



Ashley E. Shapiro

Partner

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Cherry Hill, NJ

An accomplished litigator, Ashley Shapiro represents individuals and corporations across a wide array of industries in white collar criminal defense, internal investigations and corporate compliance matters. She also defends civil litigation matters, including False Claims Act and qui tam actions. Regularly handling highly charged situations in connection with criminal investigations, Ashley is known for her ability to quickly assess and diffuse unplanned and immediate problems as they arise. Her take-charge advocacy in deftly devising strategic legal solutions reflects her deep commitment and passion in helping clients navigate these unanticipated and often-emotional scenarios.

Ashley is well versed in federal and state government investigations, specifically state attorneys general investigating grand juries and federal grand juries. She represents both entities and individuals under investigation or charged with a crime. These matters involve violations of political/public corruption, conspiracy, healthcare fraud, Medicare/Medicaid fraud, wire fraud, bank fraud, tax violations and the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act. Ashley also conducts internal investigations for corporate clients across a variety of industries.

Ashley defends individuals accused of crimes in Pennsylvania and New Jersey municipal/district courts. Her experience spans local, state and federal levels across several jurisdictions, including Pennsylvania (and the city of Philadelphia), New Jersey and New York.

In her versatile practice, Ashley also handles administrative proceedings, such as Title IX investigations and student disciplinary matters. She represents students under investigation or who are being disciplined by their school for alleged violations of sexual assault, harassment, hazing or code of conduct policies. During these cases, she often represents students in parallel criminal proceedings.

In her civil litigation practice, Ashley resolves cases in state and federal courts that have underlying criminal issues or parallel proceedings. These matters often involve RICO, sexual abuse claims and environmental issues.

In addition to her day-to-day practice, Ashley is co-chair of the firm's pro bono committee.

Services

- Appellate
- Compliance Counseling
- Environment & Land Use
- Financial Services Litigation & Enforcement
- Government Enforcement, Investigations & Litigation
- Healthcare
- Insurance & Reinsurance
- Internal Investigations
- Litigation
- Religious, Educational & Nonprofit Organizations
- Securities & Regulatory Enforcement
- White Collar Criminal Defense
- Trial Practice
- Consumer Financial Services Litigation

Education

- Temple University Beasley School of Law (LL.M)
 - Trial Advocacy
- Florida A & M University

Featured Representative Matters

Federal White Collar Matters

- Secured a declination of criminal prosecution in a healthcare-related fraud matter and negotiated a consent decree with the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General, which resolved numerous alleged violations of the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law without any admission of liability by the client.
- Obtained a dismissal in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania of all charges relating to the alleged improper filling of two out-of-date propane cylinders, in violation of U.S. Department of Transportation hazardous materials regulations, that resulted in a deadly explosion on a food truck in Philadelphia. The client pleaded guilty to two counts of regulatory violations involving the failure to properly train and document the training of two employees at a U-Haul facility he managed in 2014. Despite the government's efforts to obtain a period of incarceration, the defendant was sentenced to two years of probation, a small fine, and community service (*United States v. M.R.*).
- Obtained sentencing of one year of unsupervised probation in the Eastern District of Virginia on behalf of a client after having negotiated a guilty plea to one count of misprision of a felony in connection with a fraud investigation involving misrepresentations made involving NASA contracts.
- Secured the dismissal of an indictment in the Middle District of Pennsylvania charging a prominent Michigan businessperson with wire fraud and conspiracy, which resulted in the matter being resolved in favor of a corporate guilty plea for probation and payment of restitution by an entity that was no longer actively in business.

