

**UNITED STATES SENATE
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY**

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NON-JUDICIAL NOMINEES

PUBLIC

1. **Name**: State full name (include any former names used).

Adam Francis Sleeper

2. **Position**: State the position for which you have been nominated.

United States Attorney, District of the Virgin Islands, U.S. Department of Justice

3. **Address**: List current office address. If city and state of residence differs from your place of employment, please list the city and state where you currently reside.

Office:

United States Attorney's Office, District of the Virgin Islands
5500 Veterans Drive, Suite 260
St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00802

4. **Birthplace**: State date and place of birth.

1988; Portland, Maine

5. **Education**: List in reverse chronological order each college, law school, or any other institution of higher education attended and indicate for each the dates of attendance, whether a degree was received, and the date each degree was received.

Cornell Law School, 2011-2014
J.D. – May 2014

Connecticut College, 2008-2011
B.A. – May 2011

University of Southern Maine, 2007-2008, Summer Session 2009, Winter Session 2010-2011
No degree received

6. **Employment Record**: List in reverse chronological order all governmental agencies, business or professional corporations, companies, firms, or other enterprises, partnerships, institutions or organizations, non-profit or otherwise, with which you have been affiliated as an officer, director, partner, proprietor, or employee since graduation from college, whether or not you received payment for your services. Include the name

and address of the employer and job title or description.

September 2019 – Present

United States Attorney's Office

District of the Virgin Islands

5500 Veterans Drive, Suite 260

St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands 00802

Acting United States Attorney, April 2025 – Present

First Assistant United States Attorney, December 2024 – Present

Appellate Chief, September 2021 – Present

Appellate Coordinator, December 2019 – September 2021

Assistant United States Attorney, September 2019 – Present

November 2020 – June 2022

Detailee (part-time, remote)

United States Attorney's Office

Eastern District of Oklahoma

500 Denison Avenue

Muskogee, Oklahoma 74401

August 2018 – August 2019

Judicial Law Clerk

United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit

Chambers of Judge Joel Carson III

400 East College Boulevard, Suite C

Roswell, New Mexico 88201

September 2017 – August 2018

Judicial Law Clerk

District Court of the Virgin Islands

Chambers of Judge Curtis Gomez

5500 Veterans Drive, Suite 360

St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands 00802

September 2016 – September 2017

Associate

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom

500 Boylston Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02116

August 2014 – August 2016

Judicial Law Clerk

District Court of the Virgin Islands

Chambers of Judge Curtis Gomez

5500 Veterans Drive, Suite 360

St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands 00802

January 2014 (estimated) – May 2014 (estimated)
Extern (Unpaid)
Tompkins County District Attorney's office
320 North Tioga Street
Ithaca, New York 14850

May 2013 – July 2013
Summer Associate
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom
One Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

January 2013 (estimated) – May 2013 (estimated)
Tutor
Cornell Law School
Myron Taylor Hall
524 College Avenue
Ithaca, New York 14853

May 2012 – August 2012
Summer Associate
Perkins Thompson
One Canal Plaza, Ninth Floor
Portland, Maine 04101

June 2011– August 2011
Alumni Admissions Fellow
Connecticut College Admissions Office
270 Mohegan Avenue
New London, Connecticut 06230

7. **Military Service and Draft Status:** Identify any service in the U.S. Military, including dates of service, branch of service, rank or rate, serial number (if different from social security number) and type of discharge received, and whether you have registered for selective service.

I have not served in the U.S. military. I have registered for selective service.

8. **Honors and Awards:** List any scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, academic or professional honors, honorary society memberships, military awards, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievement.

The Attorney General's Award for Outstanding Contributions by a New Employee,
United States Department of Justice, 2022

Graduated *cum laude*, Cornell Law School, 2014

CALI Award for highest grade in Estate Planning, Cornell Law School, 2014

Senior Online Editor - Cornell Law Review, Cornell Law School, 2013 – 2014

Associate - Cornell Law Review, Cornell Law School, 2012 – 2013

Charles Evan Hughes Scholar, Cornell Law School, 2013

Graduated *cum laude*, Connecticut College, 2011

Pi Sigma Alpha, Connecticut College, 2011

9. **Bar Associations:** List all bar associations or legal or judicial-related committees, selection panels or conferences of which you are or have been a member, and give the titles and dates of any offices which you have held in such groups.

District Court of the Virgin Islands Local Federal Rules Advisory Committee (2020)

10. **Bar and Court Admission:**

- a. List the date(s) you were admitted to the bar of any state and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership.

Massachusetts, April 2015

There have been no lapses in membership.

- b. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice, including dates of admission and any lapses in membership. Please explain the reason for any lapse in membership. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require special admission to practice.

United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit (May 2019)

United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts (January 2017)

District Court of the Virgin Islands (September 2019)

There have been no lapses in membership.

11. **Memberships:**

- a. List all professional, business, fraternal, scholarly, civic, charitable, or other organizations, other than those listed in response to Questions 9 or 10 to which you belong, or to which you have belonged, since graduation from law school.

