

Matthew Gillespie

Associate

gillespie.matthew@dorsey.com

Minneapolis – 612.492.5060



Matthew Gillespie combines his years of experience leading multimillion-dollar investigations for the U.S. Department of Justice with his expertise in Medicaid, False Claims Act, Anti-Kickback Statute, grants compliance, administrative appeals and government contracts to defend clients against investigations and enforcement actions.

Matthew's inside-government perspective is invaluable in guiding clients as they navigate high-stakes federal and state investigations. Matthew is a former assistant United States attorney (AUSA) and U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) trial attorney whose practice centers on defending clients in False Claims Act (FCA) and Anti-Kickback Statute investigations and litigation, administrative appeals, and broader civil and criminal federal investigations.

Matthew leverages his experience leading investigations for DOJ's Civil Rights Division, Educational Opportunities Section, to advise public and private R1 universities, academic research institutions, and other federal and state grant recipients on grants compliance, disputes, and strategy, as well as FERPA, civil rights, and other compliance matters. His government contracting work includes representing contractors in bid protests and disputes, and he counsels clients on interactions with federal, state, and local agencies, including Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and open records requests, grant administration, and regulatory compliance.

Before joining Dorsey & Whitney, Matthew served as a trial attorney in DOJ's Civil Rights Division, where he enforced federal civil rights laws against state and local agencies and took a leading role in the Division's flagship litigation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). He also led education-related civil rights investigations nationwide. Before joining "Main Justice," Matthew led nationwide and regional False Claims Act investigations as an AUSA, serving as his office's healthcare fraud coordinator and affirmative civil enforcement coordinator. Earlier in his career, Matthew served as the state of Iowa's lead Medicaid policy counsel, advising the state Medicaid program on

Education

- Washington University in St. Louis School of Law (J.D., 2016)
 - *cum laude*, Hitchcock Award for Outstanding Writing, Washington University Journal of Law and Policy, Exec. Articles Editor
- Creighton University (B.A., Journalism, Media & Computing, 2013)
 - *magna cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- Minnesota
- Iowa

compliance, regulations, eligibility, and program litigation, and regularly argued before state and federal trial and appellate courts.

Select Experience

- Represented healthcare company in federal False Claims Act investigation involving coverage and utilization management practices.
- Represented healthcare clinic in defense of state investigation related to compliance with operational standards for nonprofits.
- Represented healthcare provider in federal administrative appeal challenging a multimillion-dollar Medicare overpayment assessment and related recoupment.
- As attorney for the United States, obtained millions of dollars in False Claims Act and Anti-Kickback Statute settlements from healthcare providers, defense contractors, importers, government contractors, and others.

Professional Affiliations

- Policy Fellow, University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs
- Member, Minnesota State Bar Association
- Member, Federal Bar Association
- Member, American Health Law Association

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Federal Claims
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Iowa
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Iowa
- U.S. District Court for the District of Nebraska

Charitable & Civic Involvement

- School Committee (Board) Member, Scattergood Friends School, West Branch, IA (2021-2024)

Accolades

- Commendation, US Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, 2022

Additional Information

Legal Writing

Shifting Automotive Landscapes: Privacy and the Right to Travel in the Era of Autonomous Motor Vehicles, 50 WASH. U. J.L. & POL'Y 147 (2016)

Select Speaking Engagements

- Panelist, *One Year In: Higher Education Enforcement Under the Second Trump Administration*, Higher Education Summit (March 5, 2026)
- Panelist, *The False Claims Act in the Second Trump Administration: Coercive*

Certifications and Healthcare Enforcement, Minnesota State Bar Association Health Law Section (November 5, 2025)

- Panelist, *Certifications & the Trump Administration – Vagueness and Good Faith as FCA Defenses?* FCA Forum (September 18, 2025)
 - Co-Presenter, *Above and Beyond the Workplace – What to Do When an Investigation Reveals Criminal Misconduct*, Minnesota CLE (August 12, 2025)
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Insights

July 27, 2026

Court Declares Unlawful Federal Grant Terminations Based on Changes to “Program Goals or Agency Priorities”

June 3, 2026

More Federal Funding Changes on Tap: OMB Proposes Uniform Guidance Overhaul

May 4, 2026

Is There FCA Risk in Your Public Data? DOJ Launches the “FOCUS” Initiative, Formalizing Engagement with Data Miner Relators

March 30, 2026

New DEI-Focused Executive Order Implements Expansive Audit Authority and Imposes DEI Certification Obligations on All Federal Contractors, Subcontractors

February 23, 2026

DOJ Doubles Down on Antidiscrimination FCA Claims, Identifies Problematic Practices

January 22, 2026

False Claims Act Settlements and Judgments Set New Record, Exceeding \$6.8 Billion in FY 2025

January 20, 2026

DOJ Sues Minnesota Over Affirmative Action, Certifies Case for Early SCOTUS Fight on Title VII Precedent

December 30, 2025

Justice Department Eliminates Disparate-Impact Liability Under Title VI

November 25, 2025

Department of Education Announces Six New Interagency Partnerships Aimed at “Breaking Up the Federal Education Bureaucracy”

November 18, 2025

The Court of Federal Claims and the Trump Administration's Contract and Grant Terminations: A Primer for Federal Grantees and Contractors

October 13, 2025

White House Proposes "Compact" With Nine Universities, Seeking Administrative Concessions for Access to Federal Funds

October 2, 2025

DOJ Creates New "Enforcement & Affirmative Litigation Branch" to Enforce "Federal Policies"

September 12, 2025

DOJ Signals Civil, Criminal Enforcement of "Parental Rights" in Education

August 12, 2025

More Change to Federal Grant Administration: Political Appointees Overseeing Grantmaking? Uniform Guidance Changes? And Indirect Rate Caps?

August 8, 2025

DOJ's New Anti-Discrimination Guidance: Pushing the Legal Envelope?