



## **JIM LETTEN**

### **New Orleans Office**

(504)-299-7777

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*Prior to joining the firm, Jim served continuously as the longest serving United States Attorney in the nation with almost 12 years of continuous service.*

## **PRACTICE AREAS AND INDUSTRY TEAMS**

- White Collar, Compliance and Government Investigations
- Appellate and Written Advocacy
- Civil Rights
- Immigration
- Catastrophic Events and Major Claims
- Tax Controversy
- Military and National Security Law
- Energy Industry Team

## **EXPERIENCE**

- Jim consults and provides representation on criminal and regulatory investigations by government agencies, as well as government audits, civil fraud cases and international trade and regulatory issues, including establishment of FCPA/UK Bribery Act corporate compliance and integrity programs, and training and monitoring for police and sheriff's departments on constitutional policing, as well as complex litigation.
- Deputy Monitor, Court-Appointed: City of Memphis/Memphis Police Department Federal Consent Decree (with Monitor, Ed Stanton – Butler Snow) (2018-Present)
- Assistant Dean, Experiential Learning, Tulane University School of Law (2013-2016): Responsible for oversight, development and expansion of all skills-based educational components of the law school, including moot court, law clinics, student externships, Intersession intensive training “boot camp”, trial advocacy program, capstone and skills-based legal courses and other related programs.
- United States Attorney (2001-2012): Served continuously as the longest serving United States Attorney in the nation with almost 12 years continuous service.
- First Assistant United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Louisiana (1994-2001): Supervised the daily operations of the United States Attorney's office. Additionally, served as the lead prosecutor in the investigation and four-month jury trial resulting in the conviction of former Louisiana Governor Edwin Edwards.

- Trial Attorney and Chief, US Department of Justice Organized Crime and Racketeering Strike Force, New Orleans, Louisiana (1982-1989): Strike Force cases involved complex criminal (RICO) offenses and investigations over 5 states, principally traditional organized crime (La Cosa Nostra/ Mafia), as well as labor racketeering, drug cartels, violent interstate/international gangs, and emerging/non-traditional/international organized crime.
- Assistant District Attorney, New Orleans District Attorney's Office (1980-1982, 1985-1986): Senior Assistant DA in 1981; Special Prosecutions (primarily corruption) in 1985 – 1986; Prosecuted all types of criminal cases, from misdemeanors to capital and complex white-collar and corruption offenses, including both political and law enforcement corruption.
- Military Experience
  - Retired Commander, U.S. Naval Reserve, 1984-2004
  - Served as a fully-credentialed NCIS Agent and Foreign Counter-Intelligence Officer (both Cold War and post-Cold War)
  - Assignments over 20 years included:
    - Squadron Intelligence Officer
    - Foreign Counter-Intelligence Officer assigned to both the Defense Intelligence Agency and the Office of Naval Intelligence
    - Fully-Credentialed NCIS Agent, with street counter-drug operations, numerous Presidential and Vice-Presidential Protective Service Details, and Counter neo-Nazi force protection in Europe
    - At U.S. European Command in Germany, drafted initial framework for permanent International War Crimes Tribunal

## BAR ADMISSIONS

- Louisiana, 1979

## DISTINCTIONS

- *Martindale-Hubbell*<sup>®</sup>
  - AV<sup>®</sup> - Preeminent<sup>™</sup> Peer Review Rated, 2003-Present
  - AV<sup>®</sup> - Preeminent<sup>™</sup> Attorney – Judicial, 2019
  - AV<sup>®</sup> - Preeminent<sup>™</sup> Attorney – Top 1%, 2019
- Commander (O-5), U.S. Navy Reserve, 1985-2005 (NCIS Officer-Agent)
- Torch of Liberty Award, Anti-Defamation League, 2010
- Superintendent's Special Achievement Award, New Orleans Police Department, 2012, 2015
- Special Appreciation Award, Sheriff Newell Normand, 2015
- Champion Award, New Orleans Family Justice Center, 2013
- Criminal Justice Lifetime Achievement Award, Crimestoppers, 2013
- Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award, Victims and Citizens Against Crime, 2013
- Commandant's Meritorious Public Service Award/Medal, United States Coast Guard, 2013
- Dr. Martin Luther King Junior Special Award, Louisiana Rescue Mission Fellowship, 2012

- Annual Citizen of the Year Honoree, American Heart Association, 2012
- *CityBusiness* Leader in Law, 2010, 2016
- Citizen of the Year, Southeast Louisiana Boy Scouts of America, 2010
- Distinguished Alumnus of the Year, University of New Orleans, 2008
- Medallion for Distinguished Service, United States Attorney General, 2006
- Distinguished Alumnus of the Year, University of New Orleans College of Liberal Arts, 2006
- Law Enforcement Professional of the Year Award, Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association (FLEOA), 2005
- Top Attorney in New Orleans, *New Orleans Magazine*, 2007
- Most Admired New Orleanian, *New Orleans Magazine*, 2008, 2009
- New Orleanian of the Year, *Gambit Magazine*, 2009
- Distinguished Service Award for Trial of Litigation, United States Attorney General, 2001
- Director's Award, United States Department of Justice Executive Office for United States Attorneys, 1996
- Task Force Award, FBI Organized Crime/State Police, 1995

