

THOMAS J. PERRELLI, Firm Chair, Partner

Thomas J. Perrelli is the Chair of Jenner & Block. He is also the founder and co-chair of the firm's Government Controversies and Public Policy Litigation Practice. Drawing on his experience as a nationally recognized litigator and as Associate Attorney General, the third-ranking official at the US Department of Justice, Mr. Perrelli represents businesses, governmental entities and their leaders in high-stakes matters where litigation, investigations, public policy and media scrutiny intersect. He provides clients and their boards with high-level strategic advice on their most complex matters.

Mr. Perrelli re-joined Jenner & Block as a partner in 2012 after serving for three years as Associate Attorney General of the United States. In that capacity, he was responsible for the Department's Civil, Antitrust, Civil Rights, Environment and Natural Resources, and Tax Divisions, the United States Trustee Program, the Office of Justice Programs and the Office on Violence Against Women, among others. Among numerous high-level, multi-party negotiations, he led the US government's efforts to negotiate a \$25 billion settlement to resolve claims against financial institutions for servicing of mortgages and negotiated the creation of a \$20 billion fund to compensate victims of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Mr. Perrelli began practicing law as an associate at Jenner & Block in 1992. He left the firm in 1997 to serve as counsel to then-US Attorney General Janet Reno, rising to the position of deputy assistant attorney general before returning to Jenner & Block in 2001. Over the next eight years, he concentrated his practice in copyright, media and constitutional litigation, as well as complex litigation with a public policy or regulatory component. During that time, Mr. Perrelli was recognized by *Chambers USA* as one of the country's leading media and entertainment lawyers. In 2005, *The National Law Journal* named him one of the most promising lawyers under 40 years old. In 2009, he was nominated by the president and confirmed by the Senate to the position of Associate Attorney General of the United States.

- Before re-joining Jenner & Block and on behalf of the US government, Mr. Perrelli negotiated all aspects of the \$20 billion trust fund that BP set up to compensate victims of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and monitored the operation of that fund. He subsequently led negotiations with BP to set aside \$1 billion for early restoration of the Gulf of Mexico in the wake of the oil spill and oversaw the Justice Department's litigation against those responsible for the Deepwater Horizon tragedy.
- Before re-joining Jenner & Block and on behalf of the US Justice Department, Mr. Perrelli brokered settlements that exceeded \$25 billion arising out of the five largest mortgage servicers' alleged failure to comply with legal obligations owed to their customers (including such things as robo-signing, other violations of law in the foreclosure process, and violations of law related to the making of loan modifications). This complex, multilateral negotiation involved 49 state attorneys general, state banking regulators, the largest US financial institutions and a dozen federal agencies



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PRACTICE GROUPS

Antitrust and Competition Law
Complex Commercial Litigation
Congressional Investigations
Content, Media and Entertainment
Education
Energy
Government Controversies and Public Policy
Litigation
Intellectual Property
Investigations, Compliance and Defense
Japan Practice
Monitorship Practice
Native American Law
Public International Law
State Enforcement and Regulation
Transitions in Energy and Climate
Solutions

INDUSTRY GROUPS

Cybersecurity
DEI Protection Task Force
Life Sciences
Post-Dobbs Task Force

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, JD, 1991; *magna cum laude*; Managing Editor, *Harvard Law Review*

Brown University, AB, 1988; *magna cum laude*

ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia, 1993

Virginia (inactive), 1991

COURT ADMISSIONS

US Supreme Court, 1996

- Before re-joining Jenner & Block and on behalf of the US Justice Department, Mr. Perrelli resolved the long-running dispute between Native Americans and the United States over individual trust accounting (the *Cobell* case), which had been in litigation for more than a decade and involved claims that went back over a century. Mr. Perrelli led negotiations that resulted in a landmark \$3.4 billion settlement and successfully pursued congressional legislation to implement aspects of the settlement.
- Before re-joining Jenner & Block and on behalf of the US Justice Department, Mr. Perrelli negotiated the resolution of the claims of African-American farmers against the Department of Agriculture for discrimination in the making of farm loans (the *Pigford II* case). Mr. Perrelli led the United States' effort to negotiate a \$1.25 billion settlement and successfully pursued congressional legislation to implement aspects of the settlement.
- Negotiated a series of settlements totaling almost \$1 billion to resolve lawsuits brought by tribal nations against the United States for mismanagement of tribal trust funds.
- Served as vice-chair of the Executive Committee of the Attorney General's Financial Fraud Enforcement Task Force.
- Served as co-chair of the President's Task Force on Puerto Rico's Status, which, among other things, resulted in a landmark report on status, as well as on economic, housing, health care, energy and other challenges faced by the island.
- Served as a lead lawyer on the Jenner & Block team that represented a consortium of 28 of the largest entertainment companies in the country in the landmark copyright case *MGM v. Grokster*, involving peer-to-peer file-sharing services.

