Partner and Co-Chair, ESG Risk and Investigations

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Practices

FOCUS: Litigation

Appeals and Critical Motions

ESG Risk and Investigations

Foreign Corrupt Practices Act Litigation

Health Care Litigation, Reimbursement and Regulation

Insurance and Health Care Fraud Litigation

Monitorships

White Collar and Internal Investigations

Industries

Energy

Finance and Financial Markets

Health Care

Health Care Regulatory and Compliance

Medicare/Medicaid Reimbursement

Pharmaceutical and Life Sciences

Education

JD, University of Alabama School of Law, Order of the Coif, summa cum laude

BA, University of Alabama, summa cum laude

The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, Certificate in ESG Risks and Opportunities, Certificate in ESG and Social Activism

University of California, Berkeley, School of Law, *Certificate in Sustainable Capitalism and ESG*

Bar Admissions

District of Columbia

Texas

Johnjerica Hodge helps her clients navigate difficult issues as they arise, whether in litigation or otherwise, and establish the policies and procedures needed to reduce the wide range of risk companies confront. Johnjerica is an emerging leader in the environmental, social and governance (ESG) space, where she provides counsel to companies across industries on evaluating and incorporating ESG values into their internal and external operations and helps them address the myriad of white collar and compliance needs related to the ESG sector. In addition to teaching one of the first law school courses focusing on the role of racial equity audits in the ESG movement, she holds several ESG certifications from institutions such as The Wharton School and University of California, Berkeley and is co-authoring a book on ESG.

Business strategies for resolving investigations

Johnjerica represents clients in internal and governmental investigations, corporate compliance and appellate litigation across industries. She focuses part of her practice on helping health care providers respond to investigations and related matters under the False Claims Act involving allegations of fraudulent billing and violations of the Anti-Kickback Statute. She also provides counsel on billing and coding issues under state laws.

Johnjerica was a member of the independent compliance monitor team appointed in connection with a significant deferred prosecution agreement by a pharmaceutical company under the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, and she devotes a portion of her practice to corporate compliance and business ethics issues. She also has substantial experience in motion practice in state and federal courts.



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Court Admissions

US Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit
US Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit
US Court of Appeals, District of Columbia
Circuit

Community Involvements

American Bar Association

A core component of Johnjerica's practice is her deep experience in ESG and matters related to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). Leveraging her investigatory skills, she works with companies and institutions from a broad range of industries in identifying areas of vulnerability and opportunity within the organization and its policies and procedures. She also assists companies facing ESG-related litigation risks.

An adjunct professor at the University of Alabama School of Law, Johnjerica teaches "ESG: Racial Equity Audits." In 2023, she will teach a similar course at George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School. Prior to joining Katten, Johnjerica served as a law clerk for the Honorable Carl E. Stewart of the US Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. She served as a member of the *Alabama Law Review* during law school.

Representative Experience

- Represent international non-profit in ESG-related litigation.
- Represent international non-profits in preparing comments on the FTC's Green Guides.
- Represent health care company in creating ESG program.
- Performed FCPA analysis for global manufacturer.
- Represent financial institution in breach of contract and breach of trust agreement litigation.
- Performed FCPA analysis for international shipping company.
- Represent health care provider subject to government investigation for alleged violations of False Claims Act.
- Represent health care provider in internal investigation of potential FCA liability arising from billing and coding issues.
- Represented company in state and federal environmental litigation.
- Counseled software company on compliance issues related to mergers and acquisitions.

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- Counseled company on FCPA risks from subcontractor's operations in Latin America.
- Represented multinational company relating to internal investigation in Vietnam.
- Counseled multinational company on FCA risks from potential business partnership.
- Member of independent compliance monitor team for multinational pharmaceutical company convicted of violating the FCPA.
- Represented health care provider in obtaining dismissal in FCA lawsuit arising from allegations of Medicare and Medicaid fraud and abuse.
- Represented health care provider in obtaining favorable settlement in FCA lawsuit arising from alleged violations of the Anti-Kickback Statute.
- Represented multinational oil and gas company in breach-of-contract arbitration against contractor.
- Represented oil and gas exploration and production company in SEC enforcement action.
- Co-authored opposition brief for appeal defending a multi-week jury trial.
- Represented health care providers in obtaining successful resolution of litigation concerning corporate raiding and tortious interference claims.

Recognitions

Recognized or listed in the following:

- Best Lawyers in America
 - Ones to Watch
 - o Criminal Defense: White-Collar, 2021–2022
- Super Lawyers Rising Stars
 - o Washington, DC, 2022



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News

- Katten Recognizes Attorneys for Outstanding Pro Bono Service (October 28, 2022)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers® (August 18, 2022)
- Global M&A Network Honors Katten's Insolvency and Restructuring Team With Turnaround Atlas Awards (August 11, 2022)
- Katten Attorneys Named to 2022 Washington, DC Super Lawyers Rising Stars List (April 28, 2022)
- Katten Attorneys Listed in The Best Lawyers in America® (August 19, 2021)
- Katten Promotes 16 Attorneys to Partner (July 7, 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 Attorneys Address Cross-Border Monitorships in New GIR Book (June 19, 2019)
- Katten Honored for Participation in Diversity Programs (November 8, 2018)
- Katten Attorneys Prepare Chicago High School Students for Career Success (November 8, 2018)
- Katten Pro Bono Efforts Help Save Lives, Rebuild Communities in War Zones (July 9, 2018)
- Two Katten Associates Selected for Career Development Program (April 5, 2018)

Publications

ESG in a Nutshell (2023)

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- How Companies Can Reduce Risk of DEI-Related Enforcement Actions (January 19, 2023)
- How DC Consumer Protection Suits May Advance ESG Goals (January 11, 2023)
- Financial Markets and Funds Quick Take | Issue 9 (December 13, 2022)
- How Proactive Racial Equity Audits Can Increase Company Profits (November 30, 2022)
- Private Equity Firms Must Prepare For Growing FCA Liability (October 28, 2022)
- US-Ordered Cross-Border Monitorships (April 25, 2022)
- COVID-19 Enforcement: What Does the Future Hold? (Winter/Spring 2022)
- The Prosecutor's Role in Anticorruption Investigations (August 11, 2021)
- US-Ordered Cross-Border Monitorships (June 2020)
- Health Care Perspectives (April 2017)
- DOJ Publishes Guidance on Best Practices for Compliance Programs (February 24, 2017)
- Local Fracking Bans: A Viable Threat or Mere Nuisance (March 2015)
- Partisan Balance Requirements in the Age of New Formalism (February 2015)
- Nationwide November Ballot Results Involving Fracking (November 2014)
- Texas Cites Other States in Fighting A Fracking Ban (November 2014)

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Presentations and Events

- DOJ and SEC's New Emphasis on Individual Enforcement—More Bark than Bite? (January 19, 2023)
- Perspectives on Leadership Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) (October 26, 2022)
- Ethical Issues in Internal Investigations (October 13, 2022) | Presenter
- AUA Annual Meeting 2022 (May 12–16, 2022) | Speaker | The Economics of Healthcare: Understanding Physician Compensation
- False Claims Act: Strategies for Obtaining an Early Resolution (April 21, 2021) | Panelist
- False Claims Act: Strategies for Obtaining an Early Resolution (May 30, 2019) | Panelist