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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY



Brian Steel

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Brian Steel has tirelessly defended those accused of criminal misconduct since 1991 and has built a national criminal defense practice in state and federal courts based on exhaustive preparation, creative and novel motions, skillful appellate advocacy and zealous courtroom showdowns. Steel's ability to obtain not guilty verdicts in seemingly unwinnable cases reflects the commitment he gives to his clients and his command of the law. As an appellate attorney, he has over 45 reversals to his credit and in excess of 300 published opinions.

Steel handles cases ranging from RICO, wire fraud, and money laundering to murder, armed robbery, drug offenses, rape and child sex offenses in both state and federal courts. He has represented clients in death penalty prosecutions and was even successful in having an entire death penalty prosecution dismissed when he proved his client's innocence.

Steel's notable recent cases include:

- Representation of Jeffrey Williams, an international rap artist known as "Young Thug," in a complex multi-defendant RICO trial in Fulton County, Georgia which lasted 22 months. Because the highly publicized trial was live-streamed, millions watched as Steel exposed that the trial judge engaged in an illegal ex parte meeting with prosecutors and a witness, leading to the trial judge holding Steel in contempt for refusing to disclose how he learned of the illegal secret meeting. Ultimately, the judge was removed from the case mid-trial and the Supreme Court reversed the contempt conviction. The case concluded when Mr. Williams entered a non-negotiated plea and received a probationary sentence.
- Representation of former Glynn County District Attorney Jackie Johnson, who was prosecuted for allegedly violating her oath in the course of the Ahmaud Arbery investigation. After 2 weeks of a jury trial, the court granted a directed verdict of acquittal on one of two charged counts and then a general demurrer dismissing the remaining count, thus ending the case prior to it going to the jury.
- Steel was a member of the Sean "Puff Diddy" Combs defense team, which secured acquittals for Mr. Combs on the most serious RICO and sex trafficking charges, which would have resulted in a life prison sentence.