Provide dates of membership or participation, and indicate any office you held. Include clubs, working groups, advisory or editorial boards, panels, committees, conferences, or publications.

The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies (2025 – Present)

Pi Sigma Alpha (2011 – Present)

- b. Indicate whether any of these organizations listed in response to 11a above currently discriminate or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies. If so, describe any action you have taken to change these policies and practices.

To my knowledge, none of these organizations discriminates or formerly discriminated on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin either through formal membership requirements or the practical implementation of membership policies.

12. Published Writings and Public Statements:

- a. List the titles, publishers, and dates of books, articles, reports, letters to the editor, editorial pieces, or other published material you have written or edited, including material published only on the Internet. Supply four (4) copies of all published material to the Committee.

I have done my best to identify all books, articles, letters to the editor, editorial pieces and other published material, including through a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. Despite my searches, there may be other materials that I have been unable to identify, find, or remember. I have located the following:

Written

International and Territorial Border Searches: The Border Search Exception as Applied in the United States Territories of the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and Puerto Rico, DEP'T OF JUST. J. OF FED. L. & PRAC. (co-author with Gretchen C. F. Shappert). Copies supplied.

Economic Pressure on Mortgage Servicers in Mandatory Foreclosure Mediation, DISP. RES. J., Apr. 2014, at 49. Copies supplied.

Edited

Brandon L. Garrett, *Habeas Corpus and Due Process*, 98 Cornell L. Rev. 47 (2012). Copies supplied.

Kristin Henning, *Criminalizing Normal Adolescent Behavior in Communities of Color: The Role of Prosecutors in Juvenile Justice Reform*, 98 Cornell L. Rev. 383 (2013). Copies supplied.

Alex Raskolnikov, *Accepting the Limits of Tax Law and Economics*, 98 Cornell L. Rev. 523 (2013). Copies Supplied.

Oona A. Hathaway, Spencer Amdur, Celia Choy, and Samir Deger-Sen, *The Treaty Power: Its History, Scope and Limits*, 98 Cornell L. Rev. 239 (2013). Copies Supplied.

Angela Chang, *Demystifying Conceptual Severance: A Comparative Study of the United States, Canada, and the European Court of Human Rights*, 98 Cornell L. Rev. 965 (2013). Copies supplied.

Robert B. Thompson and Donald C. Langevoort, *Redrawing the Public-Private Boundaries in Entrepreneurial Capital Raising*, 98 Cornell L. Rev. 1573 (2013). Copies supplied.

Catherine L. Fisk and Erwin Chemerinsky, *Political Speech and Association Rights after Knox v. Seiu, Local 1000*, 98 Cornell L. Rev. 1023 (2013). Copies supplied.

Thomas F. Cotter, *The International Trade Commission: Reform or Abolition? A Comment on Colleen V. Chien & Mark A. Lemley, Patent Holdup, the ITC, and the Public Interest*, 98 Cornell Law Review Online 43 (2013). Copies supplied.

Robert Hockett, *Accidental Suicide Pacts and Creditor Collective Action Problems: The Mortgage Mess, the Deadweight Loss, and How to Get the Value Back*, 98 Cornell L. Rev. Online 55 (2013). Copies supplied.

Joanna Shepherd, *Is More Information Always Better? Mandatory Disclosure Regulations in the Prescription Drug Market*, 99 Cornell L. Rev. Online 1 (2013). Copies supplied.

Todd E. Pettys, *Unions, Corporations, and the First Amendment: A Response to Professors Fisk and Chemerinsky*, 99 Cornell L. Rev. Online 23 (2013). Copies supplied.

Lily Kahng, *The IRS Tea Party Controversy and Administrative Discretion*, 99 Cornell L. Rev. Online 41 (2013). Copies supplied.

Suja A. Thomas & Peter Molk, *Employer Costs and Conflicts Under the Affordable Care Act*, 99 Cornell Law Review Online 56 (2013). Copies supplied.

Mark Tushnet, *Do for-Profit Corporations Have Rights of Religious Conscience?*, 99 Cornell L. Rev. Online 70 (2013). Copies supplied.

Marcy L. Kahn & Christopher H. Benbow, *Revisiting Constitutional Retroactivity in New York after Danforth: Should Padilla and Other Supreme Court Guilty Plea Counsel Cases Prompt a Change from Eastman-Teague, or Adherence to Chaidez?*, 99 Cornell L. Rev. Online 87 (2013). Copies supplied.

Michael P. Vandenbergh, *The Implications of Private Environmental Governance*, 99 Cornell L. Rev. Online 117 (2013). Copies supplied.

In addition, as an Assistant United States Attorney, I have drafted proposed press release for the U.S. Attorney's Office, and as Acting United States Attorney, I have edited and approved press releases. The U.S. Attorney's Office's press releases are available at <https://www.justice.gov/usao-vi/pr>.

- b. Supply four (4) copies of any reports, memoranda or policy statements you prepared or contributed in the preparation of on behalf of any bar association, committee, conference, or organization of which you were or are a member. If you do not have a copy of a report, memorandum or policy statement, give the name and address of the organization that issued it, the date of the document, and a summary of its subject matter.

