



# Gil M. Soffer

Chairman

White Collar and Internal Investigations

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Gil Soffer, Katten chair, is at the forefront of shaping the firm's vision, strategic direction and growth. Working closely with CEO Noah Heller, he is instrumental in implementing the firm's strategic priorities, including its ongoing commitment to ensuring that all Katten clients receive top-notch legal services fueled by efficiency and innovation. Gil also maintains a robust white collar criminal practice. As a former federal prosecutor and senior Department of Justice (DOJ) official, he has a profound understanding of government enforcement strategies and tactics, which enables him to guide clients safely through the complexities of government investigations and enforcement actions.

## The power of prevention

Gil believes that the best strategy is prevention. He focuses on identifying risks and addressing them before the government does. He helps clients draw up compliance plans and codes of corporate conduct that are sensible and as business friendly as possible within the bounds of the law. And where a government investigation has already begun, Gil devises ways to guide his clients — including corporations, their board members, their executives and employees — out of harm's way.

His rare mix of experience gives Gil valuable insights into the government's enforcement strategies regarding corporate fraud. When he worked at DOJ, he managed the President's Corporate Fraud Task Force and was a key drafter of DOJ policies governing the charging of corporations and corporate monitorships. In private practice, Gil has served as independent corporate compliance monitor for a major international pharmaceutical company — a role few attorneys have performed — in one of the most substantial FCPA resolutions to date. Gil has also served as counsel to public company boards or their special committees, investigating shareholder allegations of misconduct and reporting his findings to the board.

## Practices

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- Antitrust and Competition
- Foreign Corrupt Practices Act Litigation
- Insurance and Health Care Fraud Litigation
- Monitorships
- Pharmaceutical and Life Sciences Litigation
- White Collar and Internal Investigations

## Industries

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- Education
- Finance and Financial Markets
- Pharmaceutical and Life Sciences

## Education

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- JD, Harvard Law School, *cum laude*
- AB, Brown University, *magna cum laude*

## Bar Admissions

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- Illinois
- California

## Community Involvements

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- American Bar Association
- Committee on Federal Criminal Jury Instructions of the Seventh Circuit

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Gil defends executives and other individuals no less than corporations. Among other victories, he has repeatedly convinced the DOJ to decline prosecution, and the SEC to decline charges, against executives, directors, and employees of private and public companies who were threatened with civil and criminal enforcement action.

## Representative Experience

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- Independent FCPA and opioid compliance monitor for one of the world's largest manufacturers of generic pharmaceuticals.
- Represented special committee of the board of a generic pharmaceutical company conducting an investigation into allegations made by certain shareholders. Charges included that certain officers and directors breached their fiduciary duties to the company by failing to maintain adequate internal controls over financial reporting and engaging in insider trading.
- Served as lead counsel in multiple internal inquiries for an international manufacturing company. The investigations, which took place throughout Europe, involved potential kickback arrangements, Customs fraud and antitrust violations.
- Defend for-profit education company in investigations by the FTC and Department of Education.
- Represented in-house attorney in grand jury investigation of American manufacturer for FCPA violations in India.
- Represented hospitals and hospital networks in self disclosures to USAOs in Baltimore and Chicago concerning Medicare and Medicaid fraud.
- Represent Chairman of Board of agricultural logistics company in commodities fraud investigation by DOJ and SEC.
- Special Counsel for Illinois Attorney Registration and Disciplinary Commission.
- Represented senior employees of a major airline in a DOJ False Claims Act investigation involving the airline industry.

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## Recognitions

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*Recognized or listed in the following:*

- *Best Lawyers in America*
  - Criminal Defense: White-Collar, 2018–2026
- *Chambers USA*
  - Litigation: White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations, 2012–2025
- *Crain's Chicago Business*
  - Notable Litigators and Trial Attorneys, 2025
  - Notable Leaders in Accounting, Consulting and Law, 2024
  - Who's Who in Chicago Business, 2017, 2023–2026
- *Super Lawyers*
  - Top 100: Illinois Super Lawyers, 2024
  - Illinois, 2005, 2008, 2012–2026
- *The Legal 500 United States*
  - Recommended Attorney, 2016–2022, 2024–2025

