

Christopher L. Nasson

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OVERVIEW

Chris Nasson is a member of the firm's global management committee and the managing partner of the Boston office. An experienced litigator and former federal prosecutor, Chris's practice focuses on regulatory enforcement, white collar criminal defense, internal investigations, and related business and securities litigation.

Chris represents companies and individuals in criminal and civil matters brought by the Department of Justice, Securities and Exchange Commission, and other federal, state, and foreign enforcement agencies. An accomplished trial and appellate attorney, Chris has had considerable success dissuading governmental agencies from pursuing any enforcement or criminal action against his clients. He also counsels clients on risk mitigation strategies with respect to anti-corruption, sanctions, cybersecurity, and anti-money laundering issues.

Chris is nationally recognized for his work in internal investigations and white collar criminal defense. *Chambers USA* hailed Chris as “a trusted go-to” for “individual and corporate clients involved in high-stakes criminal investigations and related proceedings,” and noted “Chris's knowledge, guidance, and professionalism have instilled confidence” in his clients when facing their most sensitive matters. According to Chambers, clients describe Chris as “unflappable, savvy, and able to get to the bottom of issues quickly,” “pragmatic and business-oriented,” and “a phenomenal trial lawyer.” Clients report Chris “has an incredible presence in front of government agencies” and call him “the complete package.”

Boston Magazine awarded Chris “Top Lawyer: White Collar Defense,” *Business Today* named Chris one of the “Top 10 White Collar Attorneys in Massachusetts,” *The Best Lawyers in America*® ranked Chris one of the top white collar lawyers in Massachusetts, *The Legal 500 United States* honored Chris as a top lawyer for corporate investigations, and *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* recognized Chris as “Lawyer of the Year” for his pro bono work securing the release of Fred Weichel, who was wrongfully imprisoned for more than 36 years for a crime he did not commit. Major news publications including *The New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Boston Globe, Reuters, Bloomberg,* and *National Law Review* have featured his cases, commentary, and scholarship.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Before his service with the Department of Justice, Chris was a litigation attorney at a prominent Boston law firm, where he worked on matters involving healthcare fraud, public corruption, and corporate crime, as well as complex commercial litigation and arbitration.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *Chambers USA* for Litigation: White Collar Crime & Government Investigations in Massachusetts, 2020-2026
- Recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America*® for Criminal Defense: White-Collar in Boston, 2025-2026
- Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* as a Recommended Lawyer
  - Corporate Investigations and White-Collar Criminal Defense, 2026
  - Corporate Investigations and White-Collar Criminal Defense: Advice to Individuals, 2024-2025
  - Corporate Investigations and White-Collar Criminal Defense: Advice to Corporates, 2024-2025
- Listed in *Boston Magazine* as a Top Lawyer in White Collar Defense
- Recognized by *Business Today* as a Top 10 White Collar Attorney in Massachusetts
- Named *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* "Lawyer of the Year"
- Department of Justice Special Act Award in connection with the successful prosecution of corporate and individual tax evasion

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors
- Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, Public Policy & Government Relations Leadership Council
- American Bar Association, Criminal Justice Section - Securities Fraud, Healthcare Fraud, and Corporate Criminal Liability Subcommittees
- Boston Bar Association, Criminal Law Section
- Boston Bar Foundation, Adams Benefit *Pro Bono* Steering Committee
- University of Virginia School of Law, Public Service Mentor
- Eastern District Association
- K&L Gates - Boston Opportunity and Inclusion Committee, Member
- Winchester Youth Basketball and Softball, Coach