In 2020, the Local Rules Advisory Committee for the District Court of the Virgin Islands recommended changes to the district's Speedy Trial Act Plan. Attached to that document was an explanation of the Committee's proposed amendments, which I primarily drafted. That explanation was sent from the Committee only to the district court and to my recollection, was not intended for further release. Copies not supplied.

- c. Supply four (4) copies of any testimony, official statements or other communications relating, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, that you have issued or provided or that others presented on your behalf to public bodies or public officials.

I have done my best to identify any testimony, official statements, or other communications related, in whole or in part, to matters of public policy or legal interpretation, which I issued or provided or that others presented on my behalf to public bodies or public officials, including through a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. I have not located any responsive items.

- d. Supply four (4) copies, transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered by you, including commencement speeches, remarks, lectures, panel discussions, conferences, political speeches, and question-and-answer sessions. Include the date and place where they were delivered, and readily available press reports

about the speech or talk. If you do not have a copy of the speech or a transcript or recording of your remarks, give the name and address of the group before whom the speech was given, the date of the speech, and a summary of its subject matter. If you did not speak from a prepared text, furnish a copy of any outline or notes from which you spoke.

I have done my best to identify transcripts or recordings of all speeches or talks delivered, including through a review of my personal files and searches of publicly available electronic databases. I have identified the following:

Cornell Law Review
Myron Taylor Hall
524 College Avenue
Ithaca, New York 14853
February 2013

I gave a speech in support of my candidacy for the position of Senior Online Editor for the Cornell Law Review. Copies of notes provided.

Connecticut College
270 Mohegan Avenue
New London, Connecticut
April 25, 2011

I gave a speech in support of my candidacy for the Connecticut College Class of 2011 Young Alumni Trustee.

Connecticut College
270 Mohegan Avenue
New London, Connecticut
April 27, 2009

I gave a speech in support of my candidacy for the Connecticut College Class of 2011 Judicial Board Representative.

I have been unable to locate any transcripts or recordings of these speeches. Unless otherwise specified, I have not located any notes or outlines related to the speeches.

- e. List all interviews you have given to newspapers, magazines or other publications, or radio or television stations, providing the dates of these interviews and four (4) copies of the clips or transcripts of these interviews where they are available to you.

I have done my best to identify all interviews given, including through a review of my personal files, and searches of publicly available electronic databases. Despite my searches, there may be other materials that I have been unable to identify, find, or remember. I have identified the following:

Video interview regarding urban tomato gardening in Portland, Maine (approximately June 2012), which appeared as part of an online news article. I do not recall the name of the media company.

Interview with The College Voice (Connecticut College's Student Newspaper) regarding changes to Latin honors calculations (September 2010).

Radio interview with regarding high school life (date unknown). I do not recall the radio station.

No copies of the clips or transcripts of the interviews are available to me.

13. Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations:

- a. List chronologically any public offices you have held, other than judicial offices, including the terms of service and whether such positions were elected or appointed. If appointed, please include the name of the individual who appointed you. Also, state chronologically any unsuccessful candidacies you have had for elective office or unsuccessful nominations for appointed office.

I have not run for public office.

- b. List all memberships and offices held in and services rendered, whether compensated or not, to any political party or election committee. If you have ever held a position or played a role in a political campaign, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the candidate, dates of the campaign, your title and responsibilities.

I am a member of the Republican Party. I was previously a member of the Democratic Party. In 2008, as a college student, I was selected at the Maine Democratic Caucus to be a delegate to the 2008 Maine Democratic Party State Convention. I have not held a position or played a role in any political party or political campaign.

14. Legal Career: Answer each part separately.

- a. Describe chronologically your law practice and legal experience after graduation from law school including:
 - i. whether you served as clerk to a judge, and if so, the name of the judge, the court and the dates of the period you were a clerk;

Judge Curtis Gomez, District Court of the Virgin Islands (August 2014 – August 2016; September 2017 – August 2018)

Judge Joel Carson III, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit (August 2018 – August 2019)

- ii. whether you practiced alone, and if so, the addresses and dates;

I have not practiced alone.

- iii. the dates, names and addresses of law firms or offices, companies or governmental agencies with which you have been affiliated, and the nature of your affiliation with each.

September 2016 – September 2017

Associate

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom

500 Boylston Street

Boston, Massachusetts 02116

November 2020 – June 2022

Detailee (part-time, remote)

United States Attorney's Office

Eastern District of Oklahoma

500 Denison Avenue

Muskogee, Oklahoma 74401

September 2019 – Present

United States Attorney's Office

District of the Virgin Islands

5500 Veterans Drive, Suite 260

St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands 00802

Acting United States Attorney, April 2025 – Present

First Assistant United States Attorney, December 2024 – Present

Appellate Chief, September 2021 – Present

Appellate Coordinator, December 2019 – September 2021

Assistant United States Attorney, September 2019 – Present

- iv. whether you served as a mediator or arbitrator in alternative dispute resolution proceedings and, if so, a description of the 10 most significant matters with which you were involved in that capacity.

I have not served as a mediator or arbitrator.

