

## Outgoing SDNY Deputy US Attorney Lands at Skadden

By Patrick Smith

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### What You Need to Know

- Andrea Griswold joins Skadden as partner in the firm's white-collar and investigations practice.
- Her work for SDNY was varied but centered on financial investigations.
- She was previously in private practice as an associate at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett.

Andrea Griswold, most recently the deputy U.S. attorney for the Southern District of New York, has joined Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom as a partner in the firm's white-collar defense and investigations practice in New York.

Griswold had been at SDNY for more than a decade, moving from line prosecutor to chief counsel to the U.S. attorney and then to deputy U.S. attorney. But Griswold said it was time for a new challenge, and she saw the most fertile ground in the private sector.

"I loved my time at SDNY, but it is time for a new challenge," Griswold said in an interview. "I knew Skadden as an M&A powerhouse, and my experience investigating accounting

fraud will allow me to be well-positioned to conduct credible investigations. But it goes beyond M&A. Expanding work in private equity, private credit, hedge funds and other alternatives will be important. Clients will need to be more proactive, and they want the right person on speed dial."

Griswold's work for SDNY was varied but centered on financial investigations, including cases connected to special purpose acquisition companies, cryptocurrency and digital assets.

"Andrea's impeccable record of success as a tenacious prosecutor and meticulous litigator makes her an ideal fit for our white-collar defense and investigations group," Skadden executive partner Jeremy London said in a statement. "Clients continue to face criminal and civil investigations and enforcement actions globally. In Andrea, we are adding



**Andrea Griswold of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom.**

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a next-generation leader of the white-collar bar, which enables us to continue to provide the expertise our clients expect in these challenging situations.”

Griswold said that one of the reasons she chose Skadden was because of David Meister, head of Skadden’s white-collar defense and investigation group. Meister was also happy about her arrival.

“Andrea is simply terrific and will be a fantastic addition to our group,” Meister said in a statement. “She brings valuable insights into all aspects of investigations, having worked in close collaboration with the (U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission), (Commodity Futures Trading Commission) and numerous other government agencies. She

has a second-to-none reputation for digging into every detail in complex matters, including in novel and evolving areas of law.”

Coming from the public sector, Griswold won’t be coming in with clients, but she does have a Rolodex that looks to get her started quickly. Just as important for someone with her skill set is learning how she can help the firm’s existing clients right away.

“Skadden is a big firm,” she said. “The first six months, I want to find out who does what, who the subject-matter experts are in particular areas, and learn the platform. I also have a strong roster of contacts and will start to mine that.”

Before her time at SDNY, Griswold was an associate at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett for five and a half years.