Pennsylvania State Matters

- Secured reversal in the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania of the forfeiture of a judge's state pension by the State Employees' Retirement System (SERS). After the judge pleaded guilty to two charges of violating 18 U.S.C. Section 1001 by lying to federal investigators, SERS informed him that by doing so, he forfeited his pension under the Public Employee Pension Forfeiture Act (Act 140) and that the violation of the federal statute was "substantially the same" as violating 18 Pa.C.S. Section 4906. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled unanimously that the statutes were not identical, overturning the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Court's ruling and precedent set in *Merlino v. Philadelphia Board of Pensions and Retirement* (*O'Neill v. State Employees' Retirement System*, 280 A.3d 873 (Pa. 2022)).
- Successfully argued in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas that a defendant's sentence of 10 to 20 years should be vacated, and a new trial should be granted based on prior counsel's ineffective representation.
- Defended a client in Philadelphia Municipal Court charged with DUI, aggravated assault by vehicle DUI, simple assault and recklessly endangering another person involving a severe motor vehicle accident where the other driver had substantial injuries. Obtained a sentence of four years of probation for misdemeanor charges.
- Defended plaintiffs and defendants in final restraining order trials in Pennsylvania and New Jersey where substantial issues of rights and liabilities were at issue.

New Jersey State Matters

- Obtained an official pardon from then-New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie for a Pennsylvania business owner who was convicted of unlawful possession of a handgun. The client, who had no prior criminal record, had been target shooting and inadvertently left his hunting rifles in his vehicle when driving in New Jersey. After filing a petition for executive clemency — and following numerous phone calls,

College of Law (J.D., *cum laude*)

- University of Central Florida (B.A., *cum laude*)

Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- New York
- New Jersey
- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas

emails and in-person interviews — Christie granted the pardon, one of only 27 granted during his eight years in office.

- Obtained a complete dismissal of charges in New Jersey Municipal Court on behalf of a national company's employee who was charged with criminal trespass and mischief in connection with a job-related incident.
- Represented an individual in criminal litigation involving allegations of falsifying a subordination agreement to collect payment in the amount of \$760,950 from a Pennsylvania county agricultural conservation. The client was placed into a diversionary program that resulted in the dismissal of the criminal charge and will be eligible for an expungement.
- Represented an individual who was charged with assault by auto and related motor vehicle violations for driving while under the influence (DWI) while operating a golf cart; the passenger fell off and sustained a head injury. The client was placed into a diversionary program that resulted in the dismissal of the criminal charge and expungement of the client's record upon successful completion of the program. The DWI was dismissed, and the individual entered a guilty plea to a reckless driving with a six-month loss of license.
- Defended a client in New Jersey Superior Court accused of endangering the welfare of a child for DWI with a minor in the vehicle. The client was placed into a diversionary program that resulted in the dismissal of the criminal charge and expungement of the client's record.
- Advocated for an appellee in the New Jersey Appellate Division in an extensive brief where the appellant challenged the dismissal of a temporary restraining order.

Education Matters

- Represented a client in connection with felony criminal charges, protection from abuse and Title IX disciplinary violations. All criminal charges against the client were dismissed after the university found the client not responsible for multiple alleged student conduct violations. As a result, the client did not face expulsion from college and had his criminal record expunged.
- Represented a client in connection with alleged Title IX violations. The matter was resolved by an informal resolution, which did not include an adverse finding and allowed the client to remain at the university.

Miscellaneous Matters

- Obtained an unprecedented furlough from Federal Correctional Institution, Fort Dix for a client to attend his son's funeral.

Community Impact

Co-chair of the pro bono committee, Ashley leads efforts in identifying opportunities across Stradley Ronon's nine locations in which the firm's lawyers can make a substantial impact on underrepresented populations. She also forges and maintains the firm's partnerships with pro bono legal organizations that share a commitment to ensuring equitable access to representation. Ashley was also part of the Stradley Ronon team that helped secure the release of a wrongfully convicted client who spent four decades in prison.