- v. Whether you have held any judicial office, including positions as an administrative law judge, on any U.S. federal, state, tribal, or local court and if so, please provide the name of the court, the jurisdiction of that court, whether the position was appointed or elected, and the dates of your service.

I have not held judicial office.

b. Describe:

- i. the general character of your law practice and indicate by date when its character has changed over the years.

From August 2014 to August 2016 and from September 2017 to August 2018, as a law clerk for Judge Curtis Gomez on the District Court of the Virgin Islands, I conducted legal research; drafted bench memoranda, opinions, and orders; and assisted the judge during trials and other hearings.

From September 2016 to September 2017, as an Associate at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, I maintained a diverse litigation practice, including complex civil litigation, internal investigations, and *pro bono* matters.

From August 2018 to August 2019, as a law clerk for Judge Joel Carson III on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, I conducted legal research; drafted bench memoranda and opinions; and helped prepare the judge for oral arguments.

From September 2019 to the present, I have served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of the Virgin Islands. I initially was a line criminal division AUSA and investigated and prosecuted violations of federal and territorial law. In December 2019, I was assigned responsibility for reviewing the office's appellate work. Over time, my responsibilities have shifted from directly prosecuting assigned criminal cases and reviewing appellate work to personally handling most of the office's criminal appellate work (and reviewing the appellate work I do not handle), advising other AUSAs, and litigating complex legal issues in the district court in cases assigned to other AUSAs.

As First Assistant United States Attorney, I directly supervised the division chiefs and certain other staff and managed the office's operations as delegated by the United States Attorney. As Acting United States Attorney, I manage the U.S. Attorney's Office.

- ii. your typical clients and the areas at each period of your legal career, if any, in which you have specialized.

At the United States Attorney's Office, my client is the United States. The U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Virgin Islands is also authorized to prosecute territorial offenses in the name of the Government of the Virgin Islands when they arise out of the same factual circumstances as

federal offenses. As Appellate Chief, I have specialized in handling appellate matters and complex legal issues in the district court.

At Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, I had a variety of clients, including a pharmaceutical company and a financial institution. I did not specialize in any legal areas.

- c. Describe the percentage of your practice that has been in litigation and whether you appeared in court frequently, occasionally, or not at all. If the frequency of your appearances in court varied, describe such variance, providing dates.

- i. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| 1. federal courts: | 99% |
| 2. state courts of record: | 1% |
| 3. other courts: | 0% |
| 4. administrative agencies: | 0% |

- ii. Indicate the percentage of your practice in:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 1. civil proceedings: | 5% |
| 2. criminal proceedings: | 95% |

As an associate at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, I did not appear in court.

At the U.S. Attorney's Office, I have appeared in the district court on average approximately one to two times a month. Since my appointment as First Assistant United States Attorney, my appearances have decreased as additional time is spent on administrative matters.

- d. State the number of cases in courts of record, including cases before administrative law judges, you tried to verdict, judgment or final decision (rather than settled), indicating whether you were sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel.

I have tried four cases to verdict. In one of those cases, I was chief counsel. In the other three cases, I was associate counsel.

- i. What percentage of these trials were:

- | | |
|--------------|------|
| 1. Jury: | 100% |
| 2. non-jury: | 0% |

- e. Describe your practice, if any, before the Supreme Court of the United States. Supply four (4) copies of any briefs, amicus or otherwise, and, if applicable, any oral argument transcripts before the Supreme Court in connection with your practice.

I have not practiced before the Supreme Court.

15. **Litigation:** Describe the ten (10) most significant litigated matters which you personally handled, whether or not you were the attorney of record. Give the citations, if the cases were reported, and the docket number and date if unreported. Give a capsule summary of the substance of each case. Identify the party or parties whom you represented; describe in detail the nature of your participation in the litigation and the final disposition of the case. Also state as to each case:

- a. the date of representation;
- b. the name of the court and the name of the judge or judges before whom the case was litigated; and
- c. the individual name, addresses, and telephone numbers of co-counsel and of principal counsel for each of the other parties.

1. United States v. Ivan James, et al.

Case No. 3:19-cr-79
District Court of the Virgin Islands
The Honorable Mark Kearney
2022-Present

The defendants in this matter grew and trafficked marijuana, trafficked cocaine, illegally obtained and transferred firearms, and engaged in violent conduct. They were charged with firearm, controlled substance, and violent crime offenses. The trials of the two defendants charged with murder-related offenses were severed from the trials of the other defendants. As to those two defendants, one defendant was found guilty of a marijuana conspiracy, and the second defendant was found guilty of a marijuana and cocaine conspiracy, possession with intent to distribute 1,000 or more marijuana plants, possession of a firearm in furtherance of a conspiracy to distribute controlled substances, and unlawfully killing an individual with a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime. The other defendants pleaded guilty to various charges.

The two defendants who went to trial have pending appeals. All but one of the other defendants have been sentenced and did not appeal. The defendants have received sentences between 8 and 420 months' imprisonment; one defendant has not yet been sentenced.

