Hon. Zahid N. Quraishi

Zahid N. Quraishi was appointed as a United States Magistrate Judge for the District of New Jersey in the Trenton Vicinage on June 3, 2019. Zahid, who is of Pakistani ancestry, is the first Asian-American to serve on the federal bench in New Jersey. This past year, Zahid also joined the faculty at Rutgers Law School as an adjunct professor, teaching Trial Presentation to second and third year law students.

Prior to his appointment, he was Chair of Riker Danzig's White Collar Criminal Defense and Investigations Group and his firm's first Chief Diversity Officer. His practice focused on white collar criminal defense, internal corporate investigations, and complex civil litigation.

In private practice, Zahid had extensive experience representing clients with government enforcement and compliance issues involving potential criminal charges. He regularly managed complex federal and state court litigation on behalf of corporations, and their officers, directors, and employees. Zahid has represented both companies and individuals in connection with criminal investigations involving violations of securities law, healthcare fraud, money laundering, computer crimes, environmental statutes, public corruption, and tax laws among other white collar areas of law. His practice also extended to representing both corporations and individuals in complex federal and state civil litigation.

As Chief Diversity Officer, Zahid provided leadership in advancing the firm's diversity and inclusion values, and assumed overall responsibility for overseeing its diversity and inclusion goals.

Before joining Riker, Zahid served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the United States Attorney's Office for the District of New Jersey for over five years. He tried numerous federal criminal cases involving public corruption, financial fraud, perjury, firearms and narcotics offenses within the Special Prosecutions Division and Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force and Government Fraud Units of the Criminal Division.

Zahid's government service and prosecutorial experience extends well beyond his years at the U.S. Attorney's Office. He previously represented the United States as an Assistant Chief Counsel and trial attorney with the Department of Homeland Security. He also served as a military prosecutor and achieved the rank of Captain in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. In the Army, Zahid was assigned to the First Infantry Division stationed in Germany and deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2004 and 2006 before he was honorably discharged.

Earlier in his career, Zahid worked as a litigation associate at LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, LLP and clerked for the Honorable Edwin H. Stern, Presiding Judge, Superior Court of New Jersey - Appellate Division (retired).

Zahid previously served as a trustee of several prominent organizations to include the Association of the Federal Bar of New Jersey, the Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers of New Jersey, and the United States Attorney's Office Alumni Association (DNJ).

He has been recognized in his legal field by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business as one of the country's leading white collar lawyers, Best Lawyers in America®*, a peer review of U.S. lawyers, and "Super Lawyers" by Thomson Reuters. Most recently in 2019, Zahid received APALA-NJ's Professional Achievement Award, SABA-NJ's Standing Ovation Award, and NJMLA's Trailblazer of the Year Award.

Additionally, Zahid previously received Rutgers APALSA's alumni award for leadership and service in the profession in 2017. In 2014, shortly after entering private practice at Riker Danzig, he was named a "New Leader of the Bar" by *New Jersey Law Journal*.

Zahid received his law degree from Rutgers Law School - Newark where he was the Managing Business Editor of the *Rutgers Computer and Technology Law Journal* and a member of the Rutgers Moot Court Board.