

Andrew M. Wright

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Andrew Wright is a member of the Public Policy and Law practice group and co-leads the firm's bipartisan Congressional Investigations practice. He guides clients through congressional investigations, executive branch compliance, and government enforcement actions.

Andrew rejoined the firm after serving as director of legal policy for the Biden-Harris Presidential Transition. He previously served as associate counsel to US President Barack Obama and assistant counsel to US Vice President Al Gore. In White House Counsel's Office, he was the primary legal liaison to the departments of Defense, Justice (DOJ), and State; Central Intelligence Agency (CIA); Office of the Director of National Intelligence; and US Agency for International Development on government investigations, congressional oversight, and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) matters.

In Congress, Andrew served as staff director of the subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs of the US House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. There, he led oversight investigations of national security and foreign affairs, designed subcommittee hearings, and managed staff under former committee chairman Henry Waxman (D-CA) and subcommittee chairman John Tierney (D-MA).

In addition to his time in public service, Andrew is a trainer for the Levin Center for Oversight and Democracy at Wayne State University Law School, educating lawyers, business leaders, legislators, and public servants on oversight. He has led courses for current House and Senate oversight staff from both political parties. He is a founding editor of the online national security forum Just Security. He is a member of the American Law Institute.

Prior to joining the firm, Andrew was a senior fellow at New York University School of Law. He also taught at Savannah Law School and West Virginia University College of Law, including courses in constitutional law, criminal law, criminal procedure, presidential powers, and federal criminal law. Andrew has previous private practice experience as a litigator and white collar criminal defense lawyer. Additionally, he worked on numerous presidential and congressional election campaigns.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *Chambers USA* for Government Relations: Congressional Investigations, USA - Nationwide, 2023-2026

- Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* as a Recommended Lawyer
  - Government Relations, 2024-2026
  - Dispute Resolution: Corporate Investigations and White-Collar Criminal Defense, 2023

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Fellow, American Bar Foundation
- Distinguished Oversight Practitioner, Levin Center at Wayne Law
- Congressional Oversight Staff Trainer, Levin Center at Wayne Law
- Consultative Group Member, Government Ethics Project, American Law Institute
- Founding Editorial Board Member, *Just Security*
- Truman-Albright Fellows Program Mentor, Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Panelist, “Oversight and Enforcement of Election and Ethics Laws,” Corporate Political Activities 2026: Complying With Campaign Finance, Lobbying, and Ethics Laws, Practising Law Institute, Washington, DC, 2026
- Panelist, “How Courts are Shaping Congress's Power to Investigate 2025,” co-hosted by K&L Gates and the Levin Center at Wayne Law, 2025
- Speaker, “Congressional Investigations of the Energy Sector,” 40th Annual Institute, Energy & Mineral Law Foundation, Washington, DC, 2019
- Speaker, “Executive Privilege and Inspectors General,” Faculty Presentation, American University Washington College of Law, Washington, DC, 2019

EDUCATION

- J.D., University of Virginia School of Law, 2000
- B.A., Washington and Lee University, 1995

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of District of Columbia
- United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit

- United States District Court for the District of Columbia
- United States District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia
- United States District Court for the Southern District of West Virginia

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 10 November 2026, Congressional Oversight Following the Midterm Elections: A Spotlight on Committees
- 5 November 2026, The Post-Election Outlook: What the Midterm Results Mean for Business
- 21 October 2026, T-Minus 14 Days: What the Midterm Elections Could Mean for Business
- 24 August 2026, 2026 Mid-Year Prediction Market Report: Uncertainty Prevails Amidst Extraordinary Federal Action
- 24 August 2026, United States: Mid-Year Prediction Market Report: Uncertainty Prevails Amidst Extraordinary Federal Action
- 14 August 2026, Congressional Investigations: What to Expect in the 120th Congress
- March 2025, The Corporate Enforcement Landscape and the Bondi DOJ: Change, Continuity, and Predictions
- January 2025, 13th Annual "Under the Wire" CLE Webinar
- January 2025, How Courts Are Shaping Congress' Power to Investigate 2025
- November 2024, 2024 Post-Election Recap Discussion
- October 2024, The Potential Impact of the 2024 Elections on the 340B Drug Pricing Program
- October 2024, Navigating Whistleblower Protections and Incentives: Key Insights from the SEC, CFTC, and DOJ
- 10 November 2022, Voters Have Spoken: Impacts of the 2022 Midterm Elections
- September 2022, September 2022 Accolades
- 2 November 2021, DOJ Announces Major Changes to Corporate Criminal Enforcement Policies
- 14 October 2021, Desiree Moore and Andy Wright on Crisis Management: Part 6 - How To Best Prepare for a Future Crisis
- 8 October 2021, Desiree Moore and Andy Wright on Crisis Management: Part 5 - Key Takeaways From a Career in Politics and Law
- 30 September 2021, Desiree Moore and Andy Wright on Crisis Management: Part 4 - Key Risks of Overlooking Legal Strategy in Crisis Communications

