Holland & Hart



PRACTICES

Business Litigation
Government Investigations and White Collar Defense

INDUSTRIES

Healthcare

EDUCATION

University of Montana School of Law, J.D., 2012
Montana Law Review, Co-Editor-in-Chief

Carroll College, B.A., 2008
Graduated with distinction
Honors Scholar

BAR ADMISSIONS

Montana
Idaho

COURT ADMISSIONS

U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado
U.S. District Court for the District of Montana
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

John Sullivan

Partner

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John is a former federal prosecutor who regularly represents clients in high-stakes criminal and regulatory investigations and complex civil litigation matters.

John counsels companies and individuals in internal and government-facing investigations by the Department of Justice, state attorneys general, and federal and state regulators across a range of issues, including those related to healthcare and financial fraud, the False Claims Act, the Anti-Kickback statute, the Controlled Substances Act, and environmental laws.

While serving as an Assistant US Attorney, John oversaw dozens of investigations while working closely with federal and state law enforcement agencies, including the FBI, DEA, and drug task forces. He successfully served as lead counsel in several jury trials and briefed and argued appeals before the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. John uses that expertise to help clients across the country anticipate and respond to government actions and develop strategies and cost-effective solutions in response to investigations.

In addition to counseling clients facing government investigations, John represents clients in complex commercial and business-related disputes involving breach of contract, fraud, and real estate. With experience in federal and state court and private arbitration, John understands how to efficiently represent plaintiffs or defendants and achieve a favorable outcome for his clients.

Prior to joining Holland & Hart, John also served as a law clerk to Judge Sam Haddon of the US District Court of Montana.

EXPERIENCE

- Jury trials, bench trials, arbitrations
- Healthcare fraud
- False Claims Act
- Anti-Kickback Statute
- Controlled Substances Act
- Clean Air Act and environmental regulations
- Breach of contract
- Fraud and negligence
- Real estate disputes
- Defamation and libel litigation

CLIENT RESULTS

Successfully negotiated resolution of healthcare fraud prosecution and obtained favorable sentence in matter involving losses of over $100 million in US District Court, Northern District of Georgia.

Successfully defended physician in civil False Claims Act investigation in District of Montana resulting in favorable settlement.

Defeated breach of contract claims on summary judgment in $7 million dispute over mineral royalties in arbitration.

Defended venture capitalist in defamation suit by public official in Montana state court, resulting in dismissal of case with prejudice.

Defended healthcare provider in federal prosecution in US District Court, District of Wyoming, resulting in misdemeanor resolution and sentence of probation.

Obtained non-prosecution agreement for contracting company in DOJ antitrust investigation in US District Court, District of Montana.

Successfully defended mining company in misdemeanor resolution of Mine Safety Health Administration violations in US District Court, District of Montana.

Successfully resolved felony fraud indictment in US District Court, District of Montana, resulting in misdemeanor conviction and sentence of probation.

Counseled public company in internal investigation to identify and remediate cybersecurity controls.

PUBLICATIONS

"The Shumate Memo: Faster FCA Enforcement, Fewer DOJ Interventions," *Department of Justice Update*, June 25, 2026

"2 Paths, 2 Outcomes: DOJ's Inconsistent Corporate Self-Disclosure Policies," *Corporate Compliance Insights* , December 22, 2025

"Key Compliance Takeaways for Companies from the DOJ's New Corporate Whistleblower Program," *Department of Justice Update*, August 20, 2024

RECOGNITION

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Commercial Litigation, 2026, 2027
- *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch® in America*, Appellate Practice; Criminal Defense: White-Collar, 2022-2025; Commercial Litigation, 2021-2025

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- US District Court for the District of Montana Local Rules Advisory

Committee, Appointed Member, 2024-2028

- Ninth Circuit Judicial Conference, Lawyer Representative, 2024-present
- Carroll College, Board of Trustees, Member