

Crowell & Moring Rehires Senior US Prosecutor In LA

By Rachel Rippetoe

Law360 (January 19, 2022, 4:36 PM EST) -- Crowell & Moring LLP announced Wednesday that a senior federal corruption prosecutor had returned to the firm's Los Angeles office.

Agustin D. Orozco, who was formerly an assistant U.S. attorney in the public corruption and civil rights section of the Central District of California, has come back to Crowell & Moring as a partner in the firm's white-collar and regulatory enforcement and government contracts groups.



Agustin Orozco

"I am thrilled to return home to Crowell & Moring and reunite with several of my former colleagues," Orozco said in a statement Wednesday. "The firm has an outstanding reputation in the white-collar and government contracts bars. I look forward to drawing on my federal service and private practice experience to help clients with their most pressing investigations, and continuing to build out the firm's white-collar presence on the West Coast."

Philip T. Inglima, chair of Crowell & Moring, said Orozco left as an associate in the firm's government contracts group and went on to gain valuable trial experience as a federal prosecutor.

The former assistant U.S. attorney's practice will focus on defending companies in white-collar criminal cases and corporate investigations, as well as representing them in government contracts matters.

During his time in the U.S. attorney's office, Orozco led investigations into public corruption matters at both federal and local levels, representing the government in over 100 matters, including criminal investigations, prosecutions and appeals of public corruption and bribery. He focused specifically on corruption and fraud when he was assigned to the public corruption and civil rights section in 2019, according to the firm.

He tried high-profile cases, including a retrial of a Los Angeles County sheriff's deputy and the prosecution of a real estate developer who defrauded creditors. Orozco, during his time at the federal prosecutors' office, also chaired the diversity-mentorship subcommittee, and he was the office's first-ever pro bono coordinator, according to the firm.

"Agustin's government contracts capabilities, combined with his experience prosecuting procurement fraud matters while at the USAO, make him a strong addition to our already deep bench," Daniel R.

Forman, co-chair of Crowell & Moring's government contracts group, said in the statement. "He is a differentiator for the firm, both in Los Angeles and nationally, and will play a key role in helping our clients navigate what we expect will be a ramp-up by the Biden administration of investigations and enforcement actions against government contractors."

Orozco also serves on the Commission on Judicial Nominees Evaluation for the State Bar of California, where he evaluates and interviews all judicial or bench officer candidates for a recommendation to the governor. He's been in that role since January 2020.

While working toward his law degree at Loyola Law School, Orozco was an intern at the National Immigration Law Center and a judicial extern at the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, according to his LinkedIn profile. After he graduated, Orozco went on to become an associate at McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP. He moved to Crowell & Moring in 2013.

Daniel L. Zelenko, chair of the firm's white-collar and regulatory enforcement group, pointed out that the firm has had many revolving-door hires recently and that its bench includes more than 20 former Department of Justice and Securities and Exchange Commission attorneys.

"With several years of DOJ experience under his belt, Agustin brings in-depth, first-chair trial experience to offer clients in white-collar criminal defense matters," Zelenko said.

--Editing by Karin Roberts.