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Speaker, "New M&A Safe Harbor Policy for Voluntary Self-Disclosures: Weighing the Risks vs. Potential Benefits," Stafford Publications webinar, 8 May 2024
- Christopher Nasson, Neil Smith, Pablo Man, *SEC Exams & Enforcement*, Boston Asset Management and Investment Funds Conference, Boston, MA 2022.
- Christopher Nasson, David Rybicki, David Peet, Rebecca Schaefer, *Emerging National Security Considerations for AMCs and Research Universities: Foreign Influence Oversight and Enforcement Trends* (March 16, 2021).
- Christopher Nasson, David Rybicki, Neil Smith, Hayley Trahan-Liptak, *Phase 2 of the U.S. Government's Response to the Paycheck Protection Program*, Voluntary Disclosure Podcast (March 8, 2021).
- Christopher Nasson, David Rybicki, Neil Smith, Hayley Trahan-Liptak, *Phase 1 of the U.S. Government's Response to the Paycheck Protection Program*, Voluntary Disclosure Podcast (February 23, 2021).
- Christopher Nasson, David Peet, *Deep Dive - The DOJ on Campus,* Voluntary Disclosure Podcast (September 9, 2020).
- Christopher Nasson, David Peet, Christopher Warner, *When DOJ's China Initiative Entangles US Research Orgs*, Law360: Expert Analysis (March 11, 2020).
- Christopher Nasson et al., *SEC Examinations, Enforcement Actions, and Litigation Developments*, 2019 Boston Investment Management Conference, Boston, MA, November 2019.
- Christopher Nasson, Steven Wright, Gregory Wright, *Insurance Coverage for Government Proceedings, Investigations, and Subpoenas*, Continuing Legal Education Program, Boston, MA, November 2019.
- Christopher Nasson, *A Practical Guide to Conducting Witness Interviews in Government Investigations*, Continuing Legal Education Program, Boston, MA, March 2019.
- Christopher Nasson and Neil Smith, *Global Corruption and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act*, ESADE Global Governance and Law Program, the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, Boston, MA, June 2018.
- Christopher Nasson and Neil Smith, *Developments in SEC Enforcement and Examinations*, 2017 Boston Investment Management Conference, Boston, MA, November 2017.
- Christopher Nasson et al., *Legal in Transformation: How Legal Functions Are Adapting to People, Process, and Technology Changes,* Thompson Reuters, Boston, MA, September 2017.
- Christopher Nasson et al., *Best Practices in Parallel Criminal and Civil Investigations and Proceedings,* U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission, New York, NY, July 2016.

EDUCATION

- B.A., Amherst College, *(magna cum laude)*
- J.D., University of Virginia School of Law, *(Lacy Armour Merit Scholar; Virginia Journal of Social Policy & the Law, Articles Review and Editorial Boards)*

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Massachusetts
- Bar of New York
- United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
- United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 2 March 2026, Declinations in Weeks: SDNY's New Voluntary Self-Disclosure Regime
- 26 September 2025, DOJ Gives Massachusetts Health Care Enforcement a Booster Shot
- 12 February 2025, President Trump Orders FCPA Freeze; DOJ Announces Major Policy Realignment De-Emphasizing Corporate Investigations and Enforcement
- 26 September 2024, AI, Whistleblowers, and Data Analytics - Updated DOJ Compliance Guidance
- 29 July 2024, Private Equity Firms Should Prepare for Increased Scrutiny as DOJ Puts False Claims Violations Under the Microscope
- 15 March 2024, Dialing for Dollars: US Department of Justice Announces New Whistleblower Pilot Program
- 26 December 2023, Criminalizing the "Quo:" The New Foreign Extortion Prevention Act Targets the Demand Side of Bribery
- 14 November 2023, When the Government Comes Knocking
- 16 October 2023, DOJ Incentivizes Voluntary Self-Disclosure in New Safe Harbor Policy for Mergers and Acquisitions
- 18 August 2023, July 2023 Accolades
- 14 February 2023 , Up Next: Lenders May Be the Next Government Focus for PPP Fraud

- 1 July 2021, More Than Innovation and Competition: The Latest Proposed Monitoring and Enforcement Mechanisms Targeting Foreign Influence in U.S. Research
- 16 March 2021, Emerging National Security Considerations for AMCs and Research Universities: Foreign Influence Oversight and Enforcement Trends
- 8 March 2021, Voluntary Disclosure: Deep Dive - They Still Know What You Did Last Summer—Phase 2 of the U.S. Government's Response to the Paycheck Protection Program
- 23 February 2021, Voluntary Disclosure: Deep Dive - They Know What You Did Last Summer—Phase 1 of the U.S. Government's Response to the Paycheck Protection Program
- 4 February 2021, They Know What You Did Last Summer: DOJ Announces First Civil Settlement Involving PPP Borrower
- 21 December 2020, 2021: A New Year, the Same Fear - Why Companies Should Expect a Wave of PPP Investigations
- 30 November 2020, HHS OIG Highlights "Inherent Fraud and Abuse Risks" of Company-Sponsored Speaker Programs in Rare Special Fraud Alert
- 9 September 2020, Voluntary Disclosure: Deep Dive - The DOJ on Campus
- 2 June 2020, COVID-19: Still Open for Business, and Business is Booming: What Companies Should Expect from the SEC in the Time of COVID-19
- 18 May 2020, New Developments in the DOJ's Inquiry into Chinese Influence at American Research Institutions
- 1 May 2020, COVID-19: Labs Beware! – EKRA Expands DOJ's Enforcement Arsenal in the COVID-19 Fraud Battle
- 28 April 2020, COVID-19: Federal Stimulus Today, Federal Investigation Tomorrow: What TARP Can Tell Us about the Coming Wave of CARES Act Enforcement
- 19 February 2020, Charles Lieber, Feng Tao, and the DOJ's Ongoing Search for Chinese Spies at U.S. Research Institutions
- 17 February 2020, Russian Competition Regulators, Mount Up: Russian Authorities Crack Down on Anti-Competitive Agreements With Uptick in Criminal Liability for Antitrust Violations
- 1 October 2019, DOJ v. China: Is DOJ Acting as an Instrument of Foreign Policy?
- 5 September 2019, DOJ’s Aggressive Effort to Combat Opioid Crisis Places Everyone in the Crosshairs
- 7 March 2019, Another Cop on the International Beat: The CFTC Announces Expanded Focus on Foreign Corruption
- 16 July 2018, Dollars and Sense: Making the Most of Your Company’s Insurance Policy When Served with a Government Subpoena

