

Barrett R. Howell

Partner

Dallas Office

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Practices

FOCUS: Litigation
Corporate Governance
Foreign Corrupt Practices Act Litigation
Securities Litigation
White Collar and Internal Investigations

Industries

Health Care

Education

JD, Southern Methodist University Dedman
School of Law
BA, Emory University
BBA, Emory University

Bar Admissions

Texas

"Barrett is very talented; he is always looking at the bigger picture."

*- Chambers USA 2023
(Texas, Litigation: White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations)
survey response*

Barrett Howell defends companies and executives in government investigations, civil enforcement actions and criminal proceedings typically involving allegations of securities fraud or healthcare fraud. Barrett also conducts internal investigations and advises corporate boards on internal controls and potential self-reporting issues.

An informed defense

Barrett establishes a level of comfort with clients that helps them effectively navigate government investigations and enforcement proceedings. He represents companies and executives in investigations and enforcement actions involving allegations of securities and accounting fraud, Medicaid and Medicare fraud, bribery, kickbacks, and corruption. He brings a particularly detailed knowledge of the health care industry to his practice. When defending clients in that field and others, Barrett's clients benefit from his strategically proactive approach that often avoids indictment altogether and minimizes financial disruption. Barrett has guided clients to favorable outcomes in investigations, enforcement actions and criminal prosecutions involving alleged False Claims Act violations, health care fraud, securities fraud, FCPA and Anti-Kickback Statute violations, bribery and inducement payments, and insider trading.

Barrett has represented clients before a wide variety of federal and state agencies, including the Department of Justice, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Department of Health & Human Services Inspector General, the Department of Defense, the Food & Drug Administration, the US Drug Enforcement Agency, the US Secret Service, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and multiple offices of state attorneys general.

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Representative Experience

- Defended physician-owned medical practice in criminal investigation alleging health care fraud, tax fraud, and wire and mail fraud.*
- Defended doctor-owned dental practice in *qui tam* Federal False Claims Act whistleblower lawsuit and parallel federal criminal and civil investigations.*
- Represented publicly traded real estate investment fund in SEC investigation and parallel DOJ criminal investigation.*
- Represented multiple individuals and companies in SEC accounting, disclosure, asset valuation and insider trading investigations.*
- Defended numerous companies and individuals in federal and state whistleblower lawsuits and resulting civil and criminal investigations conducted by HHS-OIG, the FBI, US Attorneys' Offices and state Medicaid officials.*
- Represented health care providers and DME/pharma interests in Anti-Kickback, Stark Act and False Claims Act investigations and cases.*
- Conducted internal investigation for national bank's audit committee into whistleblower allegations involving related-party transactions.*
- Defended Fortune 500 computer hardware company in *qui tam* False Claims Act lawsuit and parallel government investigation.*
- Defended large-scale energy and lighting systems management company in SEC investigation involving revenue recognition and related accounting issues.*
- Conducted international internal investigation for oil and gas drilling and production company into foreign transactions and possible FCPA violations.*
- Advised board of directors and special committee on governance matters related to whistleblower complaint from disgruntled former CEO of public company. Also conducted related internal investigation.*

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- Defended former CFO of Fortune 500 business process outsourcing company in SEC investigation and enforcement action involving resale transaction revenue accounting.*
- Conducted internal investigation on behalf of publicly traded company's audit committee instigated by whistleblower complaint involving accounting and financial reporting issues.*
- Defended global investment advisor in SEC investigation involving valuation and financial reporting.*
- Defended financial services and lending company in SEC investigation focused on goodwill valuation and impairment testing.*
- Defended health care company in parallel DOJ criminal and civil investigations.*
- Advised board of directors and audit committee of NYSE-listed company through whistleblower-initiated internal corporate investigation and accounting restatement.*
- Defended CEO of Nasdaq-listed company against SEC enforcement action involving allegations of improper revenue recognition.*
- Represented publicly traded personal care products company in SEC and General Accounting Office inquiries regarding intangible asset accounting and valuation methodologies.*
- Defended former executive of publicly traded company against SEC enforcement action involving allegations of stock option backdating.*

*Experience prior to Katten

Recognitions

Recognized or listed in the following:

- *Best Lawyers in America*
 - Commercial Litigation, 2024

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- *Chambers USA*
 - Litigation: White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations, 2022–2023
- *D Magazine*
 - Best Lawyers in Dallas, 2014, 2017–2018, 2020, 2022–2023
- *Super Lawyers*
 - Texas, 2014–2020
- *Super Lawyers Rising Stars*
 - Texas, 2011–2014
- *The Legal 500 United States*
 - Recommended Attorney, 2017, 2020

News

- Katten Attorneys Distinguished by *Best Lawyers*® (August 17, 2023)
- Katten Boosts Rankings in *Chambers USA Guide 2023* (June 1, 2023)
- *D Magazine* Recognizes 12 Dallas Partners on 2023 Best Lawyers List (April 27, 2023)
- *Texas Lawbook* Reflects on Five Years of Katten in Dallas in Q&A With Mark Solomon (April 14, 2023)
- Katten Ranked Leading Law Firm by *Chambers USA 2022* (June 1, 2022)
- Dallas Attorneys Recognized in *D Magazine's* 2022 Best Lawyers List (April 22, 2022)
- Katten Attorneys Selected for 2020 Texas Super Lawyers List (October 19, 2020)
- Katten Named Top-Tier Firm in Structured Finance and Securitization by *The Legal 500 United States 2020 Guide* (June 16, 2020)

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- *D Magazine* Names Katten Partners to Best Lawyers in Dallas List (April 30, 2020)
- Katten Attorneys Chosen for 2019 Texas Super Lawyers List (September 3, 2019)
- Barrett Howell Weighs In on SEC Fort Worth Vacancy (April 1, 2019)
- Katten Attorneys Named to 2018 Texas *Super Lawyers* List (September 6, 2018)
- Katten Adds Former Federal Judge, Top Corporate, Litigation Talent in Dallas (May 9, 2018)
- Newest Members of Katten's Dallas Office Featured in *Texas Lawyer* and *The Texas Lawbook* (May 9, 2018)

Publications

- Katten Health Care Symposium: The Business of Health Care in the Wake of COVID, the Election and Social Uncertainty | Key Takeaways (November 10, 2020)

Presentations and Events

- NACD Expert Series With Katten (June 14, 2021) | *Presenter*
- Katten Health Care Symposium: The Business of Health Care in the Wake of COVID, the Election and Social Uncertainty (October 29, 2020) | *Presenter*
- 5th Annual Government Enforcement Institute (September 20–21, 2018) | *Co-Chair*
- Association of Corporate Counsel Annual In-House Symposium (April 27, 2018) | *Presenter* | *Anti-Corruption Training and Compliance*

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- PLI's 32nd Midyear SEC Reporting & FASB Forum (May 18, 2017) | *Presenter* | *Staying Out of Trouble: SEC Enforcement Results for FY 2016 – What Will 2017 Bring?*
- Dallas Association of Corporate Counsel Annual In-House Symposium (April 21, 2017) | *Presenter* | *What To Do When the Government Comes Knocking*
- State Bar of Texas Annual Business Law Conference (November 17, 2016) | *Presenter* | *Do's and Don'ts All Counsel Should Know About Government Investigations*
- Business Valuation, Forensic & Litigation Services Conference (October 23, 2015) | *Presenter* | *The Forensic Accountant: A Key Witness in the Defense Arsenal*
- Southwestern Institute for International and Comparative Law (June 15, 2015) | *Presenter* | *Whistleblowers: Are You Prepared?* | *Multi-National Counsel Boot Camp: Practical Solutions for International Lawyers*
- Getting All Judgmental – Disclosure of Loss Contingencies Under ASC 450 (FAS 5) | CLE Presentation (April 30, 2015) | *Presenter*
- University of Texas Corporate Counsel Institute (April 17, 2015) | *Presenter* | *What To Do When the Government Comes Knocking – Practical Tips for In-House Counsel*
- University of Texas Continuing Legal Education Government Enforcement Institute (May 21, 2014) | *Presenter* | *Government Investigations, Part II: Best Practices for Internal Investigations*
- State Bar of Texas Advanced In-House Counsel Course (August 1, 2013) | *Presenter* | *Legal Ethics for In-House Counsel*