

Benesch Partner Marisa Darden Interviewed by KNX News Radio on Federal Investigation into Los Angeles Clippers

SEPTEMBER 11, 2026

Marisa Darden, lead of Benesch's White Collar, Government Investigations & Regulatory Compliance Practice Group, was interviewed by KNX News Radio Los Angeles regarding the federal investigation into the Los Angeles Clippers following the NBA's findings that the organization circumvented league salary cap rules through business arrangements involving star player Kawhi Leonard.

According to the report, federal prosecutors have reportedly issued at least one subpoena as part of their investigation into the Clippers' business relationships and whether any conduct related to the alleged salary cap circumvention could warrant further scrutiny.

"That doesn't necessarily suggest to me that there's criminal activity afoot, just more that they're trying to do it the right way and execute the proper channels," said Marisa. "Any use of the internet or telephone at this point constitutes enough to bring charges if they can prove that there was an intentional fraud against another entity."

Marisa noted that violations of league rules are not criminal offenses, but prosecutors could pursue wire fraud charges if evidence of intentional fraud emerges. She added that the investigation remains in its early stages and that the execution of search warrants would signal a more advanced phase of the government's inquiry.

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