



Damien M. Diggs

Partner

Dallas

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As the former U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas, Damien earned an exemplary record of success in the prosecution and litigation of federal criminal offenses and civil and appellate matters. His private practice focuses on white collar criminal defense, internal and government investigations, and complex civil litigation and trials. He draws on his extensive government service and leadership experience to benefit clients as they navigate high-stakes government investigations, sensitive internal investigations, and other white-collar matters and potentially reputation damaging litigation.

A veteran of more than 30 trials, Damien focuses his practice on litigating and trying complex criminal and civil cases for companies and individuals involving claims of white collar crime, health care fraud, cybercrime, national security violations, corruption and bribery, and other highly complex matters.

As the former U.S. Attorney (USA) for the Eastern District of Texas (E.D. Tex.) and the chief federal law enforcement official in the district, Damien led significant contributions in the fight against international criminal organizations, healthcare fraud, government program fraud, public corruption, child exploitation, and drug and human trafficking. Damien also served on the U.S. Attorney General's Advisory Subcommittees on White Collar Crime, Terrorism/National Security, Cybercrime & Intellectual Property, and Violent Crime. Damien also was an Assistant USA

(AUSA) for the Northern District of Texas (N.D. Tex.), where he prosecuted cases involving firearm violations, fraud, and violent crimes within the criminal division's violent crime section. He also served as an AUSA in the District of Columbia and as an attorney at the U.S. Department of Education.

Damien played a significant role in local safety and anticorruption initiatives for the N.D. Tex., including his service as Project Safe Neighborhoods Coordinator and a District Election Officer, where he prosecuted violations of election crimes. He also served as point of contact for the USA's Domestic Violence Initiative and as Deputy Section Chief of Violent and Major Crimes.

After law school, Damien clerked for Senior Judges James A. Belson, John M. Ferren, John W. Kern III, Warren R. King, Frank Q. Nebeker, Theodore R. Newman, William C. Pryor, and John M. Steadman at the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. He also clerked for The Honorable Rhonda Reid Winston at the Superior Court of the District of Columbia and the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia and was a judicial extern for the Honorable Reggie B. Walton at the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

Key Matters

Civil

- Led investigation into Walgreens whereby company agreed to pay US\$106.8M to resolve several *qui tam* cases relating to the company's failure to refund the government for prescriptions it processed that were never picked up by beneficiaries.
- Led investigation into Kabbage's actions of knowingly failing to implement fraud controls to comply with its obligations under the Paycheck Protection Program, Bank Secrecy Act, and Anti-Money Laundering Act, causing the Small Business Association to fund many improper and fraudulent loans, through which the federal government will receive up to US\$120M in resolution of these claims.
- Investigated Medisca—a pharmaceutical ingredients company—in connection with allegations that it established false and fraudulent average wholesale prices for ingredients in compounding drugs, which allowed pharmacies which purchased ingredients from Medisca to inflate bills to government workers' comp programs, resulting in Medisca paying US\$21M to resolve the claims.
- Participated in an investigation—along with other Texas USA Offices (USAOs) and the Department of Justice's (DOJ's) Civil Rights Division—of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) into allegations that it routinely violated the constitutional rights of children being held in its facilities.

Criminal

- Prosecuted several healthcare executives who were convicted of conspiring to violate the Anti-Kickback Statute.
- Prosecuted defendant who used sham contracts and fraudulent real estate paperwork as part of an investment fraud scheme involving purported land development projects, causing victims to lose more than US\$2.5M; defendant convicted of wire fraud and sentenced to 20 years in federal prison.
- Prosecuted two Dallas businessmen, who obtained multiple business loans by misrepresenting that loans would be secured by a brokerage account worth US\$2M; defendants were convicted at trial and sentenced to six years in federal prison.
- Prosecuted a former senior official in the Guatemalan government, who was convicted of conspiring with drug trafficking organizations to allow for the safe passage of more than 450 kilograms of cocaine into the U.S. through Guatemala.
- Prosecuted a network of third-party airplane brokers and title companies for conspiring with drug trafficking organizations in Central and South America to facilitate trade-based money laundering and the trafficking of narcotics through the purchase and sale of aircraft.

