

David R. Dugas

of counsel baton rouge

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education

Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center (J.D., 1978)

 Phi Kappa Phi, Order of the Coif, Law Review, Omicron Delta Kappa

admissions

Louisiana

U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Louisiana

U.S. District Court for the Western District of Louisiana

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit

honors

- Martindale-Hubbell™ AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rated Lawyer
- The Best Lawyers in Americal® Baton Rouge: Commerical Litigation 2024
- 2010 Outstanding Achievement in Prosecution Award, FBI Citizens Academy Alumni Association, Louisiana Chapter
- 2005 U.S. Attorney of the Year, Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association

Clients tell me they're often surprised by how effectively I'm able to cut through extraneous information and zero in on the essential and relevant points in litigation or other matters. In my government investigations practice, it helps immensely that I have been an investigator myself. That realm is completely different than civil litigation, and it truly pays to know what the people running the inquiry think about and how they operate. I offer clients an advantage in that I can quickly determine how the investigators are responding to what our side is saying and doing.

Highly decorated by prominent government agencies and legal profession ranking services as both a public servant and a private practitioner, litigator David Dugas brings extensive experience in handling a myriad of legal matters, with a focus on consumer finance issues. He represents a wide range of clients in criminal and civil investigations conducted nationwide. Companies turn to David for his guidance when they're being examined by such law enforcement and regulatory agencies as the U.S. Department of Justice, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB), the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the EPA Criminal Investigative Division (EPA-CID).

- 2006 Attorney General's Medallion for Distinguished Service, U.S. Department of Justice
- 2006 Distinguished Service Plaque, President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency and the Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency
- 2006 Director's Award for Superior Performance in Public Service, Director of the Executive Office for United States Attorneys
- 2004 Federal Prosecutor of the Year, Louisiana Crime Victims' Alliance

In counseling clients, David draws on his previous role as a U.S. Attorney and as the head of a Department of Justice national white collar fraud task force. Clients say he helps relieve the panic they feel when they're informed that they're under investigation by explaining the entire process, putting it in context, and outlining what they need to do on a step-by-step basis. He then leads them through each of those steps while also maintaining a big-picture perspective on the investigation and its likely outcome.

David leads the firm's CFPB Rapid Response Team, which helps consumer financial services company clients in responding to the Civil Investigative Demands (CID) and Company Portal complaints received from the agency. A member of the firm's Government Contracts, Relations, and Lobbying service area, David advises organizations and individuals in complying with regulatory and statutory requirements while they pursue their business strategies and goals. In addition to domestic governmental matters, David handles many of clients' global legal issues, including those related to the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA).

With a highly regarded litigation track record and a career spanning many aspects of governmental and private practice, David possesses as much experience and ability as the top lawyers at the largest, most prominent law firms in the country. He and his team frequently go up against some of these firms and prevail, attaining the best possible outcome for their clients. Unlike many of these attorneys, however, David delivers personal, hands-on service, and his highly capable and well-managed representation is efficient and cost-effective.