- 14 June 2018, SCOTUS Says Costs of Internal Investigations Are Not Reimbursable Under Mandatory Victims Restitution Act
- 3 January 2018, The Future of Financial Crime and Enforcement is Cyber-Based
- 16 March 2017, DOJ's Recent Guidance on Compliance Programs

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- "Legal trends health care investors should know: Q&A with K&L Gates partners Christopher Nasson, Wells Beckett and Rebecca Schaefer," *Boston Business Journal,* 1 October 2024
- "The Department of Justice Wants You to Call. And It Wants You to Put Its Number on Speed Dial," *The Journal of Federal Agency Action*, September-October 2024
- "PE Firms Should Prepare For False Claims Scrutiny," *Law360*, 5 August 2024
- "4 Questions On Groundbreaking New Foreign Bribery Law," *Law360*, 16 January 2024
- Co-Author, "Will the New Safe Harbor Policy Create a Safe Haven for Companies Reporting Misconduct Discovered in M&A?," *New York Law Journal*, December 2023
- "Lenders May Be the Next Government Focus for PPP Fraud," *The Banking Law Journal,* June 2023

NEWS & EVENTS

- 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
- 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
- 16 May 2024, New M&A Safe Harbor Policy for Voluntary Self-Disclosures: Weighing the Risks vs. Potential Benefits, Hosted by Strafford
- 1 June 2023, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2023 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 15 May 2023, K&L Gates Bolsters Asset Management and Investment Funds Practice With Boston Partner Addition
- 3 November 2022, 2022 K&L Gates Asset Management and Investment Funds Conference — Boston
- 1 June 2022, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2022 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 21 May 2021, K&L Gates Policy and Regulatory Practice, Lawyers Ranked Among Leaders in 2021 Chambers USA Guide

- 26 September 2016, K&L Gates Welcomes Boston Government Enforcement Partner

MEDIA MENTIONS

- 2 January 2026, *Law360* | What To Watch In Massachusetts Courts In 2026

OTHER MEDIA MENTIONS

- Quoted, "What To Watch In Massachusetts Courts In 2026," *Law360*, 2 January 2026
- Quoted, "Boston Feds Must Do 'More With Less' On White Collar Front," *Law360*, 6 June 2025
- Quoted, "What To Know About Joe Nocella, Trump's EDNY Top Cop Pick, *Law360*, 7 January, 2025
- Quoted, "Now 'Back To Stability,' Mass. US Atty Office Set To Ramp Up," *Law360*, 15 November 2024
- Interviewed, "Christopher Nasson, Managing Partner: Boston, K&L Gates LLP," *Invest*, 24 October 2024
- Quoted, "'Varsity Blues' Suit Flips The Script On 'Victim' USC," *Law360*, 27 September 2024
- Quoted, "What To Watch In Massachusetts Courts In 2024," *Law360*, 1 January 2024
- Quoted, "It's Final Exam Time for 'Varsity Blues' as Big Appeals Loom," *Law360*, 28 September 2023
- Recognized, "2023 Top 10 Massachusetts Attorneys Influencing White-Collar Crime Litigation in 2023," *Business Today*, 13 July 2023
- Quoted, "Rollins Scandal Steers US Atty's Office To 'Uncharted Waters'," *Law360*, 17 May 2023
- Quoted, "An 'Unforced Error:' How A 'Varsity Blues' Win Unraveled," *Law360*, 11 May 2023
- Quoted, "How Boston is at the forefront of ESG reporting," *Capital Analytics Associates*, 26 April 2023
- Quoted, "A good fit: law firms find time is right to downsize," *MassLawyersWeekly.com*, 12 April 2023
- Quoted, "FIFA Bribe Prosecutors Face Tougher Odds As 2nd Trial Starts," *Law360*, 13 January 2023
- Quoted, "'Varsity Blues' Mastermind Faces Reckoning As Prison Looms," *Law360*, 3 January 2023
- Quoted, "What To Watch For In Massachusetts Courts In 2023," *Law360*, 2 January 2023
- Quoted, "Why A 76-Year-Old Top Court Case Could Undo 'Varsity Blues'," *Law360*, 10 November 2022
- Quoted, Trump Ally Thomas Barrack Acquitted in Foreign Influence Case, *The Wall Street Journal*, 4 November 2022
- Quoted, Taking the reins at K&L Gates' Boston office, *Boston Globe*, 28 March 2022
- Quoted, Trial Penalty Or Lack Of Remorse? 'Varsity Blues' Stirs Debate, *Law360,* 23 February 2022
- Quoted, Platinum Partners' Securities Fraud Convictions Upheld, *Institutional Investor*, 8 November 2021

