



Johnny Sutton, Partner

With more than 20 years government experience, Johnny Sutton has acquired expertise as a front-line trial prosecutor and a top policy advisor to a Governor and a President. Mr. Sutton runs the Austin office of The Ashcroft Law Firm, which specializes in internal investigations, white-collar criminal defense and helping companies comply with federal law.

From November 2001 to April 2009, Mr. Sutton led one of the largest and busiest United States Attorney's Offices in the nation. The Western District of Texas covers 93,000 square miles, 68 counties and 660 miles of U.S.-Mexico border. As U.S. Attorney, Mr. Sutton managed more than 300 employees, a \$28 million annual budget and directed 43,000 federal prosecutions and thousands of civil cases. Under Mr. Sutton's leadership, the office led the nation in drug convictions, was second in illegal alien prosecutions, won more than 105 public corruption convictions and sent nearly 400 violent criminal gang members to prison.

In 2003, then-United States Attorney General John Ashcroft appointed Mr. Sutton to the Attorney General's Advisory Committee—a panel of 17 U.S. Attorneys that advise the General and help carry out the President's national goals. Mr. Sutton served from 2003 until 2009 and was chairman for nearly two years.

After leading the Bush-Cheney Department of Justice Transition Team in 2000, Mr. Sutton was named Associate Deputy Attorney General. He held the position until becoming U.S. Attorney.

From 1995 to 2000, Mr. Sutton served as the Criminal Justice Policy Director for then-Governor George W. Bush. Mr. Sutton was the chief policy advisor to the Governor on all criminal justice issues.

From 1988 to 1995, Mr. Sutton was a prosecutor in the Harris County District Attorney's Office (Houston, TX) where he tried more than 60 first chair felony jury trials and had only three acquittals. He also successfully tried 17 murder jury trials, including seven for capital murder.

Mr. Sutton attended the University of Texas at Austin on a baseball scholarship where he was a two year letterman and the starting left fielder for the 1983 University of Texas National Championship baseball team. Mr. Sutton was voted the Most Valuable Player of the NCAA Central Regional Baseball Tournament in 1983. Mr. Sutton is fluent in Spanish and conversant in Portuguese.

Mr. Sutton has dedicated his career to defending the innocent and standing up for the rule of law.