



Nathan A. Huff

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Practice Focus

- Litigation
- White Collar Defense and Governmental Investigations
- False Claims Act
- Professional Liability

Industries

- Agriculture
- Defense
- Health Care
- Emerging Businesses

Education

- The Catholic University of America School of Law, J.D., 2004; Note and Comment Editor, *Catholic University Law Review*
- Wake Forest University, B.A. in Political Science, 2001

Admissions

- Georgia
- Massachusetts
- North Carolina
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of North Carolina
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of North Carolina
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Georgia
- U.S. District Court, Western District of North Carolina

Practice

A former federal prosecutor with fifteen years of litigation experience, Nate concentrates his practice on federal, business and constitutional litigation and white collar defense. He has first-chaired multiple federal jury trials to verdict. He routinely applies the insight of a prosecutor in leading internal investigations and preventing and responding to government enforcement actions.

Additionally, as a member of Phelps Dunbar's agribusiness team, Nate serves as outside general counsel to agribusinesses ranging from start-ups to large farming operations and agricultural associations. He counsels growers on regulatory compliance, labor disputes, and business immigration.

Nate is a Lieutenant Colonel and Judge Advocate (JAG) in the U.S. Army Reserve. In that role, the Department of Defense has repeatedly called on him to investigate and prosecute its most high-profile criminal cases. Prior to joining Phelps Dunbar, Nate served as a prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of North Carolina.

Experience

- Defended campaign official in federal campaign finance investigation resulting in the U.S. Department of Justice dropping the investigation without seeking indictment.
- Defended defense contractor executive implicated in federal grand jury investigation of suspected government contracting violations.
- Represented large defense contractor in responding to whistleblower complaint alleging more than \$200 million in federal False Claims Act violations.
- Represented state government entity in complex federal court litigation to enjoin the unlawful expansion of the State's Medicaid program.
- Successfully appealed to the Court of Appeals of North Carolina a trial court's denial of a motion to dismiss, resulting in professional client's complete dismissal from the subject case.
- Represented accounting firms in responding to federal grand jury subpoenas and related requests from the U.S. Department of Justice.
- Defended clinical testing laboratory against lawsuits alleging misdiagnosis of cancer arising from Pap smear screening.
- Defended contract research organizations and clinical testing laboratories from lawsuits alleging negligent venipuncture resulting in complex regional pain syndrome (CRPS).

PHELPS DUNBAR

- Advise agribusinesses on labor and employment law, litigation prevention, and business immigration, including compliance with the H-2A and H-2B visa programs.
- Served as outside general counsel to industrial hemp start-up and advise company leadership on complex regulatory compliance issues confronting North Carolina industrial hemp producers.
- Represents large agribusiness clients in securing H-2A visas for farm laborers and in responding to and preventing delays in related consular processing.
- Defended large corporate client in federal court employment suit alleging wage and hour violations, fraud and breach of contract.
- Defends professionals such as lawyers, accountants and adjusters from professional malpractice lawsuits.
- Defended corporate clients in federal court toxic tort litigation involving pulmonary diseases allegedly caused by asbestos and other pulmonary irritants.
- Defended corporate client in commercial dispute involving allegations of unfair and deceptive trade practices and breach of contract.
- Conducted fraud investigation, including an examination under oath, on behalf of international insurance syndicate resulting in insured consenting to rescission of policy.
- Represented the United States as a federal prosecutor in the Eastern District of North Carolina. Managed complex multi-agency state and federal investigations. Conducted federal grand jury investigations and first-chaired felony trials in United States District Court.
- Led the Department of Defense's investigation and prosecution of the military personnel implicated in the United States Secret Service prostitution scandal.
- Represented the United States in the third prosecution of *U.S. v. Timothy Hennis*, a triple-homicide death penalty case.

Insights

Publications

- ["One Year Later: Yates Memo Remains a Threat to the Privileged Status of Internal Investigations,"](#) *White Collar Crime Committee Newsletter*, (February 2017)
- Author, "Fourth Circuit Holds that Facts Learned by Realtors' Counsel in Previous Qui Tam Trigger Public Disclosure," *False Claims Act Law Blog*, (2016)
- ["Government Targets Laboratory Chief Executive in False Claims Act Suit – The New Normal in the Wake of the Yates Memo?"](#) *False Claims Act Law Blog* (2015)
- ["The Computer Sciences Corporation Qui Tam – A Warning for North Carolina Medicaid Providers."](#) *False Claims Act Law Blog* (2014)
- ["Landell v. Sorrell: Lessons Learned from Vermont's Pending Challenge to *Buckley v. Valeo*,"](#) 53 *Cath. U.L. Rev.* 239 (2003)

News

- *North Carolina Super Lawyers* Recognizes 3 Phelps Dunbar Attorneys for 2018 - (01/25/2018)

Memberships and Affiliations

- American Bar Association, White Collar Committee
- North Carolina Bar Association, Military & Veterans Affairs Committee

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- Tenth Judicial District Bar, Wake County, North Carolina

Recognition

- Joint Service Commendation Medal, U.S. Army (2013)
- Meritorious Service Medal, U.S. Army (2018, 2014, 2010)
- Army Commendation Medal (2008, 2008, 2007)
- Parachutist Badge (2005)
- Selected to the North Carolina Super Lawyers Rising Stars list, *Super Lawyers* (Thomson Reuters), 2015-2018