I was an attorney of record for the United States. I primarily assisted with a wide variety of motions practice, including oppositions to motions to suppress evidence, exclude or limit expert testimony, dismiss counts, sever counts, and for judgment of acquittal and new trial. I also otherwise provided advice on other legal issues that arose during the prosecution and appeared as co-counsel at trial, where I was responsible for addressing legal issues. I also appeared as co-counsel

at the sentencing of the defendant convicted of the unlawful killing to address legal issues.

Co-counsel:

Delia Smith
Former United States Attorney
5500 Veterans Drive, Suite 260
St. Thomas, VI 00802
340-774-5757
(No known current business contact information)

Kyle Payne
Assistant United States Attorney
5500 Veterans Drive, Suite 260
St. Thomas, VI 00802
340-774-5757

Principal Opposing Counsel:

Jennie M. Espada, Esq.
P.O. Box 13811
San Juan, PR 00908
787-633-7199
For Defendant Ivan James

Bruce Steven Harvey, Esq.
Law Offices of Bruce Harvey
146 Nassau St. NW
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-659-4628
For Defendant Kai James

Kye Walker, Esq.
16 AB Church Street, 2nd Floor
Christiansted, VI 00820
340-773-0601
For Defendant Joh Williams

Joannie Plaza-Martinez, Esq.
Plaza-Martinez Law Firm
1300 Ave. Atenas, Apt. 51
San Juan, PR 00926
787-433-0293
For Defendant Malachi Benjamin

Adam G. Christian, Esq.
Ogletree Deakins Law Firm
1336 Beltjen Road
Tunick Building, Suite 201
St. Thomas, VI 00802
340-714-1235
For Defendant Tillisa Ceaser

Melaney LaGrone, Esq.
5043 Norre Gade, Suite 6
Charlotte Amalie, VI 00802
340-626-0778
For Defendant Jahkiebo Joseph

Joseph A. DiRuzzo, III, Esq.
Margulis, Gelfand, DiRuzzo & Lambson
401 E Las Olas Boulevard, Suite 1400
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301
954-615-1676
For Defendant Ariel Petersen

2. EHF Acquisitions, LLC v. United States

No. 24-2319, 2025 WL 1444423 (3d Cir. May 20, 2025)
The Honorable L. Felipe Restrepo, Arianna Freeman, and Theodore McKee
2023-Present

This case involved a dispute over land and improvements on land in St. John. Through a series of transactions in the 1970s and 1980s, Laurence Rockefeller laid the foundation for reuniting a retained 150-acre parcel of land in St. John with thousands of acres of land previously donated as part of the Virgin Islands National Park. Rockefeller split ownership of the underlying land and the improvements on the land between two Rockefeller-affiliated entities, Jackson Hole Preserve Incorporated (“JHPI”) and Caneel Bay, Inc., and the United States. He donated ownership of the land itself to the United States, with JHPI retaining the right to use the land for the next 40 years. He also provided that Caneel Bay, Inc., would hold title to the improvements and would retain a 40-year lease on the land from JHPI, enabling that entity to continue operating a resort there until 2023. A subsequent instrument provided that the improvements would be transferred to the United States at the end of the retained use period.

The instrument that initially donated the land to the United States provided that JHPI’s right to use the land could terminate before the expiration of the 40-year period if JHPI offered to convey the improvements to the United States. The United States was required to alert JHPI within 180 days of whether it would accept the improvements. If the United States did not accept the conveyance of the improvements, then the land would revert to JHPI.

In 2017, for-profit successors in interest to JHPI and Caneel Bay, Inc. offered to convey the improvements to the United States for \$70 million dollars and a waiver of environmental liability. The United States contended that the instrument donating the land only permitted an offer to provide the improvements without cost and declined to accept that offer. The for-profit entities then contended that the United States had not accepted the improvements, and the land had reverted.

The district court agreed with the United States and held that there was no valid offer to convey the improvements. As a result, when the retained use period expired in 2023, the United States maintained its title to the land and obtained title to the improvements. On appeal, the Third Circuit affirmed the district court's judgement.

I was an attorney of record for the United States on the appeal. Co-counsel and I worked together to draft the United States' brief. I argued the appeal. I also consulted on legal issues while the matter was pending in the district court but was not an attorney of record in that court.

Co-counsel:

Aysha Gregory
Assistant United States Attorney
5500 Veterans Drive
United States Courthouse, Suite 260
St. Thomas, VI 00802
340-774-5757

Principal Opposing Counsel:

Julien Adams, Esq.
Dovel & Luner
201 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 600
Santa Monica, CA 90401
310-656-7066

3. United States v. Samuel Pena Columna
No. 23-1206, 2024 WL 4182588 (3d Cir. Sept. 13, 2024)
The Honorable Kent Jordan, Patty Shwartz, and Stephanos Bibas
2019-2024

After retrieving over \$1 million dollars, the defendant drove several other men to a drug deal, where they intended to purchase 100 kilograms of cocaine. Two of the men exited the vehicle and headed down the trail towards a beach where the drug deal would occur. Customs and Border Protection attempted to stop the men, and the men opened fire. One of the agents was shot multiple times. One of the

men coming down the trail was incapacitated, the other man fled, and the individuals in the other vehicle fled.

