

# TRAILBLAZERS

## WHITE COLLAR CRIME

### KEVIN PUVALOWSKI

SHEPPARD, MULLIN, LLP



**PIONEER SPIRIT** Kevin Puvalowski wanted to be a prosecutor since law school. Having the privilege to work with talented prosecutors, mentors and professors help steer his career choices. Mr. Puvalowski joined Sheppard, Mullin from the Office of the Special Inspector General for the Troubled Asset Relief Program (“SIGTARP”), where he served as Deputy Special Inspector General. Previously, he was an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York. Kevin represents institutions and individuals in criminal, civil enforcement and regulatory investigations and proceedings before federal and state courts and regulatory and enforcement agencies.

**TRAILS BLAZED** Mr. Puvalowski represented Abacus Federal Savings Bank, the only bank to face trial on criminal charges in connection with the financial crisis and the first bank indicted by the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office since 1991. The indictment, which was handed down in May 2012, charged Abacus and 11 former employees with conspiracy and substantive fraud charges alleging that the bank knowingly approved mortgages to unqualified borrowers based on falsified documentation and then sold those fraudulent mortgages to Fannie Mae. In June 2015, following a four-month trial, the jury returned a verdict of not guilty on all 80 counts against the bank.

**FUTURE EXPLORATIONS** During the next few years, Mr. Puvalowski intends to develop his practice and actually try a jury case or 2 per year. Mr. Puvalowski sees fewer cases going to trial due to the significant expense(s) and quantity of data needing to be searched, analyzed and managed. Data searching may become less expensive, in the future, as those tools improve with technology enhancements.