



James Belanger

JBELANGER LAW PLLC
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Jim now focuses his practice on legal ethics, lawyer State Bar charge defense, professional and judicial responsibility, and ABS compliance. He has counseled and advised lawyers, law firms, judges, in-house counsel, public lawyers, and public agencies in a broad spectrum of ethics and issues involving professional conduct. He also has been retained as an expert witness on cases involving lawyer professional responsibility and lawyer standard of care.

Jim is listed in *Best Lawyers in America* in six categories: Ethics and Professional Liability; Criminal Defense; White Collar Criminal Defense; Commercial and Regulatory Litigation; and Qui Tam Litigation. He is also rated AV Preeminent by *Martindale Hubbell*.

Jim has been a member of the Arizona State Bar Committee on the Rules of Professional Conduct and advises lawyers on ethical compliance issues, represents lawyers in disciplinary proceedings before the State Bar of Arizona, and defends lawyers in legal malpractice lawsuits.

Representative Matters

- Defense of multi-state health care provider in DOJ false claims act case.
- Defense of national bank against civil and administrative allegations of consumer fraud and predatory lending.
- Defense of senior management in an SEC investigation.

- Defense of a national title company in a False Claims Act case involving alleged violations of federal housing laws.
- Representation of the Arizona Department of Financial Institutions as outside counsel in a complex mortgage license revocation
- Representation of dozens of lawyers in State Bar investigations from pre-charge screening through formal hearing
- Expert witness in lawyer ethics and lawyer standard of care matters.
- Representation of trustee in Chapter 11 bankruptcy cases of Boston Chicken, Nelson and Herbert Hunt, and Kaiser Steel. Over \$3 billion dollars recovered.

Publications and Presentations

- "The Continued Expansion of the False Claims Act," *Journal of Health & Life Sciences Law* (October 2010, co-authored with Scott Bennett)
- "A Practical Guide to Remediation, Disclosure and Cooperation in the Context of Corporate Misconduct," *American Bar Association – Section of Litigation*, Summer 2005
- "Ephemeral Letters of Transit: Responding to Government Requests for Electronically Stored Information," *American Bar Association – Section on Litigation*, Winter 2007
- "Trail Dog and the Tao Te Ching (Honor, Ethical Rules and a Way of Life)," *The Defender*, Fall 2007

Activities and Recognitions

- AV Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated by *Martindale-Hubbell* (5.0 out of 5.0)
- *Best Lawyers in America* 2007-present: White-Collar Criminal Defense; Non-White-Collar Criminal Defense; Ethics and Professional Liability; Commercial Litigation; Regulatory Litigation; and Qui Tam Law (False Claims Act)
- *Best Lawyers* "Lawyer of the Year" for 2011, 2014, 2017: Criminal Defense (Phoenix); 2021, 2022, 2024 (Scottsdale)
- *Best Lawyers* "Lawyer of the Year" for 2016: White Collar Criminal Defense (Phoenix)
- *Best Lawyers* "Lawyer of the Year" for 2013: Litigation-Regulatory Enforcement (Phoenix)
- AACJ's 2018 recipient of the John J. Flynn Lifetime Achievement Award for Sustained Excellence in the Defense of Others.
- *Super Lawyers*, Top 50 Lawyer in Arizona – 2021.
- *Arizona Business Magazine*, Top 100 Lawyer in Arizona – 2022.
- All New England Soccer Selection 1979, 1980; two-time inductee into Brandeis University Athletics Hall of Fame

Education and Bar Admissions

- J.D., Arizona State University, with honors, 1987
- B.A., Anthropology, Brandeis University, with honors, 1981
- Admitted in Arizona, 1987

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