The following day, the defendant, who was a confidential informant, was interviewed. He made certain statements in St. John and was then transported to St. Thomas, *Mirandized*, and made additional statements. At trial, he was convicted of various firearms and drug trafficking charges, interfering with a law enforcement officer, and assaulting a law enforcement officer. The district court sentenced him to 368 months' imprisonment.

On appeal, the defendant challenged the admissibility of his statements. He also challenged the admission of evidence of prior drug trafficking that was admitted to prove: (1) that he was not engaged in law enforcement-approved activity when he committed these crimes, and (2) he was not surprised by a sudden request from one of the men to serve as the driver. The Third Circuit rejected the defendant's arguments and affirmed the district court.

I was the attorney of record for the United States on appeal. I drafted the brief and argued the appeal. I also consulted on legal issues that arose in the district court and reviewed filings.

Principal Opposing Counsel:

Joseph A. DiRuzzo, III, Esq.
Margulis, Gelfand, DiRuzzo & Lambson
401 E Las Olas Boulevard, Suite 1400
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301
954-615-1676

4. United States v. Delroy Thomas

No. 21-1610, 2023 WL 119463 (3d Cir. Jan. 6, 2023)

The Honorable Michael Chagares, Joseph Greenaway, Jr., and D. Michael Fisher
2019-2023

The defendant was charged in the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands with aggravated rape of a minor victim. He was detained. While detained, he attempted to arrange the murder of the victim and her mother because they were witnesses in that case.

The defendant was charged with use of an interstate commerce facility in commission of a murder for hire, attempted murder, attempted retaliation against a witness, and possession of prison contraband. At trial, he was convicted on the first three counts. The district court sentenced him to 180 months' imprisonment.

On appeal, the defendant raised numerous arguments regarding sufficiency of the evidence, spoliation of evidence, newly discovered evidence, prejudicial

publicity, and imposition of consecutive sentences. The Third Circuit affirmed the judgment of the district court.

I was an attorney of record for the United States on appeal. I drafted portions of the brief and argued the appeal.

Co-counsel:

Rhonda Williams-Henry
Assistant United States Attorney
1108 King Street, Suite 201
Christiansted, VI 00820
340-773-3920

Principal Opposing Counsel:

Martial A. Webster, Sr., Esq.
116 Queen Cross Street
Frederiksted, VI 00840
340-772-3555

5. United States v. Gilroy Elcock

851 F. App'x 299 (3d Cir. 2021)
The Honorable Michael Chagares, D. Brooks Smith, and Paul Matey
2020-2021

The defendant engaged in sexual conduct with the two minor daughters of his significant other, with whom he lived. He also recorded video of the sexual activity using a cell phone. The defendant was convicted on several child pornography charges and two territorial charges of rape in the first degree. The district court sentenced the defendant to 60 years' imprisonment.

The defendant appealed, challenging the denial of his motion to suppress the videos recovered from the cell phone. On appeal, the Third Circuit affirmed.

I drafted portions of the brief. The case was decided without oral argument.

Co-counsel:

Rhonda Williams-Henry
Assistant United States Attorney
1108 King Street, Suite 201
Christiansted, VI 00820
340-773-3920

Principal Opposing Counsel:

Renee D. Dowling, Esq.
P.O. Box 1047
Christiansted, VI 00821
340-778-7227

5. *United States v. John Jackson*

No. 23-1615, 2024 WL 2874364 (3d Cir. June 7, 2024)
The Honorable Kent Jordan, Patty Shwartz, and Stephanos Bibas
2021-2024

The defendant engaged in repeated sexual encounters with three minors over an approximately 18-month period. During one of the sexual encounters, he recorded himself and one of the minors. At trial, he was convicted of producing child pornography, transporting the three minors in territorial commerce to engage in sexual encounters, and territorial rape charges. The district court sentenced the defendant to 300 months' imprisonment.

On appeal, he sought to suppress various items of evidence seized from his home pursuant to a search warrant and raised various sufficiency of the evidence challenges. The Third Circuit affirmed the judgment of the district court.

I was the attorney of record for the United States on appeal. I drafted the brief and argued the appeal. In the district court, I consulted on legal issues and oversaw the adverse decision process when the district court granted the defendant's motion to suppress in part.

Principal Opposing Counsel:

Matthew M. Robinson, Esq.
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6. *United States v. Russell Robinson, et al.*

Case No. 3:21-cr-27
District Court of the Virgin Islands
Judge Robert A. Molloy
2022-Present

Two defendants retrieved 210 kilograms of cocaine from a vessel at night and were transporting it through St. Thomas in a truck. When law enforcement attempted to stop the truck, they fled, and a high speed chase ensued. Eventually law enforcement stopped the vehicle and retrieved the cocaine.

At trial, both defendants asserted a duress defense. One defendant claimed a third individual threatened him with a firearm. The second defendant claimed the first defendant threatened him a firearm. The district court granted a mistrial for the first defendant at the request of that defendant.

The first defendant subsequently argued that a new trial would violate his double jeopardy rights, asserting that the United States conspired with his co-defendant to obtain a mistrial. I primarily handled the motions practice related to this issue, which included quashing subpoenas issued to the lead prosecutor and case agent and enforcing other subpoenas. The district court rejected the defendant's argument after an evidentiary hearing. I also consulted on other legal issues that arose.