Memberships

- Board of Directors, Volunteer UP Legal Clinic
- Co-Chair, Stradley Ronon Pro Bono Committee

- Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (PACDL)
- Treasurer (2024-present)
- Co-Chair, Education Committee (2024-present)
- Board of Directors (2021-present)
- Co-Chair, Rules Committee (2022-24)
- White Collar Committee
- National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Women's White Collar Defense Association
- Co-Chair, Programing Committee, Philadelphia Chapter (2020-23)
- National Chapter
- New Jersey Chapter
- Federal Criminal Law Committee for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania
- Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey
- Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers of New Jersey
- Camden County Bar Association
- Gloucester County Bar Association

Recognitions

- *Chambers USA* (Pennsylvania: Litigation: White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations) (2026)
- *The Legal 500 US Elite* (Philadelphia: White Collar) (2026)
- *Unsung Heroes*, *The Legal Intelligencer* (2025)
- *Chambers USA* (Up and Coming: Pennsylvania: Litigation: White Collar Crime & Government Investigations) (2024-25)
- *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers* (White Collar and Criminal Defense) (2024-26)
- *The Best Lawyers in America* (Criminal Defense: General Practice; Criminal Defense: White-Collar) (2025-26)
- *The Best Lawyers in America* (Criminal Defense: White-Collar) (2024)
- *The Best Lawyers in America*, Ones to Watch (Corporate Governance and Compliance Law, Criminal Defense: White Collar) (2021)
- Lawyers on the Fast Track, *The Legal Intelligencer* (2017)

Featured Speaking Engagements

- Presenter, "DWI Forum 2025 – The Essential Advanced Practitioner Update," New Jersey State Bar Association
- Presenter, "Ethical AI in Criminal Defense: Balancing Innovation with Responsibility," PACDL
- Presenter, "Legal Perspective: Factors to Consider and Pitfalls to Avoid," The Institute of Internal Auditors
- Presenter, "DUI Across State Lines: Navigating Multi-Jurisdictional Consequences," PACDL
- Moderator, "Clear Their Records: A Refresher on Clean Slate and Expungements" PACDL
- Presenter, "DWI Forum 2024 – The Essential Update," New Jersey State Bar

Association

- Presenter, “Regional Economic Perspective,” Chamber of Commerce Southern New Jersey
- Presenter, “Internal Investigations: Avoiding Legal Pitfalls and Best Practices,” Chamber of Commerce Southern New Jersey CLE
- Presenter, “Summer Trouble at the Jersey Shore,” Stradley Ronon CLE
- Presenter, “Crypto Enforcement: Developing Trends in Civil and Criminal Enforcement Efforts by DOJ, SEC and Other Regulators,” Stradley Ronon CLE
- Presenter, “Key Considerations for Representing Individuals in Student Conduct Hearings and Parallel Criminal Proceedings,” Camden County Bar Association
- Presenter, “Subpoenas, Search Warrants and Government Interviews: Now What?” Camden County Bar Association
- Presenter, “Internal Investigations: A Behind the Scenes Look at the Challenges Faced by In-House Counsel,” PACDL White Collar Practice Webinar
- Presenter, “Warning: State Attorney General Investigations of COVID-19 Fraud on the Rise and All Industries Are Exposed,” Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (PACDL)
- Panelist, “The Balancing of Perspectives in a Changing Title IX Landscape: Institutions, Complainants, and Respondents,” Montgomery Bar Association

Publications

DOJ and SEC White Collar Enforcement Trends: What Financial Institutions Should Know for Q4 2025 — and Beyond

October 20, 2025

Going to the Shore? Don’t Get ‘Tide’ Down with Legal Troubles

May 16, 2024

The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Federal Criminal Cases

April 17, 2024

Stradley White-Collar Insider October 2023

October 19, 2023

Experience

Stradley Ronon Secures Win for Colgate University Student in Title IX Case

Through a collaborative, cross-practice effort, Stradley Ronon has secured a complete acquittal for a Colgate University student facing alleged Title IX and student conduct violations. Following a detailed investigation and contested hearing, a panel rejected the allegations and found there was not a preponderance of the evidence to establish any of the three alleged Title IX violations or the three corresponding student conduct violations.

Our team was able to show via cross-examination that the Title IX complaint was

retaliatory in nature and the testimony elicited at the hearing demonstrated that the allegations were entirely without merit and the delayed accusations were simply not credible.

