

Partner, Chicago

Litigation; White Collar Defense and Investigations



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Education

J.D., Loyola University Chicago
School of Law, 1997 (*cum laude*)

B.A., University of Illinois Urbana-
Champaign, 1994

Bar Admissions

Illinois

John Kocoras is a former federal prosecutor and an experienced trial lawyer whose practice focuses on internal investigations, government enforcement defense, complex litigation and compliance program development.

Prior to joining Skadden, Mr. Kocoras served two stints in the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Northern District of Illinois, including most recently as first assistant U.S. attorney for over four years, during which he supervised the Criminal and Civil divisions in federal investigations, trials and appeals, as well as previously as an assistant U.S. attorney earlier in his career. He has overseen cases involving white collar crimes, including securities violations, health care fraud and public corruption, as well as national security matters, cybercrimes and violent crimes, among other matters.

In addition to his government positions, Mr. Kocoras was previously a litigation partner at a global law firm and a managing director of a global investigations company, where he directly supervised investigators, forensic accountants and computer forensics professionals on Foreign Corrupt Practices Act matters and other international investigations.

Mr. Kocoras has worked as investigative counsel for the U.S. House of Representatives Judiciary Committee and as a law clerk to former Chief Judge James C. Cacheris of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia.

He has received numerous accolades for his work, including the Investigation of the Year Award from the National Health Care Anti-Fraud Association, the Award for Excellence from the President's Council for Integrity & Efficiency and the Inspector General's Integrity Award from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. Mr. Kocoras has also been recognized by *Chambers USA*, in which clients have described him as "a truly exceptional lawyer" who "never gets flustered and is thoughtful and strategic." Additionally, he has been named one of *Lawdragon's* 500 Leading Global Litigators, 500 Leading Litigators in America, 500 Leading Global Investigations Lawyers and 500 Global Leaders in Crisis Management, as well as recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America* in its Commercial Litigation category.

Mr. Kocoras served as contributing editor of *Lexology's* "Government Investigations" 2025 Panoramic guide, authoring the Global Overview and USA chapters.