Ultimately, both defendants were convicted of drug-related charges. The district court sentenced the first defendant to 300 months' imprisonment, and the second defendant to 37 months' imprisonment.

The first defendant's conviction is currently on appeal. The second defendant's conviction was affirmed.¹

I was an attorney of record for the United States in the district court and for the second defendant's appeal, where I drafted the appellate brief and argued the appeal. I am also the attorney of record for the first defendant's pending appeal.

Co-counsel:

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St. Thomas, VI 00802
340-774-5757

Principal Opposing Counsel:

Russell Robinson
Reg# 04776-094
FCI Coleman Medium
P.O. Box 1032
Coleman, FL 33521
786-587-2951

Pro Se

Note: This defendant primarily proceeded *pro se* in the district court, although he at times was represented or had standby counsel. He is represented by counsel on

¹ *United States v. Stephen*, No. 24-1654, 2025 WL 66350 (3d Cir. Jan. 10, 2025)
The Honorable Michael Chagares, Tamika Montgomery-Reeves, and D. Michael Fisher

appeal.

Matthew Campbell
Federal Public Defender
1336 Beltjen Road
Suite 202, Tunick Building
St. Thomas, VI 00802
340-774-4449
For Defendant Trevor Stephen

7. United States v. Burgos-Montanez, et al.
Nos. 18-3538, 18-3586, 18-3590. 18-3664, 19-2909, and 19-2917, 2023 WL
2770822 (3d Cir. Apr. 4, 2023)
The Honorable Michael Chagares, Joseph Greenaway, Jr., and D. Michael Fisher
2021-2023

Numerous individuals conspired together to retrieve large quantities of cocaine during at-sea rendezvouses with suppliers over an approximately two-year period. Six of the defendants went to trial, where they were convicted of various cocaine-related offenses related to the procurement or attempted procurement of cocaine during that period. Those defendants were sentenced to between 68 and 300 months' imprisonment.

The six defendants appealed. They raised numerous challenges to their convictions and sentences, including sufficiency of the evidence arguments, Sentencing Guideline calculation arguments, jury instruction arguments, a courtroom closure argument, arguments regarding the district court's handling of juror issues, arguments regarding the admissibility of evidence, and arguments regarding the appointment of defense experts and defense requests for continuances. The Third Circuit affirmed the judgment of the district court.

I was an attorney of record for the United States on appeal. I drafted the United States' consolidated response brief in this matter and argued the appeals.

Co-counsel:

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340-774-5757

Principal Opposing Counsel:

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Counsel for Appellant Anibal A. Vega-Arizmendi.

9. United States v. Raquel Rivera
74 F.4th 134 (3d Cir. 2023)
The Honorable Kent Jordan, Paul Matey, and Jane Roth
2021-2023

This case involved a defendant's attempt to smuggle marijuana through the airport in St. Thomas. In this appeal, the Third Circuit held, as a matter of first impression among the federal circuit courts, that in a prosecution for possession

with intent to distribute marijuana, the defendant bore the burden to produce evidence that a substance was hemp, rather than marijuana, before the United States bore the burden to prove that the substance was not hemp based on its THC percentage. On that basis, the Third Circuit rejected the defendant's sufficiency of the evidence challenge to her conviction and affirmed the judgment of the district court.

I was the attorney of record for the United States on appeal. I drafted the brief and argued the appeal.

Principal Opposing Counsel:

Matthew Campbell
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1336 Beltjen Road
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340-774-4449

10. United States v. Elroy Brow

62 F.4th 114 (3d Cir. 2023)

The Honorable Michael Chagares, Judges Joseph Greenaway, Jr., and D. Michael Fisher
2020-2023

In 1990, the defendant was convicted of possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine, possession with intent to distribute marijuana, and conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute marijuana and crack cocaine. He was sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment. He was subsequently convicted of voluntary manslaughter in another district and sentenced to an additional 10 years' imprisonment, to be served consecutive to his thirty-year sentence, resulting in an administratively combined 40-year term of imprisonment.

The defendant subsequently sought a sentence reduction pursuant to the First Step Act. The district court denied that motion after determining that the defendant's guideline calculation had not changed and the factors enumerated in 18 U.S.C. § 3553(a) did not support a reduction.

The defendant appealed. On appeal, the United States argued that the defendant was not eligible for a reduction because, although he remained incarcerated, he had served his entire 30 year sentence on the crack cocaine conviction. The Third Circuit agreed and held that Section 404(b) of the First Step Act does not permit a reduction in an already-served crack cocaine sentence, even if the defendant is still serving a sentence that was combined with the crack cocaine sentence for administrative purposes.

I was the attorney of record for the United States on appeal. I drafted the brief in this matter and argued the appeal. I also appeared as counsel of record in the district court case after the motion had been briefed. There, I filed a notice of supplemental authority and withdrew certain objections to a report and recommendation.