- 23 September 2021, Desiree Moore and Andy Wright on Crisis Management: Part 3 - Current Trends in Congressional Investigations
- 17 September 2021, Desiree Moore and Andy Wright on Crisis Management: Part 2 - Key Legal Tactics Deployed in Crisis Communications
- 15 September 2021, Navigating the Corporate Transparency Act and FinCEN's Implementing Regulations
- 14 September 2021, Congressional and Enforcement Priorities Related to Higher Education Issues
- 2 August 2021, The End of the McGahn Litigation Saga: House Subpoena Power is Vindicated, For Now
- 24 June 2021, Desiree Moore and Andy Wright on Crisis Management: Part 1 - Congressional Investigations
- 10 June 2021, Biden Administration Identifies Global Corruption as a National Security Issue
- 13 May 2021, Congressional Investigations: Key Developments in the Law and Landscape
- 20 April 2021, Can Companies Find Refuge Against Congressional Investigations in the Post-Trump Era?
- 29 March 2021, COVID-19: Financial Institutions and Loan Recipients Will See Increased Congressional and Inspector General Investigations on CARES Act Funding
- 22 July 2019, Congressional Investigations 101: To Comply or Not to Comply
- 18 June 2019, Congressional Investigations 101: Get Your Arms Around the Facts

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

In addition to contributions to the national security online legal forum *Just Security*, Andrew has bylines in *Newsweek, Slate, Huffington Post, Politico Magazine, JURIST, ACS Blog, Savannah Morning News,* and *The Atlanta Voice*. He has also written law review articles exploring congressional investigations and executive power, appearing in *Texas Law Review, New York University Law Review Online, Marquette Law Review, Mississippi Law Journal, Wayne Law Review, West Virginia Law Review, Arkansas Law Review,* and *Savannah Law Review.*

Additional publications include:

- Three Thorny Issues to Watch in Congressional Investigations, *Just Security*, 5 August 2025
- Presidential Immunity Decision May Have Implications for Congressional-Executive Divide on Criminal Contempt, *Just Security*, 26 August 2024
- Budget Cuts as Alternative Congressional Oversight Enforcement Mechanism, *Just Security,* 24 May 2024
- Inspectors General Reform: Considering Proposals for Greater Independence, Effectiveness, and Accountability, American Constitution Society Issue Brief, September 2021 (with Sara Hall)
- DOJ Announces Major Changes to Corporate Criminal Enforcement Policies, *Westlaw Today powered by Reuters,* 8 November 2021
- House Subpoena Power Wins In McGahn Case, With Caveats, *Law360*, 6 August 2021

NEWS & EVENTS

- 16 November 2026, "Under the Wire" CLE Seminar | The Post-Midterm Landscape: What Legal and Business Leaders Need to Know
- 31 August 2026, K&L Gates Secures Second Circuit Victory in Significant False Claims Act Appeal
- 4 June 2026, K&L Gates Receives Nearly 235 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2026 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 5 June 2025, K&L Gates Receives More Than 240 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2025 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 14 January 2025, K&L Gates Secures Victory for Ocean Harvesters in False Claims Act Whistleblower Lawsuit
- 15 November 2024, K&L Gates Named Among the Top 30 Investigations Firms Worldwide by *Global Investigations Review*
- 6 June 2024, K&L Gates Receives More Than 200 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2024 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 1 June 2023, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2023 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 9 April 2019, K&L Gates Boosts Public Policy and Investigation and Enforcement Practices in Washington, D.C., with Former Obama, Clinton White House Counsel Addition

MEDIA MENTIONS

- 5 November 2026, *Law360* | Democrats' Midterm Sweep Likely To Spur Work For DC Firms
- 4 November 2026, *National Law Journal/Law.com* | 'Lawyer Up': Big Law Attorneys Prepare for Congressional Investigations, M&A Flurry Following Democratic Landslide
- 8 October 2026, *Law360* | Trump Ties, Firm Deals Likely Focus Of Congressional Probes
- 11 August 2026, *Bloomberg Law* | DOJ Memo on Outside Legal Advisers Strains Hill Oversight

