

Zaldwaynaka (“Z”) Scott



Partner

Complex Commercial Litigation

Areas of Experience

Complex Commercial Litigation; Corporate Internal Investigations; Foreign Corrupt Practices Act; Corporate Compliance; White Collar Criminal Defense

Admissions

U.S. Supreme Court, 2009; Federal Court of Claims, 2009; Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, 1987; Federal Trial Bar, 1986; Northern District of Illinois, 1983; Illinois, 1983

Education

*J.D., Indiana University School of Law - Bloomington, 1983
B.S., Journalism, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 1980*

Z Scott is a seasoned trial lawyer, having taken more than 40 mostly jury trials to verdict in federal court. She concentrates her practice on complex commercial litigation, corporate internal investigations (including matters related to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act), counseling on corporate compliance matters and white collar criminal defense. Her federal civil and criminal litigation experience includes accounting and commercial fraud, public corruption, civil tax appeals and criminal tax prosecutions, money-laundering and investment, and financial institution fraud. She has also led and represented companies in complex and extensive government regulatory and criminal grand jury investigations. Ms. Scott has experience in appellate practice. She has briefed and argued cases before the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals

Ms. Scott served as Executive Inspector General for the Office of the Governor of Illinois (2003–2005), where she established and managed an internal compliance and investigative agency for Illinois government and Illinois public universities. Her experience included participation and oversight of over 200 internal investigations of state vendors and state employees, as well as counseling members of the Governor’s cabinet and state senior managers, including agency directors, on issues related to personnel policies, internal controls, ethics and systemic personnel problems. Ms. Scott also worked closely with the state’s internal auditor and the Illinois Auditor General in matters related to integrity of state government functions.

Prior to her work in Illinois government, Ms. Scott served as a federal criminal prosecutor with the United States Attorney’s Office (1987–2003), where she held various management positions, including Chief of the General Crimes Section. As Chief, she was responsible for the supervision of Section Deputies and Line Assistant U.S. Attorneys, and she reviewed and approved hundreds of federal prosecutions and participated in strategy sessions related to federal indictments and federal criminal trials. Before joining the U.S. Attorney’s Office, she served in the Office of the Corporation Counsel for the City of Chicago (1983–1987).

Ms. Scott served as an adjunct instructor in trial advocacy for 13 years at Northwestern University School of Law (1993–2005), where she led a team of five adjunct professors and was awarded the recognition of Outstanding Adjunct Professor in Trial Advocacy in 1999. She also taught trial advocacy at The John Marshall School of Law (2002–2004), and co-taught classes at the University of Chicago Law School on criminal sentencing and federal criminal law (2001, 2003). According to *Legal 500 US*, Ms. Scott has an “impeccable reputation among clients,” and was named to *Illinois SuperLawyers* (2009, 2010 and 2011). She is a frequent lecturer on issues related to federal criminal law, electronic discovery, ethics and compliance policies, and trial advocacy.

Representative Matters

- Represented Siemens Medical Solutions in a multi-defendant federal prosecution in which the company was charged with fraud in connection with representations made to Cook County regarding compliance with minority business enterprise requirements (*United States v. Siemens Medical Solutions, et al.*).
- Served on the legal team representing Ernst & Young in a professional malpractice case (*Alabama Hospital Ass'n. v. General Reinsurance, et al.*, CV 2004-1172 P).
- Represented a major health care company in an Illinois Attorney General False Claims Act investigation.
- Designed an FCPA compliance program for a global public company.
- Served as lead prosecutor in a case involving public corruption and criminal tax violations; defendant pleaded guilty (*United States v. Sarallo*, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois).
- Served as lead prosecutor in a public corruption case involving embezzlement and criminal tax violations by two members of a suburban police pension board; the defendants pleaded guilty (*United States v. Jackson and Johnson*, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois).
- Served as lead prosecutor in a multi-million dollar investment fraud case; the defendant pleaded guilty (*United States v. Anderson*, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois).

Publications

- “U.S. Regulators, Managing Your Relationships in Difficult Times,” *Bloomberg Law Reports*, 2009.
- “FCPA: Handling Increased Global Anti-Corruption Enforcement,” (co-author with David Krakoff, Kwaku Akowuah, Kristy Balsanek and Clancy Galgay) *Mayer Brown*, 2009.

Seminars and Presentations

- “Try These 3-D Glasses: Effective Use of Depositions at Trial,” DRI, April 15, 2011.
- “Vetting Third Party: How to Define and Execute Systematic, Risk-Based Third-Party Due Diligence for FCPA Compliance,” American Conference Institute, April 14, 2011.
- “Global Anti Corruption Enforcement: The Race to One Up the U.S.,” (panel moderator) Minority Corporate Counsel Association CLE, March 17, 2011.
- “Managing Complex Federal Litigation: A Practical Guide to New Developments, Procedures, and Strategies 2009,” Practising Law Institute, October 7, 2009.
- “The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act 2009: Coping with Heightened Enforcement Risks,” Practising Law Institute, New York, April 2009.
- “The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act,” Pre-conference work, Moscow, Russia, American Conference Institute, March 2009.
- Corporate Counsel Institute, Northwestern University School of Law, September 2008.
- “Managing Complex Federal Litigation, A Practical Guide to New Developments, Procedures and Strategies,” Practising Law Institute, July 2008.
- “The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act 2008, Coping with Heightened Enforcement Risks,” Practising Law Institute, April 2008.
- “Responding to Government-Initiated Investigations,” NBA Commercial Litigation Section Conference, February 2008.

- “The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, Tips for Compliance and Recent Trends,” ABA Minority Counsel Program, September 2007.
- “Electronic Discovery and the New Federal Rules,” National Bar Association Convention, August 2007.
- “Internal Investigations,” American Conference Institute, January 2007.
- “International Internal Investigations,” March 2007.
- “Shareholder Derivative Lawsuits,” Minority Corporate Counsel Association CLE, February 2006.
- “Effective Compliance Programs,” (panel moderator) ABA Minority Counsel Program, April 2006.
- “Advice to In-House Counsel On Avoiding Liability,” Chicago Bar Association, May 2006.
- “E-Discovery and the New Federal Rules of Civil Procedure,” June 2006.

Civic Activities

- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Chicago Alumnae Chapter
- Chicago Area Project, Board Member for not-for-profit organization supporting activities for at-risk inner city children, Board Chair
- The Ancona School, Board of Trustees
- Chicago State University, Board of Trustees, Chair, Audit Committee
- Joffrey Ballet, Board of Trustees, Chair, Audit and Finance Committee
- Jack and Jill, Chicago Chapter

Professional Activities

- Black Women Lawyers’ Association, Member, President 2003–2004, Board Member, 2002–2005
- The Economic Club of Chicago
- The American Law Institute
- Chicago Bar Association, Chair, Criminal Law Committee, 2005–06
- American Inns of Court, Chicago Chapter, 2004 to date, President, 2010–11
- Leadership Greater Chicago, 1990–91; Candidate Selection Committee, 2007, 2008
- Illinois Supreme Court Character and Fitness Committee, 2006 to date
- Northern District of Illinois Magistrate Judge Screening Committee, March 2007
- National Institute for Trial Advocacy (“NITA”), Instructor