Principal Opposing Counsel:

Matthew Campbell
Federal Public Defender
1336 Beltjen Road
Suite 202, Tunick Building
St. Thomas, VI 00802
340-774-4449
For Defendant Elroy Brow

11. **Legal Activities:** Describe the most significant legal activities you have pursued, including significant litigation which did not progress to trial or legal matters that did not involve litigation. Describe fully the nature of your participation in these activities. List any client(s) or organization(s) for whom you performed lobbying activities and describe the lobbying activities you performed on behalf of such client(s) or organizations(s). (Note: As to any facts requested in this question, please omit any information protected by the attorney-client privilege.)

My primary litigative role in the U.S. Attorney's Office is to assist with complex legal issues as they arise in the district court and to defend judgments on appeal. I have briefed numerous appeals addressing a wide variety of cases and handled 18 oral arguments before the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

While I assist with, and handle on appeal, many different types of cases—including Project Safe Neighborhood and Project Safe Childhood cases—I am regularly involved in OCDETF matters. For example, our district has prosecuted a number of Maritime Drug Law Enforcement Act ("MDLEA") cases, and I generally handle the briefing and assist at hearings when defendants challenge the United States' jurisdiction over a vessel or raise legal challenges to the MDLEA. I have also handled three MDLEA appeals, two of which I orally argued.

I have never performed any lobbying activities.

12. **Teaching:** What courses have you taught? For each course, state the title, the institution at which you taught the course, the years in which you taught the course, and describe briefly the subject matter of the course and the major topics taught. If you have a syllabus of each course, provide four (4) copies to the committee.

In 2013, while in law school, I co-taught a community college class on tort law to inmates at Auburn Correctional Facility through the Cornell Prison Education Program.

The course provided credit for an Associate in Arts degree through SUNY Cayuga Community College. The class was titled Tort Law & Related Obligations: The Law of Non-Criminal Wrongdoing. Copies supplied.

13. **Deferred Income/ Future Benefits:** List the sources, amounts and dates of all anticipated receipts from deferred income arrangements, stock, options, uncompleted contracts and other future benefits which you expect to derive from previous business relationships, professional services, firm memberships, former employers, clients or customers. Describe the arrangements you have made to be compensated in the future for any financial or business interest.

I have no arrangements in the future to be compensated for any financial or business interest.

14. **Outside Commitments During Service:** Do you have any plans, commitments, or agreements to pursue outside employment, with or without compensation, during your service with the court? If so, explain.

None.

15. **Sources of Income:** List sources and amounts of all income received during the calendar year preceding your nomination and for the current calendar year, including all salaries, fees, dividends, interest, gifts, rents, royalties, licensing fees, honoraria, and other items exceeding \$500 or more (if you prefer to do so, copies of the financial disclosure report, required by the Ethics in Government Act of 1978, may be substituted here).

Please see my OGE-278 as provided by the Office of Government Ethics.

16. **Statement of Net Worth:** Please complete the attached financial net worth statement in detail (add schedules as called for).

See attached Net Worth Statement.

17. **Potential Conflicts of Interest:**

- a. Identify the family members or other persons, parties, affiliations, pending and categories of litigation, financial arrangements or other factors that are likely to present potential conflicts-of-interest when you first assume the position to which you have been nominated. Explain how you would address any such conflict if it were to arise.

During the nomination process, I consulted with the Department of Justice's ethics office and Designated Ethics Officer to identify any potential conflicts. If I am confirmed, I will continue to consult with that office and will recuse myself from any matter in which recusal is required.

- b. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including the procedure you will follow in determining these areas of concern.

If I am confirmed, any potential conflict of interest will be resolved in accordance with the terms of an ethics agreement that I have entered into with the Department's designated agency ethics official. If confirmed, I will continue to consult with the Department of Justice's ethics office and will recuse myself from any matter in which recusal is required.

18. **Pro Bono Work:** An ethical consideration under Canon 2 of the American Bar Association's Code of Professional Responsibility calls for "every lawyer, regardless of professional prominence or professional workload, to find some time to participate in serving the disadvantaged." Describe what you have done to fulfill these responsibilities, listing specific instances and the amount of time devoted to each. If you are not an attorney, please use this opportunity to report significant charitable and volunteer work you may have done.

With the exception of one year working for Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, I have worked as a law clerk or at the U.S. Attorney's Office. Since commencing my employment with the U.S. Attorney's Office in 2019, I have worked to combat crime and defend the rights and interests of victims.

While working for Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, I spent substantial time engaged in *pro bono* work. I was part of a team of attorneys representing a then-putative class action of Filipino nationals asserting labor trafficking claims. I also assisted with the representation of a volunteer member of the board of directors of a defunct nonprofit community health center, who was being sued by former employees of the health center who sought to hold him personally liable for unpaid wages.

AFFIDAVIT

I, Adam Sleeper, do swear
that the information provided in this statement is, to the best
of my knowledge, true and accurate.

7/7/2025
(DATE)

[Signature]
(NAME)

Persha Stoutt Warner 7/7/2025
(NOTARY)

Persha Stoutt-Warner
Notary Public
NP-700-23
My Commission Expires: October 30, 2027
St. Thomas/St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands