

Christopher R. Hall

As a former federal prosecutor, Christopher Hall represents individuals and corporations facing possible criminal charges, government investigations and enforcement actions. Mr. Hall places particular emphasis on the health care, financial service and defense industries, including alleged wire/mail fraud, securities fraud, tax crimes, false claims, health care fraud and abuse, export law violations and public corruption. He has tried more than 30 cases to verdict in federal courts.

Immediately upon joining Saul Ewing, Mr. Hall was engaged by a global pharmaceutical company to prepare a white paper on legal risks that stem from off-label prescriptions of FDA-approved drugs and devises, together with a protocol for assessing the company's product lines. Mr. Hall also has been engaged to represent a health care provider in a criminal and civil probe of alleged anti-kickback, Stark and False Claims Act violations. Mr. Hall also has been engaged to represent a company in a criminal probe of the public finance markets by the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Mr. Hall has trial and investigative experience in a broad range of federal criminal issues, including issues arising under the following:

- False statements statute
- False Claims Act
- Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act
- Securities Act of 1933
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
- Mail and wire fraud statutes
- Bank fraud statute
- Money laundering statute
- Computer Fraud and Abuse Act
- Clean Air, Clean Water, and Resource Conservation and Recovery Acts
- Tax evasion statute
- International Emergency Economic Powers Act
- Federal Election Campaign Act
- Statute concerning theft and bribery from programs receiving federal funds
- The Endangered Species Act

Representative Prosecutions

In his role as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, Mr. Hall prosecuted a

number of significant, complex matters including:

- a government contracts fraud case in which a supplier to the United States admitted that it had misrepresented expenses in a cost-plus contract through a rebate scheme
- one of the first criminal healthcare cases brought to trial in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, for which he received the Director's Award from the Department of Justice for outstanding performance
- the conviction of a Department of Defense supplier on charges that it intentionally deceived and failed to pay subcontractors
- several environmental criminal cases involving illegal disposal activities. These trials included the first environmental justice prosecution in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, which resulted in a guilty plea by an international conglomerate and a \$1MM clean up of an under-served neighborhood in southwest Philadelphia
- a case involving illegal shipments of products to Iran in violation of the President's embargo
- the first predatory lending case brought to trial in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- cases involving the theft of funds from a major local University and a major local hospital system
- a public corruption matter arising from the theft of monies from a program funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development
- the conviction of a former, disgruntled employee under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act for compromising a company's firewalls and exposing proprietary information and confidential personal data to internet hackers

Mr. Hall has also brought to trial tax evasion and money laundering prosecutions and spearheaded dozens of complex, multi-federal agency investigations. He also led the Justice Department's investigation into the collapse of the Allegheny Health System, at the time the state's largest employer. In that matter, Mr. Hall spent two years immersed in issues of corporate accounting, manipulation of earnings through financial reporting, techniques for smoothing earnings, reserve setting, and the alleged misuse of charitable funds. Mr. Hall also has experience with multi-agency, parallel criminal and civil investigations, including the off-label marketing of pharmaceutical drugs in violation of FDA statutes and regulations, and schemes to defraud Federal health care programs and private insurers through the submission of false and inflated claims for reimbursement and payment.

Mr. Hall therefore brings to Saul Ewing a thorough and current understanding of the workings of the FDA, the Department of Defense, the SEC, the HHS Office of Inspector General, the Department of Homeland Security, HUD, the EPA, the Department of Labor, and the IRS.

In situations that warrant prompt and professional negotiations with the United States, Mr. Hall's past negotiation of settlements on behalf of the federal government give him an intimate familiarity with the complexities of such negotiations. He also has experience with crafting, implementing, and auditing industry-specific compliance programs that incorporate guidance provided by pertinent regulatory bodies, industry-adopted best practices, and the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines.

Finally, Mr. Hall speaks Spanish fluently. He has traveled to South America for the Department of Justice to help the Bolivian government draft money laundering legislation. He has also conducted investigations in Spanish, and has explained the nuances of federal criminal law in that language.

Mr. Hall is admitted to practice before the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Honors and Awards

- Director's Award for Outstanding Performance, U.S. Department of Justice
- Prosecutor of the Year Award, International Association of Financial Crimes Investigators