

# Edward H Davis Jr

*Sequor Law*

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## Biography

Edward H. Davis, Jr., a founding shareholder of Sequor Law, focuses his practice on the representation of individual, corporate and institutional victims of fraud throughout the world. Ed conducts financial fraud investigations, prosecutes civil claims for fraud and pursues misappropriated assets, having tracked such assets in jurisdictions across the globe, including Japan, the Bahamas, Latin America, Switzerland and Liechtenstein, among others.

### *What motivated you to specialise in asset recovery?*

I wanted to do something with my career that made a difference in people's lives and representing victims of fraud and corruption is a worthwhile endeavour that fulfils that desire.

### *What is it about your role that you enjoy the most?*

I enjoy working with and leading teams focused on unravelling the complex structures that fraudsters and corrupt actors and those that aid them (lawyers, accountants, bankers and banks, corporate formation agents, etc.) use to hide their ill-gotten gains and to frustrate legal systems and their creditors.

### *What matters are clients coming to you frequently with at the moment, and what do you think is driving this?*

We are still seeing a lot of the types of frauds we have seen historically (investment fraud, insolvency fraud, corporate bleed outs, Ponzi schemes and corruption cases) but we are seeing more fraud associated with crypto assets and internet-based frauds.

### *What are the greatest challenges in establishing jurisdiction that asset recovery lawyers currently face, and how can they be tackled?*

Jurisdiction, or the lack thereof, is often used to deny justice under the guise of

complying with long-held judicial norms. The reality is that the world is shrinking ...

### *What new technologies are helping asset recovery specialists?*

There are new technologies that are making finding banking relationships easier and helping to dissect bank accounts and phone records in a coordinated fashion to develop leads, and to support evidence given to support efforts to obtain information and to freeze assets as a precursor to recovery. These are not yet 'game changers' but they are helping to level the playing field.

### *If you could introduce a legal reform that aided asset recovery cases, what would it be and why?*

The biggest issues we confront are legal systems and countries which do not regard information contained within their borders as an 'asset' that can be recovered as part of a tracing exercise, which ultimately leads to the assets which may or may not be held beneficially or derivatively within their borders. We have to change perceptions that information by itself has no value. In point of fact information many times has the most value. I believe that some legal systems and statutory regimes are designed with the intent of making it extremely difficult to obtain the necessary information to perform an asset tracing engagement. This cries out for either

legislative change or judicial intervention or a form of pressure up to and including sanctions to coerce those changes.

### *In your opinion, how can young practitioners gain the skills required to practice in the highly international and complex asset recovery space?*

The only real way to gain the skills and knowledge (and judgment) is by doing and watching others who know what they are doing. The key for a young practitioner is to ally themselves with teachers and those that allow them to assist in tangible aspects of the case no matter how unnerving that may be to everyone involved.

### *Looking back over your career, what has been your proudest achievement?*

My proudest achievement has been the recent obtaining of a jury verdict by our team (which I was privileged to lead) for our client who was a victim of corporate fraud in the US and Colombia. This involved four years of intensive litigation with both mandatory and prohibitory injunctions, four appeals and discovery overseas. We are not done correcting this injustice but through a settlement of a portion of the case we have brought justice to this client after a decade of suffering at the hands of the fraudster and we hope to bring even more recoveries shortly.

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**Peers and clients say:** *"Ed brings unparalleled cross-border asset recovery knowledge and experience to every case in which he is involved"*  
*"He can quickly triage where the core issues lie and can work out a strategy to address the issues quickly and effectively"*  
*"One of the best"*