




Tino M. Lisella

OF COUNSEL

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Overview

Tino Lisella is a former FINRA enforcement director and former federal tax prosecutor. Tino's practice focuses on securities enforcement, civil and criminal tax controversy, and white collar litigation. He represents individuals and entities in complex securities matters and government investigations, as well as regulatory investigations and enforcement. Tino has firsthand knowledge of the boots-on-the-ground strategies and priorities that prosecutors and FINRA enforcement attorneys use to build their cases and the most effective strategies to defend against them.

Before entering private practice, Tino spent nearly a decade at the U.S. Department of Justice, Tax Division, and more than five years at FINRA. He served as a director and principal counsel in FINRA's enforcement department, responsible for supervising investigations involving sales practice violations of complex products, including syndicated conservation easements, variable annuities, and leveraged and inverse exchange-traded funds, and large-scale investigations involving anti-money laundering violations. He also served as a trial attorney and then assistant chief of the DOJ's criminal tax division, where he led high-profile investigations and federal criminal tax prosecutions, including the prosecution of California businessman Masud Sarshar, who concealed more than \$23.5 million in undeclared Israeli bank accounts.

Tino has significant experience in matters involving vulnerable adults and elderly customers.

Earlier in his career, Tino was a certified public accountant and tax consultant with a Big Four accounting firm.

Areas of Focus

Practices

- Securities Litigation and Enforcement
- Criminal Tax
- Financial Services Regulatory
- Cybersecurity and Privacy
- White Collar Crime & Government Investigations
- Tax Litigation & Controversy
- Digital and E-Commerce Engagement and Innovation
- Internal Investigations

Industries

- Securities & Investment Companies

Insights

01.18.2024

FINRA Issues 2024 Annual Regulatory Oversight Report

09.28.2023

Against All Odds Alpine Wins Important Injunction Against FINRA

08.25.2023

The Hits Keep Coming for FINRA, Closing Out a Brutal Summer

07.07.2023

D.C. Circuit Deals Shocking Blow to FINRA Enforcement

05.25.2023

AML Whistleblowers Now Have More Appetizing Options

02.16.2023

SEC and CFTC Fines for Texting Augur Billions More from DOJ

01.19.2023

FINRA Issues 2023 Report on Examination and Risk Monitoring Program

11.02.2022

FINRA Issues New Guidance on Succession Planning as Population of Registered Representatives Ages

10.20.2022

Financial Services Cyber Fraud: The Latest Risks and Best Responses

10.07.2022

Regulation S-ID: Financial Institutions Take Note

News

03.14.2024

Tino Lisella Quoted in Financial Planning: “A 'Kinder, Gentler' FINRA — Despite Collecting \$89M in Fines”

01.18.2024

Tino Lisella Quoted in USA Today: “How Hunter Biden's Drug Addiction Could Be a Bedrock of His Legal Defense on Tax Charges”

11.01.2023

Tino Lisella Quoted in Financial Planning: “FINRA Fights for Life in 'Existential Threat' D.C. Court Case”

09.13.2022

Carlton Fields Bolsters Securities Litigation & Enforcement Practice With Addition of Former FINRA Director and DOJ Assistant Chief Tino M. Lisella

Speaking Engagements

- "FINRA Enforcement: Hot Issues and Current Trends, FINRA Arbitration, Enforcement, and Compliance Regional CLE Program, American Bar Association, Fort Lauderdale, FL (February 23, 2024)
- "Proving the Case: How to Defend a Deposits Case," ABA 40th Annual National Institute on Criminal Tax Fraud and 13th Annual National Institute on Tax Controversy, Las Vegas, NV (December 8, 2023)
- "From Chatbots to Fraudbots – An Update on Fraud," 2023 ACLI Compliance & Legal Sections Annual Meeting, Las Vegas, NV (July 18, 2023)

Credentials

Education

- Stetson University College of Law (J.D., magna cum laude, 2007)
 - Editor, *Stetson Law Review*
- Florida State University (MAcc, 2003)
- Florida State University (B.S., magna cum laude, 2002)

Court Admissions

- U.S. Court of Federal Claims

Bar Admissions

- Florida
- New Jersey

Background

- Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (2017–2022)
 - Director, Department of Enforcement, Boca Raton, FL (2018–2022)
 - Principal Counsel, Department of Enforcement, Rockville, MD (2017–2018)
- U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. (2007–2017)
 - Assistant Chief, Criminal Tax Division (2015–2017)
 - Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General, Tax Division (2013–2014)
 - Special Assistant U.S. Attorney, Southern District of New York (2012–2017)
 - Trial Attorney (2007–2014)