GIR Global Investigations Review

GIR 100 2026

Jacobson Lopez

20 November 2026

Practice Overview

Jacobson Lopez is a Washington, DC white-collar boutique founded in July 2023, with a practice spanning internal and government investigations, compliance and the defence of companies and individuals facing criminal or civil enforcement. The firm is deliberately compact: its three partners are all former DOJ lawyers with large-firm experience, while two have also held senior in-house legal, compliance or risk roles at major international companies. That combination gives the practice both an enforcement perspective and direct experience of managing investigations and compliance issues from within large organisations.

Founders **Billy Jacobson** and **Jonathan Lopez** established the firm after leaving Allen & Overy. Jacobson's practice combines investigations and white-collar defence with substantial anti-corruption and compliance experience. A former DOJ prosecutor who served as assistant chief for FCPA enforcement, he subsequently held senior legal and compliance roles in the oilfield services industry and has worked on investigations and compliance matters across more than 50 countries. Lopez spent more than a decade at the DOJ, including as deputy chief of its Bank Integrity Unit, and has depth in money laundering, Bank Secrecy Act, financial fraud and anti-corruption matters.

The partnership expanded with the addition of **Adrian Mebane**, another former DOJ prosecutor whose subsequent career included senior in-house positions as general counsel, chief compliance officer and chief risk officer. His experience spans healthcare, consumer products and energy, including oversight of global investigations, compliance and enterprise risk across large multinational businesses. Senior counsel **Rob Park** adds a further 20 years of DOJ Fraud Section experience

and focuses on white-collar enforcement, internal investigations and compliance, including anti-corruption, fraud and sanctions matters.

Work Highlights of the Research Period

RTX

Jacobson Lopez advises defence contractor RTX in connection with a three-year independent compliance monitorship imposed as part of its nearly $1 billion resolution over bribery, arms trafficking and government overbilling charges. The monitorship covers compliance with the FCPA, defence export controls and federal procurement laws and involves reporting to five US enforcement agencies.

Cross-border fraud and corruption investigations

Among its recent confidential mandates, Jacobson Lopez has handled internal and government-led investigations involving fraud, corruption, money laundering and sanctions. Its internal investigations have included multimillion-dollar employee fraud and embezzlement matters subsequently referred to authorities in the US and Singapore, as well as investigations into alleged kickbacks, conflicts of interest and foreign corruption. The firm has also represented companies and individuals in DOJ and other government investigations, including AML and financial crime matters connected with 1MDB, parallel US and South African corruption proceedings, and sanctions investigations spanning the US, UK and New Zealand.

Testimonials

“Advising us on an international cryptocurrency fraud matter, Jacobson Lopez was down to earth and easy to deal with, taking a practical, solutions-based approach that ultimately proved successful. Jonathan Lopez is skilled, connected and straight-talking; he explains strategy well and inspires confidence in his advice. This was my first time using the firm, and I would not hesitate to use them again or recommend them.”

“In fraud and bribery investigations, Jacobson Lopez provides pragmatic advice that helps navigate complex cases while understanding the strategic impact on the organisation and its various stakeholders. The team acts quickly and can work through vast volumes of information and data to get to grips with a matter and advise accordingly. Billy Jacobson and Erin Walsh particularly impress.”

“For FCPA-related matters and general compliance counselling, Jacobson Lopez is superior: practical, collaborative, and responsive. Its lawyers listen to and work with in-house personnel rather than treating clients as simply a bill at the end of the month – and they have great temperaments. Billy Jacobson embodies all these qualities.”

“Jacobson Lopez is an excellent investigations firm. Its lawyers bring not only deep, high-quality expertise but also the strategic insight necessary to navigate very complex problems. Billy Jacobson and Jonathan Lopez particularly impress.”

“Jonathan Lopez did a tremendous job representing individuals in the context of larger corporate investigations. His decades of experience working at and with the DOJ show: sophisticated corporate investigations are second nature to him and his calm, steady presence when working with non-lawyer clients is a true asset.”