## **ASSOCIATIONS**

- American Bar Association
  - Co-Chair, Criminal Justice Section
    - Computer Crime, Intellectual Property and Trade Secrets Subcommittee
- Louisiana State Bar Association
  - Board Member, Center for Law and Civic Education, 2002-2005
- Federal Bar Association
- National Association of Former United States Attorneys (NAFUSA)
- Military Order of Foreign Wars (Navy Veteran)
- Navy League – Greater New Orleans Chapter
  - Board Member
- New Orleans Metropolitan Crime Commission
  - Vice Chair
  - Executive Board Member
- New Orleans Police and Justice Foundation
  - Executive Board Member
- New Orleans Citizens' Diplomacy Council
  - Advisory Board Member
- New Orleans Crimestoppers
  - Executive Board Co-Chairman
- Court Watch New Orleans
  - Advisory Board Member
- Naval Reserve Association
- Old Salts and Assorted Spies – Retired Naval Intelligence Association
- World Trade Center – New Orleans
- GNO Inc. – Regional Economic Development Corporation
  - Member, Policy Committee

## EDUCATION & HONORS

- Tulane University, J.D., 1979
- University of New Orleans, B.A., Communications, 1976

## PAPERS, PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Author, “DOJ’s Yates Memorandum 5 Years Down the Road: Alive but is it Kicking? FCPA Enforcement of Individuals Post-‘Yates’,” ACC TN Q2 Newsletter, June 2020.
- Speaker, “Recent Developments and Trends in the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) and Global Anti-Corruption Efforts,” 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Yale Law School’s New Haven School of Jurisprudence and International Law, Hangzhou, China, June 2019.
- Panelist, “Current Trade Dispute Between the U.S. and China and Its Implications for Other Countries and Global Trade,” 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Yale Law School’s New Haven School of Jurisprudence and International Law, Hangzhou, China, June 2019.
- Speaker, “Crisis Response and Continuity of Operations,” Massachusetts Institute of Technology School of Architecture and Planning, November 19, 2018.
- Co-Author, “Customs System and the Law, Foreign Trade System and Law and Foreign Direct Investment System and Law,” *Essentials of the Laws of the Belt and Road Countries – Australia, U.K., U.S.*, 2017.
- Author, “The U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and the Importance of Anti-corruption Efforts in Trade Globalization,” *International Law Perspective of the Belt and Road Initiative*, 2015.
- Regular presenter and planner at the University of Texas Law School’s Government Enforcement Institute (GEI), speaks and moderates on relevant topics related to issues on corporate compliance and fraud.
- Co-Author, “U.S. Laws Affecting International Trade,” for an international publication in Chinese, English and other languages, as part of the “One Belt One Road Initiative,” 2016.
- Author, “The Yates Memo: What New Challenges to Expect,” *Law 360*, 2016.
- Author, “The U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and the Importance of International Anti-Corruption Efforts and Trade Globalization” published in Chinese, English, and numerous languages in the publication entitled *International Law Perspective of the One Belt One Road Initiative*, Hong Kong, 2015.
- Keynote speaker, “Combating Corruption,” National Conference of the National Association of Inspectors General, Detroit, October 2015.
- Speaker, “Topic,” JPSO Graduation, New Orleans, Louisiana, 2015.

- Speaker, "The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA)," One Belt, One Road International Trade Conference, Hong Kong City Law School, Hong Kong, July 2015.
- Author, "Crisis Response and Continuity of Operations: A Personal Account of My Experiences During and After Hurricane Katrina," *Tulane Law Review*, Vol. 87, No. 5 & 6, 2013.
- Co-Author, "USAO Crisis Management and Continuity of Operations During and After Disasters: A case study based on the Hurricane Katrina experience in the Eastern and Middle Districts of Louisiana," *Crisis Response and Related Litigation* 119, 143, 2009.
- Commencement Speaker, University of New Orleans, 2009.
- Keynote Speaker and Panel Conductor, "Conference on Transparency and Ethics: Towards an Accountable Society," (First Conference on Corruption in Eastern Europe following the Collapse of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact), Czech Republic, September 19, 2007.
- Commencement Speaker, University of New Orleans, College of Liberal Arts, 2006.

## **CIVIC INVOLVEMENT**

- Jefferson Parish Quality Assurance Review Committee of the Inspector General's Office, Committee Member
- Tulane University's Emergency and Security Studies Industry Advisory Board
- Tulane University Law School Alumni Association
- University of New Orleans Alumni Association, Selection Committee
- Boy Scouts of America Southeast Louisiana Council
  - President, 2016-Present
- De La Salle High School Alumni Association
- National World War II Museum, PT-305 Advisory Board
- Higgins Boat Society, Volunteer/Member, PT-305 Restoration Team, 2007-Present
- Court Watch New Orleans, Advisory Board Member
- Crescent Leadership Academy Charter School, Board Member, 2013-2018
- Louisiana Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), Board Member, 2002-2005