Appellate

- Obtained affirmance of appellants’—an elected official in Richardson, Texas, and a real estate developer—convictions.

Recognitions

- *Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.*, Public Servant Image Award, 2024
 - *L. Turner Legal Association*, The Honorable Sam Lindsay Professionalism and Ethics Award, 2023
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Activities

- UNT Dallas College of Law, Dean’s Advisory Council
 - L. Turner Legal Bar Association, Member; Dallas Chapter
 - Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc., Member, Frisco Alumni Chapter
 - Texoma HIDTA, Former Executive Board Member
 - Houston HIDTA, Former Executive Board Member
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Credentials

EDUCATION

Damien earned his J.D., *cum laude*, from the American University, Washington College of Law in 2003, where he was a member of the Moot Court Honors Board. He received his B.S. in Political Science from Towson University in 1998.

ADMISSIONS

- District of Columbia
- Maryland
- Texas

CLERKSHIPS

- DC Court of Appeals for the Honorable James A. Belson, John M. Ferren, John W. Kern III, Warren R. King, Frank Q. Nebeker, Theodore R. Newman, William C. Pryor, and John M. Steadman
- DC Superior Court for the Honorable Rhonda Reid Winston

Related Insights & News

Speaking Engagements

- “Southbound Firearms Trafficking,” ATF’s Gun Violence Survivors Summit, June 2023

- “Vision for the Office and District Initiatives,” North Texas Crime Commission, Sep. 2023
- “Domestic Violence/Family Violence Joint Press Conference,” USAO, S.D. Tex., Oct. 2023
- “Building Resilience Against Hate,” South Asian American Voter Education + Engagement + Empowerment, Dec. 2023
- “PSA on Human Trafficking,” USAO, E.D. Tex., Jan. 2024
- “Realities of Human Trafficking,” KLTU and WLOX, Jan. 2024
- “Federal Prosecution and District Priorities,” Michelle F. Mehaffy Inn of Court, Jan. 2024
- “State of the District,” E.D. Tex. Judges’ Meeting, Feb. 2024
- “District Priorities and Tribal Outreach,” Alabama-Coushatta Tribal Council Meeting, March 2024
- “United Against Hate: Protecting Places of Worship,” Karya Siddhi Hanuman Temple, April 2024
- “Procurement Collusion Strikeforce: Leveling the Playing Field,” USAO, N.D. Tex, May 2024
- “Operation Texas Kill Switch: Prosecuting Machinegun Conversion Devices,” USAO, E.D. Tex., June 2024
- “Civil Rights Findings in Texas Juvenile Justice Dept. Investigation,” USAO, E.D. Tex., Aug. 2024
- “PSA on Voting Rights,” USAO, E.D. Tex., Sep. 2024
- “Synthesis on Election Law and Voter Rights,” Collin County (Texas) NAACP, Sep. 2024
- “Prosecuting Domestic Violence Crimes w/ Federal Firearms Laws,” USA’s Conference, Sep. 2024
- “Strengthening Gun Control Laws and the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act,” E.D. Tex. Bench Bar, Oct. 2024
- “District Domestic Violence Initiatives,” Texas Council on Family Violence, Nov. 2024
- “Embracing Pivots in Leadership: Setting Priorities in Changing Landscapes,” Texas General Counsel Forum, Nov. 2024
- “Operation Purple Ribbon and other Violent Crime Reduction Initiatives,” KFDM News, Dec. 2024
- “Preparing for a Career in Public Service,” UNT-Dallas School of Law, Jan. 2025
- “Fentanyl Outreach and Awareness,” High schools across the district, numerous presentations (2003-2004)

IN THE MEDIA

Former U.S. Attorney Damien...

MARCH 4, 2025

PRESS RELEASE

Winston & Strawn Welcomes...

FEBRUARY 25, 2025

Capabilities

Government Investigations, Enforcement & Compliance

Litigation/Trials

Government Program Fraud, False Claims Act & Qui Tam Litigation

Compliance Programs

Appellate & Critical Motions

Commercial Litigation & Disputes

Crisis Management