- Quoted, Varsity Blues' Ruling Reopens Fight For Leader's Testimony, *Law360,* 26 October 2021
- Quoted, Varsity Blues' Mastermind Not Expected To Testify At Trial, *Law360*, 10 September 2021
- Quoted, Shaky Credibility May Bench 'Varsity Blues' Star Witness, *Law360*, 20 August 2021
- Quoted, COVID Rules Unlikely To Win Ex-Mayor New Corruption Trial, *Law360,* 28 May 2021
- Quoted, Boston Bar Welcomes Shift In Focus Under Biden US Atty, *Law360,* 8 November 2020
- Quoted, Loughlin's 'Sweetheart Deal' May Spark 'Varsity Blues' Pleas, *Law360,* 21 May 2020
- Quoted, Rare 'Varsity Blues' Video Sentence Carries Risks For Defense, *Law360,* 27 March 2020
- Quoted,'If a Charge Can't Stick on These Guys, No Charges Can Stick on Anyone,' *Institutional Investor,* 18 February 2020
- Quoted, Ex-DOJ Atty Alleges Rights Violations In Cross-Border Cases, *Law360*, 6 February 2020
- Quoted,Frustrated Feds Maneuver For Sterner 'Varsity Blues' Penalties, *Law360,* 25 October 2019
- Quoted, Platinum Prosecutors To Appeal Acquittal, New Trial Orders, *Law360,* 4 October 2019
- Quoted, Platinum Execs' Fate Lies With Judge After Mixed Verdict, *Law360,* 10 July 2019
- Quoted,'Varsity Blues' Case Strong Enough To Humble BigLaw Boss, *Law360*, 5 April 2019
- Quoted, What's Next In The 'Varsity Blues' Admissions Fraud Case, *Law360*, 14 March 2019
- Quoted, Sprawling $1B Platinum Case Finally Going To Trial, *Law360*, 15 February 2019
- Quoted, US Won't Bring FCPA Case Against British Co. Amid UK Probe, *Law360*, 22 August 2018
- Quoted, Prosecutors won't retry man who served 36 years in prison for 1980 murder, B*oston Globe*, 7 August 2017
- Quoted, Norfolk DA's office declines to retry Fred Weichel for 1980 murder, WCVB.com, 7 August 2021
- Quoted, Fred Weichel released after 36 years behind bars for fatal shooting, *The Patriot Ledger*, 28 April 2017
- Quoted, Former Brooklyn Federal Prosecutor Joins K&L Gates, *Law360*, 28 September 2016
- Quoted, 4th Trader Admits Guilt In $30M Newswire Hacking Scheme, *Law360*, 2 August 2016
- Quoted, Broker Pleads Guilty To Role In $131M Investment Scheme, *Law360*, 27 July 2016
- Quoted, New Charges Eyed In Press-Release Hack, Insider Trading Plot, *Law360*, 8 January 2016
- Quoted, Ga. Man Cops To Press-Release Hacking, Insider Trading Plot, *Law360*, 21 December 2015
- Quoted, Poppi Metaxas, former bank CEO, sentenced to 18 months in bank fraud, *Newsday*, 2 December 2015

- Quoted, Feds Say Accused Press Release Hackers Are Flight Risk, *Law360*, 13 August 2015
- Quoted, Ex-Bank Exec Pleads Guilty To Conspiracy In $1.8M Fraud, *Law360*, 1 May 2015

