

RACHIT J. CHOKSI

(b) (6)

INTERIM SECRET CLEARANCE (DOD); TS/SCI CLEARANCE PENDING

EXPERIENCE

Georgetown University Law Center

Adjunct Professor of Law

Washington, D.C.

Sept. 2020 – Present

U.S. Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations (PSI)

Counsel

Washington, D.C.

June 2019 – Present

- Senior attorney leading investigations into the public and private sectors, including the healthcare, financial, pharmaceutical, and tobacco industries, and including issues related to crime, national security, anti-competitive practices, licensing, and fraud
- Deposed witnesses and reviewed documents
- Director of law clerk program

U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

Oversight & Nominations Counsel

Washington, D.C.

December 2017 – June 2019

- Senior attorney charged with detecting and exposing violations of ethics, conflicts-of-interest, and criminal laws, in addition to waste, fraud, abuse, and neglect, committed by Executive Branch officials
- Subjects of oversight included: Scott Pruitt, Trump Hotel lease, FBI HQ consolidation, Kavanaugh/Enron, deregulation and regulatory capture, NRC/Uranium One, PFAS, and the chemical industry
- Prepared and staffed the Ranking Member for all oversight and nomination hearings
- Drafted committee reports, Member hearing questions, hearings memos, and other oversight and nomination materials for Committee Members
- Drafted or edited 25+ oversight letters and reviewed 55,000+ documents for legal relevance
- Interviewed whistleblowers
- Oversight extended to five cabinet level departments and seven independent agencies, including the EPA, GSA, NRC, FWS, FHA, Coast Guard, EDA, NOAA, White House CEQ, Army Corps of Engineers, and FEMA
- Managed junior staff as they assist with oversight projects and hearing preparations

Federal Maritime Commission (FMC)

Counsel to the Chairman

Washington, D.C.

October 2015 – January 2017

- Appointee serving as chief legal advisor, as well as policy and political advisor, to Chairman of agency responsible for enforcing antitrust laws in U.S. international ocean transportation system and protecting the public from unfair and deceptive practices.
- Provided legal analysis and advice to Chairman regarding matters appearing on the FMC's docket, including major investigations and enforcement proceedings, private lawsuits, other litigation, rulemakings, filed agreements, license revocations, and matters involving international law.
- Drafted Chairman's legal opinions.
- Coordinated and strategized with 17 staff-level offices and bureaus, and Commissioners, to effectuate the President's and Chairman's directives, and to arrive at a consensus on various policy and programmatic issues.
- Met with staff to manage priority projects and measure performance on those projects.
- Advised on administrative and programmatic matters, including budgeting, employment, and real estate issues.
- Reviewed and edited \$27 million budget request and related submissions made to the White House and Congress throughout the budgeting process, from baseline submission to interpreting final appropriating bill.
- Drafted the Chairman's speeches and talking points, including Congressional testimony, and review and edit all public press statements and communications to the White House and Congress.
- Briefed the Chairman concerning Congressional legislative matters or inquiries. Reviewed and edited the FMC's replies to such inquiries.
- Reviewed and edited statutorily-mandated annual and ad-hoc reports to Congress and the White House.
- Spearheaded the agency's Open Government Initiative as mandated by President Obama to promote transparency, public participation, and collaboration with the public and other agencies.
- Drafted agency's plan to implement the Privacy Act and ensure the security of sensitive information.

- Interact regularly with Inspector General regarding information sharing, report findings and status of recommendation implementation.
- Serve on agency-side transition team.
- Hired and managed law clerks and interns

Congresswoman Judy Chu/Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), U.S. House of Representatives
APAICS Legislative Fellow Washington, D.C. September 2014 – October 2015

- Drafted questions and preparation materials for Judiciary Committee oversight, investigative, and markup hearings. Provided legal analysis, general guidance, and vote recommendations on legislation moving through the Committee.
- Drafted letter on behalf of four House caucuses to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) calling for further revisions to the DOJ Profiling Guidance.
- Drafted H.R. 3849, a bill that would provide veterans, active service members, and seniors access to acupuncture services at Veterans Administration facilities and coverage under Medicare.

Florio Perrucci Steinhardt & Fader

Litigation Associate Rochelle Park, New Jersey October 2012 – August 2014

- Defended private and public clients in commercial, employment, and criminal disputes, including external and internal investigations. Litigated matters in the federal and state courts.
- Lead trial attorney on 3 matters. Drafted pleadings, briefs, discovery demands, and took or defended 10 depositions.
- Issues included antitrust, credit card and immigration fraud, forgery, the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), the Wage & Hour Law (WHL), commercial contracts, securities arbitration, robbery, assault, terrorism material support statutes, Consumer Fraud Act, and the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act (RLUIPA).
- Managed junior associates

The Honorable Esther Salas, United States District Court for the District of New Jersey

Law Clerk Newark, New Jersey January 2012 – September 2012

- Drafted opinions on complex civil and criminal issues, including antitrust, ERISA, TILA, § 1983, NJLAD, Equal Pay Act, RESPA, business contracts, fraud, and defamation.
- Drafted questions and preparation materials for oral arguments.
- Hired and managed law interns

Office of the Attorney General, Securities Fraud Prosecution Section

Deputy Attorney General Newark, New Jersey October 2011 – January 2012

- Drafted memoranda, summarized depositions, transcribed interviews, and conducted document review on securities issues including privileges, general solicitation of investors over the internet, and judicial bars on controlling persons.

