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## THE VERDICT

## IS IN

OUR 2015 LIST OF TOP ATTORNEYS—INCLUDING CRIMINAL DEFENDERS, DIVORCE LAWYERS, ESTATE PLANNERS, AND PERSONAL-INJURY EXPERTS—IN 21 CATEGORIES

BY MARISA M. KASHINO

**WASHINGTON HAS A HIGHER CONCENTRATION OF PEOPLE WITH JDs** than anywhere else in the country, which means you're probably out of luck if you want to pick a fight with the homeowners' association over landscaping rules—chances are the HOA president litigates much higher-stakes matters for a living. Also, you should really keep your voice down if you must tell that lawyer joke while riding Metro. Finally, it means this list is pretty tough to compile.

Nonetheless, we give it our best effort every other year. We started the 2015 process over the summer, with a survey of the nearly 1,000 attorneys recognized on our 2013 list, asking whom they consider the

best among their peers. We then added more research and reporting, contacting still more lawyers and reading up on notable recent successes of the local bar. We've trimmed several categories as well as increased and added others since the last go-round, so this isn't a repeat of what you saw then. Where location isn't mentioned, the attorney practices in DC, and where a firm isn't listed, the lawyer is a solo practitioner. Though it's impossible not to miss some deserving folks, what follows is a directory of much of Washington's top legal talent in 21 practice specialties.

### CRIMINAL DEFENSE, WHITE COLLAR

Embattled pols, CEOs, and others accused of financial crimes count on these.

#### ALICE FISHER

*Latham & Watkins*

#### KATHRYN RUEMLER

*Latham & Watkins*

### CYBERSECURITY

Clients tap these experts to advise on data protection, privacy law, and cyberattacks.

#### JENNIFER ARCHIE

*Latham & Watkins*

### SUPREME COURT

These attorneys—the best for persuading the nine justices—directly influence the laws of our land.

#### GREGORY GARRE

*Latham & Watkins*

### TAX

These experts help individuals and companies handle the IRS.

#### NICHOLAS DENOVIDO

*Latham & Watkins*

#### MIRIAM FISHER

*Latham & Watkins*

### WHISTLE-BLOWERS

These lawyers protect those who call out employers on misconduct; a few defend against claims.

#### ROGER GOLDMAN

*Latham & Watkins*

*(defense)*