Events

New Jersey State Bar Association DWI Forum 2024

Virtual

May 18, 2024

Stradley Ronon's Pro Bono Fair

Stradley Ronon Town Hall

January 23, 2024

Stradley Ronon CLE: Internal Investigations in the Face of a Regulatory Inquiry: Practical Advice for In-House Counsel and Compliance

Stradley Ronon's Town Hall

October 25, 2023

Chamber of Commerce Southern New Jersey CLE: Internal Investigations: Avoiding Legal Pitfalls and Best Practices

Primepoint HRMS & Payroll

September 29, 2023

Stradley Ronon White-Collar CLE with PACDL and the WWCD: Crypto Enforcement: Developing Trends in Civil and Criminal Enforcement Efforts by DOJ, SEC and Other Regulators

Stradley Ronon's Town Hall

June 14, 2023

News

Stradley Ronon Lawyers, Practices Recognized in 2026 Chambers USA Guide

June 4, 2026

Stradley Ronon Lawyers Named 2026 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers, Rising Stars

May 28, 2026

Stradley Ronon Partners Recognized in *The Legal 500* US Elite 2026 Lists Across New York, Philadelphia and D.C.

February 25, 2026

Stradley Ronon Honors Community Impact at 2026 Pro Bono Awards

January 15, 2026

Stradley Ronon Brings Together Regional Partners for Pro Bono Fair

September 18, 2025

Stradley Ronon Lawyers Named Among 2026 *Best Lawyers in America*

August 21, 2025

Stradley Ronon Named Law Firm of the Year in *The Legal Intelligencer's* 2025 Pennsylvania Legal Awards

June 12, 2025

Stradley Ronon Lawyers, Practices Recognized in 2025 *Chambers USA* Guide

June 5, 2025

Unsung Heroes Honoree: Ashley Shapiro, Stradley Ronon Stevens & Young

The Legal Intelligencer

May 26, 2025

Stradley Ronon Lawyers Selected as 2025 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers, Rising Stars

May 22, 2025

***The Legal Intelligencer* Recognizes Stradley Ronon in 2025 Pennsylvania Legal Awards**

April 18, 2025

Stradley Ronon Partner Michael Engle Receives 2025 Alan Jay Josel Advocacy Award from PACDL

April 10, 2025

Stradley Ronon Lawyers Named Among 2025 *Best Lawyers in America*

August 15, 2024

Stradley Ronon Hosts Pro Bono Fair for D.C. Regional Partner Organizations

June 13, 2024

Stradley Ronon Practices, Lawyers Recognized in *Chambers USA* 2024 Guide

June 6, 2024

Stradley Ronon Lawyers Selected as 2024 Pennsylvania Super Lawyers, Rising Stars

May 17, 2024

Stradley Ronon Hosts Pro Bono Fair Featuring Regional Partners

January 24, 2024

Stradley Ronon Partner Ashley Shapiro Moderates South Jersey Regional Economic Perspective Panel

December 7, 2023

Leading Litigation Partners Jan Folena and Ashley Shapiro Present Internal Investigations CLE Session

November 8, 2023

Stradley Ronon Team Secures Release of Wrongfully Convicted Man After 41 Years in Prison

October 26, 2023

Stradley Ronon Partner Ashley Shapiro Offers Internal Investigation Best Practices for Chamber of Commerce Southern New Jersey HR Resources

Council

September 29, 2023

Stradley Ronon Lawyers Named Among 2023 New York Super Lawyers Lists

September 22, 2023

Stradley Ronon Lawyers Named Among 2024 *Best Lawyers in America* and Ones to Watch Lists

August 17, 2023

Stradley Ronon Partner Moderates Chamber of Commerce Event in New Jersey

June 15, 2023

Stradley Ronon Hosts Continuing Legal Education Event on Cryptocurrency and Crypto Enforcement

June 15, 2023

Stradley Ronon Announces 2023 Super Lawyers and Rising Stars

May 19, 2023

Stradley Ronon Seeks to Deepen White-Collar, Securities Bench With Return of Phila. Duo

January 16, 2023

Law360 Covers Stradley Ronon White-Collar Duo

January 16, 2023

Stradley Ronon Welcomes Back White-Collar Duo Adds Significant Experience in Complex Litigation and Investigations and Names White-Collar Practice Group Co-Chairs

January 9, 2023