AREAS OF FOCUS

- White Collar Defense and Investigations
- Anti-Bribery and Anti-Corruption
- Healthcare Fraud and Abuse (US)
- Internal Investigations
- International Trade, Investment Controls, and National Security
- Securities Enforcement / Financial Regulatory Enforcement

INDUSTRIES

- Energy
- Financial Services
- Healthcare
- Life Sciences
- Private Equity

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Healthcare Fraud

- Represented a Fortune 500 global healthcare and pharmaceutical company in SEC investigation relating to accounting practices. The SEC declined to bring an enforcement action.
- Represented a global, public company in connection with a Department of Justice investigation involving alleged Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act violations.
- Represented a public healthcare company in connection with a Department of Justice investigation involving alleged price gouging and anti-competitive conduct.
- Represented an academic medical center in connection with a Department of Justice foreign influence investigation.
- Represented a healthcare company in connection with a federal investigation involving alleged Anti-Kickback Statute violations. The case was resolved with a declination of prosecution.

- Represented a healthcare provider and research clinic in a state Attorney General's Office investigation involving alleged Stark Law violations and improper Medicare and Medicaid billings. The case was resolved with a declination of prosecution.
- Represented a healthcare system in a federal investigation involving alleged Stark Law, Anti-Kickback Statute, and False Claims Act violations.

Securities, Financial, and Tax Fraud

- Represented a senior executive in the FTX implosion and related criminal case, *US v. Samuel Bankman-Fried*. No charges were brought against the client in any jurisdiction.
- Represented a Registered Investment Advisor in a securities fraud investigation brought by the Department of Justice and Securities and Exchange Commission. Neither agency brought charges.
- Represented a crypto and FinTech company in connection with a fraud and money laundering investigation.
- Represented a public pharmaceutical and biotech company in a SEC securities fraud investigation. The SEC declined to charge.
- Represented a financial services company in a civil investigation brought by a state Attorney General's Office.
- Represented a global asset management firm in a federal antitrust and financial fraud investigation.
- Represented a corporate director in connection with a federal tax and corporate fraud investigation.
- Represented a private equity firm in securities litigation relating to false representations in violation of the Securities Exchange Act.
- Represented a senior executive in the SDNY's Galleon Group/New Castle Partners insider trading investigation. The DOJ declined to bring charges.
- Represented individuals in connection with a federal tax evasion matter.

False Claims Act

- Represented a financial services company in a False Claims Act investigation. The Department of Justice declined intervention.
- Represented a public healthcare company and its subsidiaries in connection with a False Claims Act investigation brought by the Department of Justice's Civil Division.
- Represented an insurance company in a False Claims Act investigation.
- Represented a tech company in a False Claims Act investigation.
- Represented a pharmacy roll-up company in a False Claims Act investigation led by the US Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. The government closed the investigation with no civil or criminal charges.

Foreign Corrupt Practices Act

- Represented a public global energy company in parallel DOJ and SEC Foreign Corrupt Practices Act investigations involving conduct occurring in the US, Russia, Kazakhstan, China, and the Netherlands. Neither agency brought charges.
- Represented a senior executive in a Foreign Corrupt Practices Act investigation brought by the DOJ's FCPA Section.

Internal and Cross-Border Investigations

- Represented a public global energy company and its senior executives in a cross-border, multi-jurisdictional criminal investigation and civil arbitration.
- Led an internal investigation of a Fortune 500 bank holding company in response to employee allegations involving workplace discrimination.
- Represented an aerospace engineering company in a federal investigation involving alleged Export Administration Regulations and International Traffic in Arms Regulations violations.
- Led an internal investigation of a healthcare company in response to whistleblower allegations of healthcare, wire, and securities fraud.
- Led an internal investigation of a public biotechnology company in response to whistleblower allegations of accounting violations and misbranding drugs and medical devices.

Public Corruption

- Represented an executive in the federal grand jury and congressional investigations in *United States v. Hunter Biden*. No charges were brought against the client in any jurisdiction.
- Represented an asset management firm in a federal public corruption investigation.
- Represented a public global energy company in a public corruption and commercial bribery investigation brought by the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office. No charges were brought.

Regulatory Compliance and Counseling

- Designed anti-corruption and trade compliance policies and training for a global technology company.
- Advised public media company on Office of Foreign Assets Control compliance.

Pro Bono

- Represented a pro bono client wrongfully convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life imprisonment. After prevailing before the trial court and state supreme court, persuaded the District Attorney’s Office to dismiss all charges, resulting in the client’s release from prison after serving more than 36 years for a crime he did not commit.