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## **FCPA Defendant Frederic Bourke, Facing June 1 Trial, Makes Lead Counsel Change**

Alison Frankel

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Bloomberg had [a terrific story](#) last weekend on the defense that Dan Webb of Winston & Strawn was planning for Frederic Bourke, Jr., the Connecticut entrepreneur who cofounded the Dooney & Bourke handbag company and is caught up in the Azerbaijani oil bribery scandal that's already resulted in three convictions. The Bloomberg reporter, David Glovin, got hold of hearing transcripts and documents that suggested Bourke intends to assert that assets the government says were paid to Azerbaijani officials actually ended up in the hands of a Kansas oilman. "It is not clear if there was ever a bribery. Whether or not bribes actually got paid here, I am probably going to be refuting," Webb said at a December 24 hearing, according to a transcript Glovin obtained. (After Glovin's story came out, Manhattan federal district court judge Shira Scheindlin sealed the documents he used.)

But here's the thing: Webb is no longer in the case, as we learned at Richard Cassin's [FCPA blog](#). On March 6, Webb sent [a letter to Judge Scheindlin](#), informing her that Bourke now wanted Harold Haddon and Saski Jordan of Denver's Haddon, Morgan, Mueller, Jordan, Mackey & Foreman to serve as his lead counsel. "I seek to withdraw my appearance," Webb wrote. "Going forward, I will cease to have any involvement in the case." (His colleagues from Winston & Strawn, Webb added, would continue to be involved through trial, at Bourke's request.)

We called everyone involved to ask for more details on Webb's withdrawal, but the most we got was a polite "no comment" from David Reich, a partner in Winston's New York office who's on the Bourke defense team.

This isn't the first time Bourke has orchestrated a game of musical chairs with his lawyers. In August, Proskauer Rose partner Robert Cleary sent Judge Scheindlin a letter requesting to withdraw; his firm had been cocounsel with Winston & Strawn. And in September,

Bourke added John Cline and K.C. Maxwell of the San Francisco office of Jones Day to his defense lineup. The Haddon firm, which will presumably now be working with both Jones Day and a Webb-less Winston & Strawn team, is perhaps best known for its representation of the Ramsey family in the Jon Benet Ramsey murder case.

And one more note for all you FCPA fans: The FCPA Blog put out a list on Tuesday of the cases to watch in 2009. On its list: Alcoa, Aon, Avon, BAE, medical device makers, and Panalpina (Shell).