

PARTNER

Jesse Panuccio

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PROFILE

Jesse, the former third-ranking official at the U.S. Department of Justice, helps clients with their most difficult litigation and regulatory issues—whether that means defending against an enforcement action, pursuing high-stakes litigation and appeals, navigating regulatory thickets at federal and state agencies, or crafting a comprehensive strategy to manage a crisis. He approaches these problems with the knowledge gained both from his broad private-practice experience and from having served at the highest levels of federal and state government.

Jesse has experience across a range of substantive and regulatory areas. He has sued the federal government and has also been one of its top law-enforcement officials; he has represented states and has also navigated their regulatory agencies on behalf of clients; and he has represented companies in complex commercial disputes, both as defendants and plaintiffs. Jesse serves as the co-leader of the firm's Appellate practice group and regularly briefs and argues high-stakes appeals across the country.

Before joining the firm, Jesse was the Acting Associate Attorney General at the United States Department of Justice. In that role, he oversaw the civil and criminal work of the Antitrust, Civil, Civil Rights, Environment and Natural Resources, and Tax Divisions. During Jesse's tenure, the Associate's office closely managed the Department's most significant litigation, including matters involving large financial institutions, healthcare companies, automakers, energy companies, and state and local governments. In addition, Jesse served as Chair of DOJ's Regulatory Reform Task Force and Vice Chair of DOJ's Task Force on Market Integrity and Consumer Fraud. Jesse regularly provided legal and strategic advice to the highest-level decision

PRACTICES

Crisis Management
Appellate
Constitutional Law
Government Litigation
Global Investigations and White Collar Defense
Environmental Law
Media and First Amendment
Antitrust and Competition
Products Liability
Employment Disputes
Class Actions
Life Sciences and Health Care
Aerospace and Satellite
Elections and Political Disputes

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, J.D., *magna cum laude*
Duke University, B.A., *summa cum laude*, Public Policy Studies

ADMISSIONS

Bars
District of Columbia
Florida

makers in the federal government, including the Attorney General and Deputy Attorney General, general counsels across the spectrum of federal agencies, and White House officials.

Jesse served for three years as the secretary of Florida's labor, economic-development, and land-use agency, the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. Before that, he served as Governor (now Senator) Rick Scott's general counsel.

Jesse maintains offices in both Washington D.C. and Florida. From Washington, he focuses on federal litigation and crisis management. In Florida, in addition to federal litigation, Jesse employs his knowledge of state government and regulation to help clients in courts across the state, from trial through the Florida Supreme Court.

Outside of the firm, Jesse continues his public service. He is a public member of the Administrative Conference of the United States, a federal agency charged with identifying ways to improve federal agency administrative procedures; vice chair of the Florida Supreme Court Judicial Nominating Commission, a state commission that provides the governor with nominees for appointment to the Florida Supreme Court; and a trustee of the Florida Polytechnic University, one of Florida's 12 public universities and the only one focused solely on STEM degrees.

AWARDS AND ASSOCIATIONS

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- Lawdragon's 500 Leading Plaintiff Financial Lawyers (2023, 2024)
- Lawdragon 500 Leading Litigators in America
- Lawdragon 500 Leading Lawyers in America (2025)
- Legal Elite, Florida Trend Magazine (2013, 2021)
- Able Trust award for Public Employee of the Year (2015)

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

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- Public Member, **Administrative Conference of the United States** (2020-present)
- Commissioner, Florida Supreme Court Judicial Nominating Commission (2016-present)
- Acting Associate Attorney General and Principal Deputy Associate Attorney General (2017-2019)
- General Counsel and Deputy General Counsel to Florida Governor Rick Scott (2011-2012)
- Executive Director, Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (2013-2016)

CLERKSHIPS

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- Hon. Michael W. McConnell, U.S. Court of Appeals: Tenth Circuit