

PARTNER

# Jacqueline Kelly

## New York

55 Hudson Yards  
20th Floor  
New York, NY 10001  
Phone 212 446 2344

## PROFILE

**Jackie is a seasoned litigator who represents corporations and individuals facing high-profile regulatory or criminal investigations, as well as victims of sexual assault and other crimes.**

Most recently, Jackie was a federal prosecutor in the Southern District of New York. As the inaugural chief of the Civil Rights Unit in the Criminal Division, Jackie supervised a team of senior prosecutors that investigated and prosecuted civil rights offenses by individuals and entities, such as official misconduct, sexual exploitation and abuse, hate crimes, and voting rights violations. In this role, she worked closely with law enforcement, non-governmental organizations, and community partners to advance the unit's mission of using criminal laws to protect civil rights.

During her time at the S.D.N.Y., Jackie also oversaw, investigated, and prosecuted public corruption and violent crimes, including bribery, fraud, racketeering, money laundering, sexual abuse, and human trafficking. Jackie led and tried numerous criminal trials and argued appeals before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second and Ninth Circuits.

Jackie began her career at an international law firm, before completing clerkships with the Hon. Ronnie Abrams of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York and the Hon. Kevin McNulty of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey.

## EXPERIENCE

While a federal prosecutor, Jackie's cases included:

- Overseeing the prosecution of Sean "Diddy" Combs, from the opening of the investigation through trial



## PRACTICES

Global Investigations and White Collar Defense  
Sexual Misconduct Litigation and Investigations  
Crisis Management  
Securities and Shareholder Disputes  
Antitrust and Competition  
Asset Recovery and Judgment Enforcement  
Class Actions  
ESG and Compliance

## EDUCATION

**Columbia Law School**, J.D.; Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar; Whitney North Seymour Trial Advocacy Prize  
**Cornell University**, B.A., *magna cum laude*, History; Merrill Presidential Scholar

## ADMISSIONS

### Bars

New York

## AWARDS AND ASSOCIATIONS

Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award (2020)

## GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Assistant U.S. Attorney, Southern District of New York (2016-2025)

- Investigating sexual misconduct allegations related to a national religious denomination and prosecuting a senior staff member of an affiliated educational institution for obstruction of justice and false statements
- Prosecuting Ricardo Cruciani, a prominent doctor who sexually abused dozens of patients
- Prosecuting Peter Nygard, the CEO of a multinational clothing company, for racketeering and sex trafficking
- Prosecuting 20 members and associates of the LaCosa Nostra crime family, including its leadership, for racketeering, murder, and firearms offenses
- Prosecuting three New York-based leaders of a national street gang for racketeering offenses

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

Co-author, **Maurene Comey’s Unjustified Firing Looks Even More Corrupt Today**, *The Contrarian* (July 2025)

Chief, Civil Rights Unit, Criminal Division, U.S. Attorney's Office, Southern District of New York (2022-2025)

CLERKSHIPS

×

Hon. Ronnie Abrams, U.S. District Court: Southern District of New York

Hon. Kevin McNulty, U.S. District Court: District of New Jersey