## News

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- Katten Attorneys Named to 2026 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 21, 2026)
- Katten Corporate Head Kimberly Smith Recognized Again Among Most Influential Women in Mid-Market M&A (January 8, 2026)
- Gil Soffer Named to 2026 'Who's Who in Chicago Business' List by *Crain's Chicago Business* (December 19, 2025)
- Katten Names Three Mentoring Awards Recipients (November 24, 2025)
- Katten's Kimberly T. Smith and Susan Light Named 2025 Women of Influence in Chicago and New York (November 4, 2025)
- Katten Names Christine Noelle Fitzgerald to Lead Its LA Offices (October 16, 2025)
- Katten Announces New Partner Class of 2025 (August 26, 2025)
- Gil Soffer Quoted by *The American Lawyer* on His Experience as a Boomerang Hire (August 21, 2025)

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- Katten Celebrates 101 Attorneys Honored by *Best Lawyers*® (August 21, 2025)
- Katten Corporate Partners Honored as Notable M&A Dealmakers (August 18, 2025)
- Katten Receives High Marks in the Legal 500 US 2025 Guide (June 11, 2025)
- *Chambers USA* 2025 Ranks Katten as Leading Law Firm (June 5, 2025)
- *Crain's Chicago Business* 2025 Notable Litigators & Trial Attorneys Features Three Katten Partners (April 25, 2025)
- *American Lawyer* Spotlights Katten Revenue Growth After Interview With Gil Soffer on Firm's 2025 Fiscal Year (April 9, 2025)
- Katten's Response and Support for Los Angeles Wildfires Relief and Recovery Efforts (February 5, 2025)
- Katten Appoints Seth Messner to Head DC Office (February 4, 2025)
- Katten Attorneys Selected for 2025 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 31, 2025)
- *Crain's Chicago Business* Named Gil Soffer to the 2025 'Who's Who in Chicago Business' List (January 15, 2025)
- Katten Selects Mentoring Awards Recipients (November 15, 2024)
- Katten's Response and Support for Hurricane Helene Relief Efforts (September 30, 2024)
- *Crain's Chicago Business* Names Gil Soffer Among 2024 Notable Leaders in Accounting, Consulting and Law (September 13, 2024)
- Katten Announces 2024 Partner Promotions (August 27, 2024)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized as *Best Lawyers*® and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch*® Award Recipients (August 15, 2024)
- Katten Highly Ranked in Legal 500 United States 2024 (June 12, 2024)
- Katten Receives High Marks in *Chambers USA* Guide 2024 (June 6, 2024)
- Katten Appoints Jennifer I. Wolfe to Helm Its Chicago Headquarters (May 20, 2024)
- Katten Attorneys Named to 2024 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 25, 2024)

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- *Crain's Chicago Business* Named Gil Soffer to the 2024 'Who's Who in Chicago Business' List (January 16, 2024)
- Media Abuzz Over New Katten Chair-Elect Gil Soffer (December 4, 2023)
- Katten Names Gil M. Soffer As Its Next Chair (November 30, 2023)
- Katten Attorneys Distinguished by *Best Lawyers*® (August 17, 2023)
- Katten Boosts Rankings in *Chambers USA Guide 2023* (June 1, 2023)
- Katten Launches New Practice Focused on ESG Risk and Investigations (February 14, 2023)
- Gil Soffer on *Crain's Chicago Business's* Who's Who in Chicago Business List (January 26, 2023)
- Katten Attorneys Selected to 2023 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 24, 2023)
- Katten Donates Backpacks to Chicago Public Schools' Students (August 26, 2022)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized by *Best Lawyers*® (August 18, 2022)
- Katten Awarded Top Ranking in Structured Finance: Securitization in The Legal 500 United States 2022 (June 8, 2022)
- Katten Ranked Leading Law Firm by *Chambers USA 2022* (June 1, 2022)
- Katten Attorneys Named to 2022 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 28, 2022)
- Christopher Stetler's Return to Katten Garners Media Attention (January 6, 2022)
- Katten Litigator Tapped for Key Role in Ongoing UAW Oversight (September 13, 2021)
- Katten Donates Backpacks to Chicago Public School Students (August 24, 2021)
- Katten Attorneys Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® (August 19, 2021)
- Katten Receives High Marks in Derivatives, M&A and Securitization in The Legal 500 United States 2021 Guide (June 10, 2021)
- Katten Boosts Rankings in *Chambers USA 2021* (May 20, 2021)
- Katten Partner Gil Soffer to Head Investing in Justice Campaign (March 2, 2021)

