

Daily Journal

AUGUST 12, 2020

Top 40 under 40

Jennifer Lieser-Deubler

Lieser-Deubler practices white collar criminal defense at Kaplan Marino and regularly appears as a legal expert on CBS' "The Doctors" television show, where she provides insights on current events and legal matters.

Her office has reopened, she said in late July. "We're back a couple of days each week. I had been working from home, but my husband and I just got our nanny back for our one-year-old daughter. You have to take some chances."

Lieser-Deubler added that her pre-law school career in public relations and marketing is useful now in working with her clients. "PR taught me to think outside the box on how best to position clients, and it motivated me to make up for lost time now. Fortunately, my firm allows me to take on these complex cases so that I can prove myself."

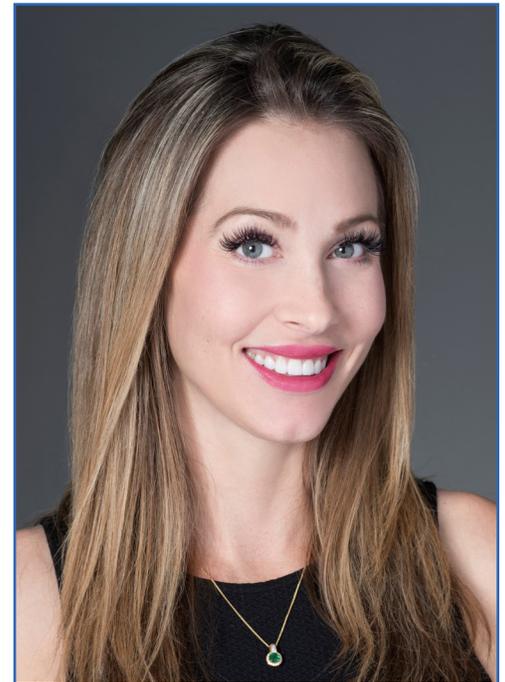
Recently she authored a motion to dismiss and the reply brief on behalf of Donna Heinel in the Varsity Blues prosecution. Heinel is the ex-University of Southern California athletics administrator arrested on suspicion of bribery in the college admissions scandal. She is accused of working with organizer William "Rick" Singer to coordinate more than

two dozen students' admissions as fraudulent athletic recruits. *U.S. v. Heinel*, 19-cr-10081 (D. Mass., filed March 5, 2019).

"The judge held a three-hour hearing July 1 and asked us to prepare proposed jury instructions as a way to clarify whether the indictment sufficiently alleges elements of a crime," Lieser-Deubler said. U.S. District Judge Indira Talwani of Boston has not ruled on the dismissal motion. "She's boiling it down to see if the case is ready for trial."

Earlier, Lieser-Deubler won dismissal of 54 grand theft felony counts against a businessman client accused of conspiring with his supplier's employee to deprive the owner of the company of millions of dollars in sales revenue. "There was allegedly a massive loss to the victim," said Lieser-Deubler, who declined to name the client, "but we saw a significant statute of limitations issue and other serious deficiencies with the indictment. The prosecutor got a guilty verdict against the employee insider, but our client went free."

In a third case, Lieser-Deubler represents a man whom the government of Costa Rica seeks to extradite from California to try on fraud charges related to a teak farm there. Again, she declined to



Kaplan Marino PC

Los Angeles

Practice: White collar criminal defense litigation

Age: 36

name the client. "There's a double jeopardy issue here, because he was tried in Los Angeles and found not guilty on all but one count and sentenced to time served," Lieser-Deubler said. A Central District judge has not yet ruled on the matter.

— John Roemer