For several years, Mr. Perrelli represented, pro bono, the husband of Terri Schiavo in the high-profile Florida case involving Ms. Schiavo's right to control and decline life-extending medical care and efforts by the state and federal governments to overturn prior court decisions that had ascertained her wishes. He led the constitutional challenge to state and federal laws before state and federal courts, including the US Supreme Court.

Awards

- *National Law Journal*
Visionaries of the Legal Profession - 2011
- National Congress of American Indians
Governmental Leadership Award - 2011
- *Chambers USA*
Litigation: General Commercial (District of Columbia) - 2021, 2022
Media & Entertainment - 2007, 2008, 2009

US Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit, 2002

US District Court, District of Columbia, 1994

Supreme Court of Virginia, 1991

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

Hon. Royce C. Lamberth, US District Court, District of Columbia, 1992

- *Washington Business Journal*
Best Intellectual Property Lawyer in Washington, DC - 2008
- Jenner & Block
Albert E. Jenner, Jr. Pro Bono Award - 2005
- *Lawdragon Magazine*
500 "New Stars, New Worlds" - 2006
500 "Leading Lawyers in America" - 2013-2015
- *Legal 500*
Dispute Resolution - General Commercial Disputes - 2017
- *National Law Journal*
"40 Under 40" - 2005
- *Washington, DC, Super Lawyers*
Civil Litigation: Defense - 2015
Entertainment and Sports - 2015
Schools and Education - 2015, 2016, 2019
- *Washingtonian Magazine*
Best Lawyers, National Security - 2015

Community

- Commercial Club of Chicago, Civic Committee Member - 2021
- Center for Catastrophic Risk Management and Compensation, RAND Corporation
Member, Advisory Board - 2013

Publications

- Co-Author, Client Alert: Beyond the 2022 Midterm Election Headlines: Key Developments to Watch for in the Months to Come, November 11, 2022
- Co-Author, Client Alert: SCOTUS Overrules Roe v. Wade: Part I: Potentially Wide-Ranging Impact on Companies Navigating Employee Benefits, Privacy Protections, and Law Enforcement Demands, June 28, 2022
- Co-Author, Client Alert: SCOTUS Overrules Roe v. Wade: Part II: Outlining the Threat to Reproductive Rights Across the United States, June 28, 2022
- *The Guide to Monitorships – Third Edition*, May 17, 2022
- Co-Author, Client Alert: The Biden White House Ramps up Antitrust Enforcement and Reform, July 20, 2021
- Co-Author, Client Alert: Week Two in the Biden Administration: Environmental Justice, COVID-19 Response, and Building Back Better, February 2, 2021
- Co-Author, Client Alert: 30 Executive Actions, 3 Days: A Look Inside President Biden's First Week, January 26, 2021
- *The Guide to Monitorships – Second Edition*, June 2020
- "The Life Cycle of a Monitorship," *The Guide to Monitorships*, June 2019

- Editor, *The Guide to Monitorships*, June 2019

Speaking Engagements

- Co-Presenter, "Enforcement in 2021: DOJ, the Agencies, Congress, and the State Attorneys General," Jenner & Block Webinar Series, November 19, 2020
- "Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2015: Implementing VAWA 2013: Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction," US Department of Justice, October 06, 2015
- "Caught in the Middle: Responding to Multi-Jurisdictional Investigations," Association of Corporate Counsel, September 17, 2015
- "Data Mining and the DOJ," Greater New York Hospital Association, October 07, 2014
- "The Rise of Subprime Loans and the Housing Collapse: The State and Federal Response," National Mortgage Settlement Conference: A Historic State-Federal Investigation, Negotiation, and Agreement, February 22, 2013
- "The Financial Crisis and the 'Revolving Door'," New York City Bar Association Committee on Government Ethics Committee on Banking Law, February 12, 2013
- "What's Keeping You Up At Night - Or Should Be: Things Every In-House Counsel Should Know About Internet File-Trading," Institute of Continuing Legal Education in Georgia 22nd Annual Corporate Counsel Institute, Atlanta, GA, December 11, 2003 to December 12, 2003