

Michelle A. Freeman

Senior Counsel

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Michelle A. Freeman is a Senior Counsel at Foley & Lardner LLP, focusing on high-stakes investigations and complex litigation. She is a member of the firm's Government Enforcement Defense & Investigations, Antitrust, and Business Litigation & Dispute Resolution practices. Michelle represents corporations and individuals in criminal, antitrust, and regulatory matters, guiding clients through complex government investigations and white-collar defense involving the U.S. Department of Justice, state Attorneys General, the Environmental Protection Agency, and other enforcement bodies. She leads internal corporate investigations to uncover and address potential legal exposure—often before government authorities become involved—and counsels clients on proactive compliance measures to minimize future risk. In addition to her investigations work, Michelle represents clients in a broad spectrum of commercial litigation, delivering strategic counsel in sensitive disputes.

Michelle was a summer associate with Foley in 2014. Prior to joining Foley, she participated in the Geneva Fellowship Program at the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights where she worked on the implementation and enforcement of the United Nations Human Trafficking Protocol. Michelle has held positions as an intern for the U.S. Attorney's Office and judicial intern for the Honorable Judge John W. Darrah, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Michelle worked for several years as a senior policy and advocacy specialist for an international women's organization where she focused on the congressional appropriations process and authorizing domestic and international antiviolence initiatives connected to the Violence Against Women Act and related state and federal legislation.

Representative Experience

- Represented healthcare company in a U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) criminal antitrust investigation, helping the client secure immunity from prosecution through participation in the Antitrust Division Leniency Program and avoid civil liability
- Conducted an internal investigation for an industrial equipment manufacturer, evaluated antitrust violations and exposure across multiple jurisdictions and advised on remediation efforts with third-

parties

- Represented several healthcare companies in responding to DOJ civil investigative demands (CID) regarding potential antitrust violations. Successfully resolved these matters with no further actions taken against the companies
- Served as pool defense counsel for multiple employees in criminal and civil proceedings conducted by federal and state agencies, regarding environmental emissions from certain automobiles relating to alleged defeat devices, and represented employees in the related multidistrict civil litigation
- Represented advertising agency in a DOJ criminal antitrust investigation, helping the client avoid criminal and civil liability
- Represented employee in a federal criminal investigation into potential corruption in dealings between an automotive company and the United Auto Workers union
- Represented hospital in a civil dispute with a subcontracting physician health care group
- Investigated allegedly stolen manufacturing goods and represented the company in related state and federal investigations, helping the client avoid any criminal or civil liability

Awards and Recognition

- Received, *Best Lawyers®: Ones to Watch* recognition for:
 - Commercial Litigation (2022-2024)
 - Government Relations Practice (2021-2024)
 - Alternative Dispute Resolution (2024)

Presentations and Publications

- Co-author, "Members of Congress Call for DOJ to Investigate Possible Antitrust Violations in Oil Industry," *Foley Insights* (June 18, 2024)
- Co-author, "[Growing Scrutiny of Private Equity in Health Care](#)," *Foley Forward: Trends 2023* (March 30, 2023)
- Co-author, "[Prepare For Extraterritorial Enforcement Of US Antitrust Law](#)," *Law 360* (March 30, 2023)
- Co-author, "[Navigating DOJ's Fresh Focus On Criminal Monopoly Charges](#)," *Law 360* (February 2, 2023)
- *PLI Audit Committee Deskbook 2022 & 2023*
- Co-author, "[Sentencing Guidelines: Third Circuit Rejects Use of 'Intended' Loss in Favor of 'Actual' Loss](#)," *Health Care law Today* (December 16, 2022)
- Co-author, "[Procurement Collusion Strike Force Acts Broadly and Often in 2022](#)," *Foley Insights* (October 20, 2022)
- Co-author, "[Antitrust Division Announces Update to Its Leniency Program and Revamps Answers to Frequently Asked Questions](#)," *Foley Insights* (April 5, 2022)
- Practical Law – Multiple Representation of Individuals: Acting As Pool Counsel (Subscription required)
- Co-author, "Bracing For The Next Wave Of Health Care Enforcement," *Law360* (May 11, 2021)
- Co-author, "Multiple Representation of Individuals Acting as Pool Counsel," *Thomson Reuters® Practical Law* (June 2020)

- Co-author, “A Checklist for Managing a Dawn Raid in India,” *The Anti-Corruption Report* (April 17, 2019)
- Co-author, “How to Prepare for the Possibility of a Dawn Raid in India,” *The Anti-Corruption Report* (February 20, 2019)

Sectors

- [Automotive](#)
- [Health Care & Life Sciences](#)
- [Manufacturing](#)
- [Providers of Health Care Services](#)
- [Racial Justice & Equity](#)
- [Supply Chain](#)

Practice Areas

- [Commercial Litigation](#)
- [Labor & Employment](#)
- [Litigation](#)

Education

- Michigan Law School (J.D., 2014)
 - Geneva Fellowship Program at the United Nations Office, High Commissioner for Human Rights
 - Notes Editor, *The Michigan Journal of International Law*
 - Chaired, Street Law – Safe House Domestic Violence Shelter
- The George Washington University (B.A., magna cum laude, 2008)
 - Graduated Phi Beta Kappa
 - Presidential Academic Scholarship
 - Legislative Coordinator, Student Global AIDS Campaign
 - Executive Vice President, The National Society of Collegiate Scholars
 - Founder of the Global Voices HIV/AIDS, a nonprofit focused on increasing student political awareness and activism
 - Member, Alpha Delta Pi Sorority

Admissions

- Michigan
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Michigan