of Columbia

Maryland

- Kelly-Wyman Award, *National Association of Attorneys General*, 2022
- Champion of Freedom Award, *Electronic Privacy Information Center*, 2022
- Great Immigrants Recipient, *Carnegie Corporation of New York*, 2022
- Outstanding Host Award, *Summer Youth Employment Program*, 2022
- Max Pulgar-Vidal Award, *Roots of Development*, 2021
- Human Rights Hero Award, *Interfaith Action for Human Rights*, 2021
- Eleanor Holmes Norton Award, *Center for Black Equity, DC*, 2021
- Hall of Fame Inductee, *Washington Bar Association*, 2021
- NHAEON Honor, *National Haitian American Elected Officials Network*, 2021
- Herschel Vision Award, *Jews United for Justice*, 2020
- Florence Kelley Consumer Leadership Award, *National Consumer League*, 2020
- Community Advocacy Award, *Network for Victim Recovery of DC*, 2019
- Ollie May Cooper Award, *Washington Bar Association*, 2019
- Saul Solorzano Justice Award, *Central American Resource Center*, 2019
- DC Youth Champion Award, *Mikva, DC*, 2019
- North Star Award, *American University Washington College of Law*, 2019
- Equal Justice Award, *UDC David A. Clarke School of Law*, 2018
- Community Leadership Award, *College Bound*, 2015
- 1804 List of Changemakers, *The Haitian Roundtable*, 2015
- Outstanding Leadership Award,

Latest thinking and events

- News
 - DEI executive order compliance checklist
- News
 - State antitrust enforcers step into the spotlight
- News
 - Trump Executive Order targets private-sector DEI policies and practices
- Press releases
 - Hogan Lovells ESG Game Changers Summit 2024: Risk and Reward
- News
 - Democratic state attorneys general call for national ban on price gouging
- Insights and Analysis
 - Consumer protection enforcement trends: Hogan Lovells hosts panel for retail industry leaders