

Former DOJ Prosecutor Rejoins Covington In Washington

By Daniel Siegal

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A former Covington & Burling LLP associate who racked up awards as a prosecutor in the U.S. Department of Justice's fraud section has rejoined the firm as a partner in its Washington D.C. office, Covington announced Tuesday.

Jennifer Saulino brings a depth of trial experience back to the firm where she started her legal career, and has tried 10 complex federal cases to jury verdicts, including eight as the lead trial lawyer, according to Covington.

John Hall, chair of Covington's global litigation practice, said in a statement Tuesday that the firm's new hire has "earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues and adversaries" in the courtroom with both her skills and her willingness to take on the most difficult cases.

"Jennifer's skill and experience in litigating and trying fact-intensive cases combined with her track record of success in complex jury cases will benefit our clients and strengthen the firm's general commercial litigation and trial practices," Hall said.

Saulino's practice focuses on trials as well as defending both individuals and corporations in investigations and prosecutions with particular expertise in the pharmaceutical, health care, banking, securities, energy and technology industries, according to Covington.

After earning an undergraduate degree from Yale University and a law degree from the University of Michigan Law School, Saulino joined Covington as an associate in 2001, and stayed with the firm until 2010, when she signed on with the fraud section in the DOJ's criminal division, according to the firm.

While at the DOJ, Saulino earned several awards, including the Assistant Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service in 2015 and the Attorney General's Award for Fraud Prevention in 2012, rising to the position of assistant chief of the section, according to Covington.

During her time at the DOJ, Saulino was a lead prosecutor in a case against a former BP PLC engineer accused of obstruction of justice connected to the 2010 oil spill. Saulino scored a guilty plea by the BP engineer, who avoided prison but admitted to deleting a text message exchange he had with a contractor working on spill cleanup.



Jennifer Saulino

And an ex-Deutsche Bank AG trader pled guilty in October 2015 in a case under Saulino's watch to charges related to manipulating the Libor rate.

Saulino left the DOJ for private practice last year to become a partner at Washington, D.C.-based trial boutique Wilkinson Walsh & Eskovitz.

Saulino said in a statement Tuesday that she was excited to rejoin her former colleagues and longtime friends at Covington.

"I have always had a strong appreciation for Covington's collaborative culture, diverse practice areas and client base, and core values, and I look forward to contributing to the growth of the firm and the litigation practice," Saulino said.

At Covington, Saulino is joining a firm with over 1,000 lawyers in offices in Beijing, Brussels, Dubai, Johannesburg, London, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco, Seoul, Shanghai, Silicon Valley and Washington.

-- Additional reporting by Kat Greene and Cara Salvatore. Editing by Marygrace Murphy.