



Dawn E. Murphy-Johnson

COUNSEL

Dawn Murphy-Johnson focuses her practice on white collar criminal defense, complex civil litigation and appellate advocacy. She has second-chaired trial teams for both criminal and civil matters in federal court. Ms. Murphy-Johnson also has extensive experience representing parties and amici at all stages of briefing before the United States Supreme Court and in the federal Courts of Appeals, including as second-chair in oral argument before the Supreme Court.

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PRACTICES

Complex Civil Litigation
False Claims Act Litigation
FCPA & International Anti-Corruption
Internal Investigations
Supreme Court & Appellate Litigation
White Collar Defense

EDUCATION

- J.D., Duke University School of Law, 2004
- B.A., Duke University, 1997

In her criminal litigation practice, Ms. Murphy-Johnson represents individuals in governmental investigations, at trial, at sentencing and on appeal. Her experience includes cases involving tax and accounting fraud, government contracts fraud, public corruption, export control violations and violations of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA). She has also conducted internal investigations on behalf of multinational corporations.

Ms. Murphy-Johnson has broad experience in all aspects of civil litigation, most often in high-stakes, multi-year cases. She has won motions to dismiss based on lack of jurisdiction and for failure to state a claim, managed fact and expert discovery, and prepared cases for trial. She has defended clients in cases involving alleged violations of the civil Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act and the U.S. civil Anti-Terrorism Act, in commercial contract disputes, and in cases involving allegations of breach of fiduciary duty and professional negligence.

In addition, Ms. Murphy-Johnson contributes substantial professional time to her active pro bono practice, most often focusing on post-conviction petitions to overturn wrongful convictions and appellate matters involving prisoner litigation.

REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

- Second-chaired oral argument before the United States Supreme Court in *Bruce v. Samuels*, 136 S. Ct. 627 (2016), a case involving statutory interpretation of the Prison Litigation Reform Act.
- Member of briefing team in *Mohamad v. Palestinian Authority*, 132 S. Ct. 1702 (2012), a Torture Victim Protection Act case in which the United States Supreme Court unanimously affirmed in favor of clients.
- Second-chaired federal criminal trial and won partial acquittal for U.S. citizen charged with illegally exporting to Iran training software developed during client's employment at a U.S. nuclear power plant.
- Second-chaired federal civil trial that resulted in favorable jury verdict for corporate client in commercial contract dispute.
- Involved in all aspects of pretrial representation of client charged with obstruction of justice and criminal conspiracy involving more than \$200 million in alleged tax loss. Jury acquitted client on all counts after four-week trial.

RANKINGS AND RECOGNITION

- *Washington, DC Super Lawyers®*: Super Lawyer, Criminal Defense: White Collar; Civil Litigation: Defense, 2016 - 2019
- *Washington, DC Super Lawyers®*: Rising Star, Criminal Defense: White Collar; Civil Litigation: Defense, 2014 - 2015

AFFILIATIONS

- Member, National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Member, Women's Bar Association

ADMISSIONS

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Virginia

Court Admissions

- United States Supreme Court
- United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
- United States District Court for the District of Columbia
- United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia
- United States District Court for the District of Maryland