OTHER MEDIA MENTIONS

- Quoted, "Congress Tracker," Bloomberg Government, 15 January 2025
- Quoted, "Congressional Inquiry Practices To Stay Hot With GOP Sweep," *Law360*, 26 November 2024
- Quoted, "Robert Menendez Guilty: The Significance of the First 'Foreign Agent' Conviction of a US Senator," *Just Security*, 19 July 2024
- Quoted, "Behind The Scenes With The Congressional Investigations Bar," *Law360*, 12 June 2024
- Quoted, "FARA Indictment Shows DOJ's Willing to Use Registration Law to Limit Foreign Influence" *The National Law Journal*, 11 July 2023

- Quoted, “Lobbying Has Become Increasingly Complex With AI Being Front and Center,” *The National Law Journal* and *Law.com*, 21 June 2023
- Quoted, “What to expect from the new IT/cyber/innovation House subcommittee,” *Federal News Network*, 7 February 2023
- Quoted, “How agency leaders can prepare for more aggressive House oversight,” *Federal News Network*, 3 February 2023
- Mentioned, “'Robust Investigations Agenda' by House Committees Expected: Here's What You Need to Know,” *National Law Journal*, 25 January 2023
- Quoted, “Just Security Podcast: The Balance of Power in a New Senate,” *JustSecurity.org*, 9 December 2022
- Quoted, “Biden's most vocal Republican antagonists emerge from the sidelines – with subpoena power,” *USA Today, Yahoo.com, IndyStar.com, TennisRacketHub.com*, 17 January 2023
- “What Does Pat Cipollone's Jan. 6 Testimony Mean for Future White House Counsel?,” *National Law Journal*, 15 July 2022
- “Attorney-Client Privilege May Be on Shaky Grounds in Congressional Investigations,” *National Law Journal*, 30 March 2022
- "Another midterm worry for Biden White House: probes and impeachment attempts,” *Reuters*, 17 January 2022
- “To navigate legal quandaries, Biden leans on low-key counsel,” *Associated Press*, 24 October 2021
- “Analysis: US defending presidency, not trying to 'save Trump,' in recent legal moves,” *Reuters*, 8 June 2021
- “Diplomat said to have questioned optics of Hunter Biden job,” *Boston Globe*, 18 October 2019

AREAS OF FOCUS

- International Trade, Investment Controls, and National Security
- Public Policy and Law
- Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption
- Anti-Money Laundering (AML)
- Federal, State, and Local False Claims Act
- Internal Investigations
- US Congressional Investigations
- White Collar Defense and Investigations

INDUSTRIES

- Life Sciences

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Represented a state government official and department in an investigation by the House Education and Workforce Committee
- Represented a port authority in an investigation by the Senate Commerce Committee
- Represented a public television content creator in an investigation by the Senate Commerce Committee
- Obtained dismissal of a False Claims Act case in the Southern District of New York on behalf of a maritime fishing company
- Represented an online platform in the House Select Committee on the January 6th US Capitol attack
- Represented an air travel industry company in the House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis inquiry into the Payroll Support Program (PSP) pandemic relief program
- Represented a steel industry company in the House Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Crisis inquiry into public companies receiving Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans
- Represented an online platform in the House Judiciary Committee, Antitrust Subcommittee investigation into Big Tech companies
- Represented a senior US diplomat in the first House impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump
- Represented an energy company in the House Oversight and Reform Committee inquiry into Saudi civil nuclear deals
- Represented a public affairs company in the House Natural Resources Committee inquiry into energy industry public relations campaigns
- Represented a financial company in the House Energy and Commerce Committee inquiry into the Texas power outage
- Represented a government contractor in the House Homeland Security Committee inquiry into diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) issues in Department of Homeland Security contracting
- Represented an asset management company in the House Financial Services Committee inquiry into DEI issues among investment firms
- Represented a client in a Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) inquiry before the Department of Justice
- Represented an electrical power restoration expert as a witness before a federal grand jury in Puerto Rico
- Represented a state maritime institution in the US Department of Transportation Inspector General ethics inquiry of the Office of the Secretary of Transportation

- Represented a women's business association as a records holder in a grand jury investigation related to women-owned business certifications
- Advised a company on deal financing provisions related to the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA)
- Advised companies in the pharmaceutical, energy, maritime, and beverage industries on FOIA exemption agency consultations