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NEWS

Zuckerman Spaeder Partner Steven M. Cohen Selected for New York White Collar Crime Task Force

New York, NY Zuckerman Spaeder LLP partner Steven M. Cohen has been appointed to a new task force on white collar crime created by the District Attorneys Association of the State of New York (DAASNY) and charged with developing recommendations for modernizing and strengthening the state's anti-fraud and anti-corruption laws. One of the few private practitioners of the task force, Mr. Cohen will participate in the panel's examination of the state's laws on white collar crime and contribute to a report that recommends legislative and executive changes, including substantive and procedural reforms, in order to update and improve enforcement efforts. Mr. Cohen was appointed to the task force by DAASNY President and Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance Jr., and is one of 26 members along with prosecutors, private practitioners, and members of academia. [Click here to read more about the task force in *The Wall Street Journal's* Law Blog.](#)

Mr. Cohen has more than 20 years of experience as a lawyer in private practice and in public service. Prior to joining Zuckerman Spaeder, he served as Secretary to New York Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo, in addition to serving as Mr. Cuomo's Counselor and Chief of Staff in the Office of the New York Attorney General. As Secretary to Gov. Cuomo, Mr. Cohen was the Governor's most senior advisor and had overall responsibility for management of the Governor's administration, including day-to-day oversight of the senior staff, coordination of legislative affairs, and direction of the press office. Mr. Cohen also directed the administration's successful effort to secure the passage of the Marriage Equality Act.

In private practice, Mr. Cohen has represented a wide array of corporations and individuals in complex commercial, criminal, and regulatory matters. He has conducted internal corporate investigations and has served as court-appointed receiver and monitor. Earlier this year, Mr. Cohen was selected to serve as a member of the Task Force on Commercial Litigation in the 21st Century, addressing efficiency issues in the courts of New York's Commercial Division, which handles complex business litigation cases as part of the Supreme Court of New York State. He served as the Chief of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York violent gang unit, and spearheaded the prosecution of New York's largest and most dangerous criminal organizations.