



Faith Gay

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Faith Gay is a founding partner at Selendy Gay.

In a nationally recognized career spanning more than three decades, Faith has been lead counsel in over 35 jury trials and has successfully navigated bet-the-company crises and investigations for scores of Fortune 500 companies. Before founding Selendy Gay, Faith was co-chair of the national trial practice at one of the country's top litigation firms and a highly respected federal prosecutor. Raised in rural Georgia and a resident of New York City, Faith is comfortable in courtrooms around the country.

Faith was recently named one of "America's Top 200 Lawyers" by *Forbes* and a "Litigation Trailblazer" by the *National Law Journal*. She is a two-time recipient of *Crain's* "100 Notable Women in Law" award, and on *Crain's* list of "Notable LGBTQIA+ Leaders." The Office of the Appellate Defender presented Faith with the prestigious Gould Award for Outstanding Appellate Advocacy in 2019. She is highly rated by *Chambers* (in Commercial Litigation, Government Investigations, and White-Collar matters) and is ranked among The Best Lawyers in America by *Best Lawyers* (in the Commercial Litigation, Corporate Governance Law, and Criminal Defense: White Collar categories). Faith is a long-time recipient of top litigation awards, including the Lawdragon 500, *Benchmark's* "Litigation Stars" and "Top 250 Women in Litigation," *Super Lawyers*, and many others.

Chambers lists Faith as one of the country's top litigators, citing "significant praise for her work in high-stakes litigation covering commercial claims, white-collar issues and matters of constitutional law." Clients have touted her "extraordinary feel for litigation," saying: "I've never met a lawyer like her; she combines so many talents in a single human body. She's incredibly responsive, unbelievably insightful, and her advice is always sound."

In naming her a "Top Female Trial Lawyer," *Law360* described Faith as "a great litigator" with "a kind of magnetic charisma, a likeability and intelligence that allow her to present complicated cases in a way that disarms tough judges, hostile witnesses, and skeptical jury members."

Faith is a former chief of the Civil Rights Unit (Criminal Division) and deputy chief of the Special Prosecutions Unit in the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. With deep experience in plaintiff and defense matters, she divides her time between complex civil litigation, [corporate governance](#), and [white-collar and regulatory investigations](#).

In her commercial practice, she focuses on complex contractual and financial instrument disputes, securities, antitrust and bankruptcy litigation, intellectual property disputes, and consumer class actions. She also has extensive experience in Board and Special Committee assignments, representation of C-Suite executives and high net worth individuals in corporate and family law matters, and first and foremost, in resolving litigation that is seriously compromised and requires emergency re-shaping. Her long roster of high-profile clients that she has served as national or lead trial counsel includes the American Federation of Teachers, Bausch, Bridgewater, Coca-Cola, Colgate, Domtar, Edge & Node, E-Trade, Home Depot, MacAndrews & Forbes, McKinsey & Company, Novartis, Nuance, Pfizer, Regeneron, Revlon, Sandoz, and Schwab.

In her white-collar practice, Faith has represented individuals and corporations in investigations by the SEC, FINRA, DOJ, FDA, IRS, EPA, DOD, and numerous state attorneys general. She has led internal investigations at the request of corporations, boards of directors, and special committees. No individual or corporation that Faith has represented while under investigation has been indicted, pleaded guilty, or forced to accept deferred prosecution.

Representative Matters

- In a three-week trial in the Delaware Court of Chancery on fraud and breach of contract claims, obtained a complete defense verdict for a national communications conglomerate.
- Represented a global management consulting firm in defending RICO and bankruptcy fraud claims in the Southern District of New York, the Southern District of Texas, the Eastern District of Virginia, and the District of Delaware. All but one case was dismissed.
- Represented CEO and founder of a national non-profit unjustly terminated from the organization she founded and obtained reparations for her mistreatment.
- Represented a series of high-profile female executives whose positions have been wrongly threatened in litigation. None of these claims have been successful.
- Obtained settlement of a nationwide class action on behalf of student loan borrowers against one of the country's largest student loan servicers. In approving the settlement, the presiding judge wrote, "the class has achieved a significant benefit" which will "have a profound impact on all public service employees."
- In multiple Alien Tort Claims Act cases filed in New York and Florida federal courts, obtained complete dismissals for a Fortune 500 consumer products company.
- In state and federal securities class actions concerning payment-for-order flow allegations, obtained complete dismissals for a nationally known discount brokerage concern.
- Represented a biotechnology company in obtaining dismissal of a patent infringement suit brought by a multinational pharmaceutical company that sought over \$500 million in damages.
- Represented high net worth individuals in matrimonial actions involving cutting edge legal issues in connection with prenuptial agreements and asset division.
- In FCPA investigations by the Department of Justice and SEC, obtained complete declinations for a Fortune 500 consumer conglomerate and related individuals.
- In defending a Fortune 500 consumer products company, obtained a key appellate ruling from an en banc panel of the Fourth Circuit that federal judges may vacate otherwise unappealable remand orders where there is evidence of attorney fraud associated with the remand.
- Represented a medical device company subject to a U.S. Department of Justice investigation related to insurance reimbursement claims it submitted on behalf of customers covered by federal employee health plans.
- Represented a major academic institution in an internal investigation of a high-profile apparent hate crime on the school's campus. The firm was hired to analyze the schools' overall security systems and safety compliance protocols, and to recommend changes to those systems and protocols.

Faith has also devoted significant time and energy to public interest litigation. She recently obtained a complete reversal of Marissa Alexander's conviction and mandatory 20-year sentence for allegedly firing a warning shot at her serially abusive spouse. She co-founded the American Immigration Representation Project to provide lawyers to immigrant detainees in response to new federal immigration and deportation policies. Faith also represented New York Governor David Patterson in a victory the *New York Times*

called “stunning” in upholding the appointment of Richard Ravitch as Lieutenant Governor. She has litigated numerous other civil rights, criminal, immigration, and voting rights matters on a pro bono basis.

Affiliations & Community Involvement

Faith earned her J.D. from the Northwestern University School of Law, where she serves on the Law Board Executive Committee and the Law Dean Search Committee. She is a Trustee of the Public Theater, a member of the American Law Institute, and serves as a board member of the American Constitution Society, Campaign Legal Center, the Clark Foundation, and Union Theological Seminary.

Education

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law

(J.D., 1986)

Chair, National Moot Court Board; Adlai E. Stevenson Moot Court Championship Team

Duke University

(B.A., Public Policy Studies, 1982)

Angier B. Duke Scholar

Yale Divinity School

(M.Div., 2019)

Prior Associations

Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan

Partner, Co-Head of National Trial Practice, 2006-2018

White & Case

Partner, 2001-2006

Sidley Austin

Partner, 1997-2001

United States Attorney's Office, Eastern District of New York

Deputy Chief, Special Prosecutions Unit and Chief, Civil Rights Unit (Criminal Division), 1994-1996

Assistant U.S. Attorney, Criminal Division, 1990-1993

Admissions

- State Bar of New York
- State Bar of Florida
- State Bar of Illinois
- State Bar of Texas
- United States Supreme Court
- United States Courts of Appeals: D.C. Circuit, First Circuit, Second Circuit, Third Circuit, Fourth Circuit, Fifth Circuit, Sixth Circuit, Seventh Circuit, Eighth Circuit, Ninth Circuit, Tenth Circuit, Eleventh Circuit
- United States District Courts: Southern District of New York, Eastern District of New York, Southern District of Florida, Northern District of Florida, Middle District of Florida, Northern District of Illinois, Eastern District of Texas