The Honorable Alfonse J. Cifelli, Superior Court of New Jersey

Law Clerk Newark, New Jersey September 2010 – August 2011

- Drafted judicial opinions and bench memoranda on criminal issues, including Post Conviction Relief Petitions and municipal appeals. Coordinated and observed trials and motion hearings. Served as court-sponsored mediator.
- Hired and managed law interns

Hon. John J. Farmer, Jr.

Research Assistant Newark, New Jersey January 2010 – July 2011

- Conducted research and assisted with drafting of *The Ground Truth*. The book provided a timeline of the events on 9/11 and the events leading up to the Underwear Bomber's failed attack. It also tracked implementation of the 9/11 Commission's recommendations.
- Conducted research for a Law Review article on diffusing power within government in order to protect civil liberties while fighting terrorism.
- Also conducted research for his next book on establishing the rule of law in Afghanistan.

Manhattan District Attorney's Office (New York County District Attorney's Office), Trial Bureau 40

The Honorable Chief Justice Stuart Rabner, Supreme Court of New Jersey

United States Attorney's Office, District of New Jersey

Intern Summer 2009, Fall 2008, Summer 2008

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE, APPOINTMENTS, AND HONORS

Languages: Fluent in Gujarati

Political Activity: *Advisor, Biden Campaign Democracy Reform Policy Committee, Subcommittee on Structural Reform and Separation of Powers, Subgroup on Executive Power*
State Director, South Asians for Biden (DC/MD/VA)

Voter Protection Volunteer, Democratic Parties of North Carolina, Nevada, and Georgia
 AAPI Community Leader & Endorser of Biden/Harris
 Co-Founder & Treasurer, Desis for Progress
 Co-Chair, South Asians for Hillary (DC/MD/VA)
 Volunteer Attorney, Hillary for America Victory Counsel (analyzed and summarized 2,000+ litigation documents)
 Volunteer, 2016 Democratic National Convention | Obama for America Victory Counsel
 Legal Counsel, Dawn Zimmer for Mayor, Hoboken, New Jersey

- Journalism:** **War Cry and Pipeline**, Sydney and Melbourne, Australia
International Writer, January – May 2007
Published several articles in national travel and culture magazines in Australia.
The Charlie Rose Show, New York, New York
Editorial Assistant, January – July 2006
- Fellowships:** **Wilson Center Congressional Artificial Intelligence Lab Fellow** (2020)
Wilson Center Foreign Policy Fellow (2019)
Aspen Institute Socrates Emerging Governance Leader (2019)
Nominated and Selected for APAICS Congressional Leadership Academy (2020)
Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies (APAICS) (2014-2015)
- Honors:** **SABA-DC Rising Star Award** (2020)
CAPASA APAHM Congressional Spotlight (May 2018)
Congressional Asian Pacific American Staff Association Person of the Month (May 2016)
Alumni Award, Rutgers School of Law-Newark (2015)
Pro Bono Public Service Award (May 2010)
- Miscellaneous:** **Working Group on the International Anti-Corruption Court (IACC)**
Legal Adviser Washington, D.C. January 2015 – Present
Assist with drafting a statute to define and criminalize “grand” corruption and to permit its prosecution at central court.
Supreme Court of New Jersey - Criminal Practice Committee
Member Trenton, New Jersey December 2012 – December 2013
Appointed by Chief Justice to committee that advises the Court on criminal law and policy reforms.
- Associations:** **Senate Vice President**, Congressional Asian Pacific American Staff Association (CAPASA); **Chair**, Judicial & Prosecutorial Appointments Comm., APALA-NJ; **President-Elect**, SABA-NJ; **Vice President**, APALA-NJ; **Vice President**, SABANY
- Other:** Recipient of **Nonproductive YouTube Shorts Contest Award, Comedy Central Web Series Award** and **SLAMFEST Best Short Film Award**; **Chair**, Public Interest Law Foundation; **Chair**, Rutgers Fundraising Campaign; **Board Member**, Loan Repayment Assistance Program
Mentor, **Asian Pacific American Bar Association Educational Fund (AEF)**; **Mentor**, **Washington Leadership Program**; **Mentor**, **Rutgers Minority Student Program**
- Public Speaking:** **“Panel: From Lawyer to Congressional Staffer”**, June 17, 2020 (U.S. Senate Diversity Initiative)
“Panel: Pathways to Federal Political Appointments”, May 20, 2020 (SABA-DC)
“Panel: Careers on the Hill”, January 30, 2019 (McGuireWoods & APABA-VA)
“Panel: Careers in Congress”, October 22, 2018 (SABA-DC)
“Dinner Series: Congressional Oversight & Investigations”, September 26, 2018 (SABA-DC)
“Panel: Opportunities for Attorneys on the Hill”, **Moderator**, June 1, 2016 (APABA-DC)
“Panel: Building a Career in Today’s Legal Job Market”, March 7, 2013 (Day Pitney)

EDUCATION

Rutgers School of Law, Newark, New Jersey J.D., May 2010
Rutgers Law Review, Research Editor (guided the development of and edited student notes) | Author of Note on the State and Federal Constitutional Rights of Municipalities
Experience: Teaching Associate, *Legal Researching & Writing*; Clinical Student Attorney, *Intellectual Property Clinic*

Rutgers College, Rutgers University New Brunswick, New Jersey B.A., May 2006
Activities: Class Representative, Rutgers College Governing Association; President, Alpha Phi Omega