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- Katten Attorneys Chosen for 2021 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 29, 2021)
- Katten Attorneys Distinguished as Top Legal Talent in the 2021 *Best Lawyers in America* and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch* Lists (August 20, 2020)
- Katten Rated Top Law Firm by *Chambers USA 2020* (April 23, 2020)
- Katten Attorneys Selected to 2020 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 29, 2020)
- Katten Attorneys Address Cross-Border Monitorships in New GIR Book (June 19, 2019)
- Katten Praised in The Legal 500 United States 2019 Guide (June 11, 2019)
- Katten Lauded Top Ranked Law Firm by *Chambers USA 2019* (April 25, 2019)
- Gil Soffer Comments on Former Congressman's Legal Future (April 2, 2019)
- Gil Soffer Offers Comments on Controversial Smollett Case (April 2, 2019)
- Super Lawyers Lists Honor More Than 50 Katten Attorneys in Illinois (January 24, 2019)
- Katten Donates Hundreds of Classroom Supplies for the New School Year (September 4, 2018)
- Katten Distinguished by *The Legal 500 United States* (June 14, 2018)
- Katten Rated as Leading Law Firm by *Chambers USA 2018* (May 3, 2018)
- Dan Barnowski Joins Katten as Litigation Partner in DC (February 8, 2018)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2018 Illinois Super Lawyers, Rising Stars Lists (January 25, 2018)
- Gil Soffer Quoted on the Call for Clarity From the Supreme Court on Political Fundraising (December 7, 2017)
- Katten Distinguished by *The Legal 500 United States 2017* (May 31, 2017)
- Katten Recognized as Leading Law Firm by *Chambers USA 2017* (May 30, 2017)

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- Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2017 Illinois *Super Lawyers*, Rising Stars Lists (January 13, 2017)
- American Bar Association Recognizes Katten's Pro Bono Publico Award With Ceremony and Highlights Video (August 8, 2016)
- Eighteen Katten Practices and 70 Attorneys Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States 2016* (June 17, 2016)
- *Chambers USA 2016* Distinguishes 22 Katten Practices and 50 Attorneys (May 27, 2016)
- Forty-Seven Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2016 Illinois *Super Lawyers* List (January 8, 2016)
- Gil Soffer, ABC7 Legal Analyst, Featured in News Segment on Dennis Hastert Misconduct (June 3, 2015)
- Katten Attains 22 Practice and 58 Attorney Rankings by *Chambers USA 2015* (May 20, 2015)
- Gil Soffer Comments on the Resignation of Illinois Congressman Aaron Schock (March 19, 2015)
- Gil Soffer Quoted as ABC7 News Legal Analyst Regarding Gender Discrimination Trial (March 13, 2015)
- Gil Soffer on ABC7 News Commenting on San Francisco Police Department Bribery Investigation (March 13, 2015)
- Fifty-Three Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2015 Illinois *Super Lawyers* List (January 12, 2015)
- Chicago Managing Partner Gil Soffer Interviewed on Bolingbrook Man's Terrorism Charges (October 9, 2014)
- *Chambers USA 2014* Distinguishes 24 Katten Practices and 54 Attorneys (May 23, 2014)
- Sheldon Zenner, National Head of the Litigation and Dispute Resolution Practice, Honored for Public Service by Northwestern Law (March 10, 2014)
- Fifty-Four Katten Attorneys Recognized in 2014 Illinois *Super Lawyers* List (January 13, 2014)
- Chicago Managing Partner Gil Soffer Featured in *Chicago Daily Law Bulletin* (December 24, 2013)
- Gil Soffer Named Legal Analyst for ABC7 Chicago (December 6, 2013)
- Partner Gil Soffer Discusses Jackson Sentencing with Multiple Media Outlets (August 22, 2013)

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- *Chambers USA* 2013 Recognizes 24 Katten Practices and 49 Attorneys (May 24, 2013)
- Sixty-Nine Katten Attorneys Included on 2013 Illinois *Super Lawyers* List (January 4, 2013)
- Partner Gil Soffer Comments on Arrest of Former Blagojevich Fundraiser on FOX Chicago News (June 20, 2012)
- *Chambers USA* 2012 Distinguishes 19 Katten Practices and 45 Attorneys (June 7, 2012)
- Partner Gil Soffer Discusses Self-Defense Laws on Chicago's ABC7 News (April 2, 2012)
- Eighty-Six Katten Attorneys Named 2012 Illinois Super Lawyers (February 28, 2012)
- Katten's Gil M. Soffer Appointed by Illinois Governor Pat Quinn to Executive Ethics Commission (January 21, 2010)
- Partner Gil Soffer Quoted in *Corporate Crime Reporter* on Corporate Monitors (March 27, 2009)
- Gil Soffer Returns to Katten Following Term as Associate Deputy Attorney General (February 19, 2009)
- Katten's Gil Soffer Appointed Counsel to US Deputy Attorney General (January 25, 2008)
- Partner Gil Soffer Appears on ABC News Now's "Guilt or Innocence?" to Discuss Legal Issues Making Headlines (Fall 2007)
- Partner Gil Soffer Quoted in *Report on Medicare Compliance* on Fraud Conviction of Detroit M.D. (November 5, 2007)
- Partner Gil Soffer Appears on ABC News to Discuss Proposed Death Penalty Moratorium (October 30, 2007)
- Partner Gil Soffer Appears on "Chicago Tonight" to Discuss Former Illinois Governor Ryan's Appeal (October 25, 2007)
- Partner Gil Soffer Appears on ABC News to Discuss the Sports Doping Scandal and Second Amendment Issues (October 9, 2007)
- Partner Gil Soffer Appears on ABC News to Discuss the Warren Jeffs Rape Verdict and "Jena 6" Prosecution (September 25, 2007)
- Partner Gil Soffer Appears on ABC News to Discuss New Allegations Against O.J. Simpson (September 19, 2007)
- Partner Gil Soffer Appears on ABC News to Discuss Chicago "Family Secrets" Mob Trial (September 4, 2007)

