

DOWD BENNETT



Edward L. Dowd Jr.
Partner

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Edward L. Dowd Jr. is a litigator who defends corporations, professional service firms and individuals in high-stakes, complex civil, and **white collar criminal cases** and **investigations**. He represents clients with the U.S. Attorneys' Offices, the SEC, DOJ, EPA,, IRS, Health and Human Services and other federal and state agencies. In addition, Ed works with companies to strengthen corporate compliance in order to avoid the initial missteps that result in investigations and trials.

Ed's legal career includes years as a federal prosecutor and private practice litigator. He served as special counsel in the investigation of events surrounding the Branch Davidians in Waco. Ed knows the intricacies of investigations and litigation from the perspectives of the prosecutor, investigator and the person or company being pursued.

In 2017, Ed was named Fellow of the American Bar Foundation (ABF), an honorary organization of lawyers, judges, and legal scholars whose careers have demonstrated outstanding dedication to the welfare of their communities and to the highest principles of the legal profession.

Repeatedly recognized by industry publications for his work in white collar criminal defense, **commercial litigation** and corporate compliance, Ed was named *Best Lawyers*® 2016 Corporate Compliance Law "Lawyer of the Year" in St. Louis in 2016 and 2018. He is again included on the Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers list. Immediately prior to founding Dowd Bennett, Ed was a partner at Bryan Cave LLP, where he represented clients in corporate compliance and defense, healthcare, environmental and commercial litigation.

As the U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri, Ed set policy and supervised the professional and support staff in handling thousands of civil and criminal cases for the U.S. government.

Ed moderated a three-judge panel discussion, "Protecting the Record for Appeals," at the 2015 Bench & Bar Conference of The Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis. He is a past president of the National Association of Former United States Attorneys.



Representative Matters

- 1999–2000, assisted former Senator John C. Danforth as the Deputy Special Counsel in a fourteen month investigation of the government relating to the Waco tragedy.

Licensure

- Missouri

Education

- J.D., with Distinction, St. Mary's University, 1977
- B.A., Saint Louis University, Government, 1971
- Certified as a Mediator at University of Missouri Columbia School of Law, 2005

Government Service

- Deputy Special Counsel, John C. Danforth, Office of Special Counsel, Waco Investigation, 1999–2000
- U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri, 1993–1999
- Chair, Attorney General's Committee on Environmental Issues, 1995–1999
- Central Region of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force, Core City U.S. Attorney
- Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri, 1979–1984

Recognitions

- Fellow, American Bar Foundation
- Fellow, Litigation Counsel of America, The Trial Lawyer Honorary Society
- AV® Preeminent™ Peer Review Rated by Martindale-Hubbell, 1989-present
- Best Lawyers® 2016 Corporate Compliance Law “Lawyer of the Year” in St. Louis
- The National Association of Distinguished Counsel, 2015-2016
- *The Best Lawyers in America®*, 2007-2016
 - Criminal Defense: White-Collar, 2007-2016
 - Corporate Compliance Law, 2011-2016
 - Commercial Litigation, 2016
- Dedication Award – United States Attorney’s Office, Eastern District of Missouri, 2007
- Award of Achievement – Missouri Police Chiefs Association, 2000
- Public Service Award – Department of Justice, for Mississippi River Environmental Council, 1999
- Administrator’s Award for outstanding contributions to drug law enforcement – Drug Enforcement Administration, 1999
- Award for Distinguished Service – Department of Justice, 1999
- Commendation from United States Department of Justice – Drug Enforcement Administration, 1984
- Department of Justice Outstanding Service Award, 1984
- United States Treasury Department, in recognition of support to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, 1984
- Recognition of service to the U.S. Forest Service – Law Enforcement and Investigations Bureau of USDA

Civic Engagement

- Member, Diversity Law Institute
- The Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis – President, 2017-2018
- St. Louis Bank, Director, Founder and Chairman of the Audit Committee
- National Association of Former United States Attorneys, President, 2008
- Citizens for Missouri Courts – Trustee
- BackStoppers – President
- St. Louis Regional Crime Commission – President
- Downtown Children’s Center, Honorary Chair of Fundraising Drive

Get to know our attorneys

Dowd Bennett is a litigation firm with extensive courtroom experience. Led by trial-seasoned lawyers, including former federal prosecutors and judicial law clerks, our team shares tenacity, a passion for seeing cases through trial and a complete commitment to client service.

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