



# Charles A. DeMonaco

Senior Counsel

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A former Chair of the firm's White Collar Criminal Defense & Government Investigations Practice, Charles remains an active member of the group.

He has a broad practice that focuses on corporate internal investigations, securities investigations and litigation, commercial litigation, corporate compliance and governance, environmental law and white collar criminal defense. In addition to providing legal representation to both corporate and individual clients in the private sector, Charles is providing representation in federal civil litigation regarding restoration of the Florida Everglades.

In addition to his other legal work, Charles has or is representing clients in complex litigation, including allegations of breaches of fiduciary duties and corporate waste, federal securities fraud litigation, a *Bivens* cause of action against federal prosecutors, *Qui Tam* litigation, internal investigations and other commercial and white collar litigation.

Charles is also a member of the International Law Practice Group, ESG Practice Group and the Environmental Law Practice Group. He made a presentation in 2022 at the University of Verona in Italy on a comparative analysis of ESG in the European Union and in the United States. He made previous presentations at the University of Verona on topics relating to private international law and Cross-Border issues.

## Services

- Litigation
- White Collar Criminal Defense & Government Investigations
- Securities Industry
- International
- Environmental
- Law Firm Defense & Risk Management
- Directors' & Officers' Liability & Corporate Governance
- Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG)
- Italy

## Before Fox Rothschild

Charles was formerly a partner at Dickie, McCamey & Chilcote. Prior to that, he served as an Assistant District Attorney in Allegheny County for more than seven years, Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania for more than

six years, and as Assistant Chief of the Environmental Crimes Section of the U.S. Department of Justice in Washington, D.C., for more than nine years.

During his tenure with the Justice Department in Washington, D.C., Charles served as lead counsel for the United States in the criminal prosecution of *U.S. v. Exxon and Exxon Shipping Co.* for the massive 1989 Exxon Valdez Alaska oil spill. The criminal and civil settlements obtained by the government represented at the time the largest comprehensive settlement in the history of law enforcement. Charles has also prosecuted major environmental cases in Pittsburgh, Miami, Anchorage, San Juan and Washington, D.C.

While an Assistant U.S. Attorney, Charles was in the Narcotics and Organized Crimes Section and served as Chief of the Special Prosecutions and White Collar Crime Sections. He served as lead counsel for the United States Attorney's Office in Pittsburgh in the 1988 Ashland Oil spill, where the company was fined \$2.25 million after a tank collapse sent 700,000 gallons of diesel fuel into the Monongahela and Ohio Rivers.

## Beyond Fox Rothschild

Charles has made more than 50 professional presentations to government employees, the environmental regulated community and attorneys. He is the co-author of an article on corporate officer responsibility printed in the *Environmental Law Reporter*. In addition, he has been quoted in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times* and other national media.

Charles has served on faculties and made presentations and submitted papers to the American Bar Association, ALI-ABA, the Pacific Admiralty Conference, the Practising Law Institute, the Allegheny Bar Association and the Pennsylvania Bar Institute. He was profiled by the Environmental Law Institute in the *Environmental Forum* in March/April 1999 regarding his work on the *Exxon Valdez* litigation and his current practice. In addition, he was referred to by the Environmental Law Institute as "a father of parental liability" in corporate litigation matters.

He also served as moderator of the Corporate Legal Times Roundtable on the topic, "Corporations are Striving to do the Right Thing," published in November 1999. He was on the faculty of the ABA 23rd Annual National Institute on White Collar Crime in San Francisco, CA, in March 2009. In September 2009, he made a presentation to the Los Angeles County Bar Association, International Law Section, on the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act.

Additionally, Charles was cited by name in the U.S. Department of Justice's *Public Lands and National Treasures* publication celebrating the centennial anniversary of the Environmental and Natural Resources Division of the Justice Department, and featured as one of the agency's top cases of the past 100 years – the Exxon Valdez oil spill, the largest environmental settlement in the nation's history, totaling \$1.125 billion.

In recognition of Charles' intelligence, tenacity and integrity, as well as his unwavering efforts "to uphold the high ideals of justice and rule of law," Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Law *Honoris Causa*.

Charles joined the Adjunct Faculty at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in January 2003. He teaches Conflict of Laws. In March 2026, he taught "Law, Ideology, Science and Energy Project Finance" as a guest faculty instructor at Vanderbilt Law School.

## Client Resources

### Fox Rothschild e-Books

Business in a Global Society: A Guide to Understanding the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act

[Download Full e-Book \(pdf file\)](#)

## Bar Admissions

- Pennsylvania

## Court Admissions

- U.S. Supreme Court

- U.S. Court of Appeals, First Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit
- U.S. District Court, Western District of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court, Western District of New York
- U.S. District Court, District of Columbia
- U.S. District Court, District of Puerto Rico
- U.S. District Court, Middle District of Pennsylvania

## Education

- Ohio Northern University (J.D., 1974)
- University of Notre Dame (B.A., 1971)

## Memberships

- Federal Bar Association
- Executive Committee and Former President, American Inns of Court (University of Pittsburgh - W. Edward Sell Chapter)
- Allegheny County Bar Association
  - Chair, Amicus Curie Brief Committee
  - Federal Court Council (Former)
  - Nominating Committee (Former)
  - Past Chair and member, Hispanic Attorneys Committee
- Pennsylvania Bar Association
  - Committee of Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility
- American Bar Association
- National Italian American Bar Association
- The Justinian Society (Former)
- President of the Italy America Committee of Commerce Pennsylvania West Virginia (Former)

## Honors & Awards

- Recipient of numerous awards including the prestigious Attorney General's Distinguished Service Award, the U.S. Attorney Director's Award for Sustained Superior Service, the U.S. Department of Labor Award, the U.S. Department of Transportation – United States Coast Guard Meritorious Public Service Award, and the U.S. Department of Justice Special Achievement Award and Certificate of Commendation for three separate prosecutions
- Received letters of recognition from two Attorneys General and two FBI Directors
- Recognized by *Chambers USA* for Litigation: White Collar Crime & Government Investigations - Pennsylvania (2021-2025)
- Received a Doctor of Law *Honoris Causa* from Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law (2022)
- Selected to the "Lawyer of the Year" list for White Collar Criminal Defense in Pittsburgh, PA by *Best Lawyers* (2023)
- Selected to the "Best Lawyers in America" list for White Collar Criminal Defense (2009-2026) and Commercial Litigation (2015-2026) in Pittsburgh, PA by *Best Lawyers*
- Received the "El Sol" award from the Allegheny County Bar Association (2017)
- Selected to the "Pennsylvania Super Lawyers" list for Securities Litigation in Pittsburgh, PA (2007-2017)
- Named among the "Corporate Counsel Super Lawyers" in the area of Securities Litigation (2010)
- Martindale-Hubbell "AV" rated
- Received Eric W. Springer Professionalism Award from the W. Edward Sell Inn of Court