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- Partner Gil Soffer Appears on ABC News to Discuss Recent High-Profile Legal Issues (August 28, 2007)
- Partner Gil Soffer Quoted in *Report on Medicare Compliance* on Decision in Health Fraud Case (August 27, 2007)
- Partner Gil Soffer Quoted in *Report on Medicare Compliance* on Indictments for Healthcare Billing Scam (June 11, 2007)
- Partner Gil Soffer Quoted in *Report on Medicare Compliance* on Tenet/Alvarado Case (March 13, 2006)

## Publications

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- *Katten's Pro Bono Service Empowers Better Futures* (December 23, 2025)
- *Pro Bono at Its Peak: A Year of Transformational Impact* (December 18, 2024)
- US-Ordered Cross-Border Monitorships (April 25, 2022)
- DOJ Signals Increased Use of Corporate Monitors (November 18, 2021)
- US-Ordered Cross-Border Monitorships (June 2020)
- 40 Years of FCPA: A View From the Monitorship Trenches (December 11, 2017)
- TAR Transparency Required in New DOJ Model Second Request (February 6, 2017)
- The DOJ FCPA Enforcement Plan and Guidance Encourages Voluntary Self-Disclosure and Cooperation in Exchange for Additional Mitigation Credit (April 19, 2016)
- Corporate Responsibility for Third-Party Misconduct: The UK Modern Slavery Act of 2015 (November 5, 2015)
- The Department of Justice's Focus on Individual Accountability for Corporate Wrongdoing (September 23, 2015)
- Fee Advancement Considerations Arise From Recent Delaware and Third Circuit Decisions (July 20, 2015)
- The Sixth Circuit Reins in the Government's Measure of False Claims Act Damages (May 18, 2015)
- Developments in White Collar Criminal Enforcement: The Government Remains Aggressive, and the Courts' Reaction Is Mixed (April 6, 2015)

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- SDNY Holds No Attorney-Client Privilege Applies to Communications With In-House Legal Department in China (December 13, 2013)
- Bribery Act 2010: Statutory Guidance Finally Issued (April 18, 2011)
- DOJ Announces New Money Laundering and Bank Integrity Unit and "Meaningful Credit" for Cooperation (November 10, 2010)
- US Sentencing Commission Sends Congress New Requirements for an Effective Compliance and Ethics Program (May 10, 2010)
- Obama Administration Establishes Federal Task Force to Combat Financial Fraud (November 18, 2008)
- "FBAR" Filings Disclosing Foreign Accounts Due June 30 (May 12, 2009)
- Lessons Counsel Can Learn From Hewlett-Packard's Pretexting Scandal (April 11, 2007)
- Proposed F.R.E. 502 and Selective Waiver: Would They Do More Harm Than Good? (Fall 2006)

## Presentations and Events

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- Critical Insights into DOJ Health Care Enforcement Priorities and Investigation Tactics (November 15, 2022)
- 8th Annual Government Enforcement Institute (UTGEI) (September 15–16, 2022)
- Emerging Trends in Anti-Money Laundering Enforcement (October 20, 2021) | *Moderator*
- Corporate Monitorships: How You Can Avoid Them, and What to Do If You Can't (May 19, 2021) | *Presenter*
- 5th Annual Government Enforcement Institute (September 20–21, 2018) | *Panelist* | *Ethical Considerations in Government Investigations*
- The ABA Criminal Justice Section Annual Meeting (August 2, 2018) | *Moderator* | *Investigations Galore: The New Normal*
- FCPA Challenges and Risks of Doing Business in Latin America (September 27, 2017)
- 31st Annual National Institute on White Collar Crime (March 8–10, 2017) | *Panelist* | *Significant Legal Developments in the Regions—Central and Midwest*
- FCPA: Challenges and Risks of Doing Business in Latin America (January 26, 2017)

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- The Yates Memo and its Impact on Internal Investigations, Self-Reporting Decisions and the Attorney Client Privilege (January 12, 2017) | *Panelist*
- Financial Improprieties, Fraud & Other Threats to Business (November 2, 2016) | *Panelist*
- FCPA: Challenges and Risks of Doing Business in Latin America (February 18, 2016) | *Moderator*
- Illinois Homecare & Hospice Council 2014 Annual Conference & Exposition (March 12, 2014) | *Fraud and Abuse: Whistleblower's and Defense Attorney's Perspective*
- FCPA – What Happened in 2013, *The National Law Journal* 2013 Regulatory & Compliance Forum (November 19, 2013)
- Fraud, Regulatory Focus and the "Dark Side" of Performance Management, PLI's Pocket MBA Fall 2013: Finance for Lawyers (November 4, 2013)
- Neither Admit Nor Deny: Corporate Crime in the Age of Deferred Prosecutions, Consent Decrees, Whistleblowers & Monitors (May 3, 2013) | *Panelist* | *Corporate Monitors*
- 6th Annual White Collar Crime & Corporate Governance Conference (April 16, 2013) | *Panelist* | *DOJ Prosecution: How Far Has the Pendulum Swung?*
- Pocket MBA Fall 2012 (November 5–6, 2012) | *Speaker* | *Fraud, Regulatory Focus and the 'Dark Side' of Performance Management*
- Sixth Annual National Institute on Securities Fraud (November 3–4, 2011) | *Panelist* | *To Be or Not To Be: The Uncertain Future of Dodd-Frank*
- Pocket MBA: Finance for Lawyers (October 17–18, 2011) | *Speaker* | *Fraud, Regulatory Focus and the "Dark Side" of Performance Management*
- Honest Services Fraud: What's Left? (March 9, 2011) | *Moderator*
- The Chicago Inn of Court's February Meeting (February 17, 2011) | *Panelist* | *Recent Developments in Government Enforcement and Regulation*
- The Fifth Annual National Institute on Securities Fraud (October 7–8, 2010) | *Panelist* | *Sentencing Guidelines in a Securities Fraud Case*

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- Pocket MBA: Finance for Lawyers (September 27–28, 2010) | *Speaker* | *Fraud, Regulatory Focus and the “Dark Side” of Performance Management*
- Internal Investigations: Was it Ignorance, Negligence, or Fraud? (June 17, 2010) | *Speaker*
- Not Your Average Fraud Seminar (June 17, 2010) | *Presenter* | *A Strategic Approach to Managing Risk in an Environment of Heightened Scrutiny*
- Workplace Immigration Enforcement: How Your Company May Be at Risk and How Best to Protect It (December 10, 2009) | *Panelist*
- Transparency and Integrity in Corporate Monitoring Hearing (November 19, 2009) | *Speaker*
- The Fourth Annual National Institute on Securities Fraud (October 15–16, 2009) | *Presenter* | *Sentencing: We’ve Got Nothing But Time*
- Financial Services Transactions: Increased Exposure Under FERA and False Claims Act (July 15, 2009) | *Speaker*
- Foreign Bank Account Reporting and Voluntary Compliance: What You Need to Know Now (May 20, 2009) | *Presenter*
- 58th Annual Meeting of the Seventh Circuit Bar Association and Judicial Conference of the Seventh Circuit (May 17–19, 2009) | *Speaker* | *The Attorney-Client Privilege in Government Investigations*
- 2008-2009 Inaugural Annual Conference: "Regulation By Prosecutors" (May 8, 2009) | *Speaker*
- Foreign Bank Account Reporting and Voluntary Compliance: What You Need to Know Now (May 6, 2009) | *Presenter*
- Living in a Fishbowl: Managing the Risks of Federal Scrutiny through Effective Corporate Compliance (April 30, 2009) | *Presenter*
- Section Annual Conference (April 30–May 1, 2009) | *Speaker* | *The Role of Privilege in Investigation and Prosecution of Corporations – What Do Recent Changes Mean for Practitioners*
- Across the Table from the SEC: Defending and Handling SEC Investigations (April 2, 2009) | *Presenter*
- White Collar Crime/Corporate Governance Conference (January 13, 2009) | *Panelist* | *Department of Justice Corporate Charging Principles*