

AS SEEN IN *Forbes & Fortune*

NEW YORK LEADERS IN LAW



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: ATTORNEY JEREMY SALAND
AND INVESTIGATOR HERMAN WEISBERG

New York law firm Saland Law stops
extortionists in their tracks.

An extramarital affair. A tryst with an escort. A double life. If exposed, secrets like these can ruin the marriages and careers of powerful people, public personalities, professionals, and anyone with something to lose. Extortionists know this—but so does Jeremy Saland, an attorney with 23 years' experience in criminal law. The founder of Saland Law, Saland counsels clients whose private activities have been weaponized against them through extortion and blackmail.

Called the "A-Team" of ex-lawmen who extricate victims from blackmail schemes by the *New York Daily News*, Saland and Sage Intelligence Group's Herman Weisberg, a former New York City Police Department detective-turned-private investigator, prioritize discretion for those who are concerned about negative publicity. In fact, their only blackmail cases that made the news occurred when, as a Manhattan prosecutor, Saland secured the convictions of numerous individuals who extorted a well-known NBA All-Star, and, as an NYPD detective, Weisberg led the successful attempted blackmail investigation of a late night television celebrity.

"You don't hear about it because we're successful," Saland says.

TAKE BACK THE POWER

The first response to being blackmailed is almost always panic. Under duress, victims routinely cave and make payments rather than risk exposure by their extorter, or they seek the often slower assistance of law enforcement where their secrets will likely be made public in court. Saland Law is faster and more effective. The team's first piece of advice: Take back the power. "Extortionists smell fear, and they try to use it to their advantage," Saland says. Clients provide Saland with relevant communications they had with the extortionist, and from that, he and Weisberg construct the proper response. Says Saland, "We quickly seize control of the situation on behalf of our clients and implement effective strategies to successfully shut schemes down."

The pair finds the perpetrator through public data and other means. "We shock even the most cunning of blackmailers with our relentless efforts to uncover information," Weisberg says. Then, the team comes knocking. The "sextortionist" may think they've got their victim in their jaws, but Saland and Weisberg know about the years-old rap sheet, pending lawsuits, lien on their property, social media accounts, family members, and other invaluable information. That intel, combined with Saland's no-nonsense presentation of the law, quickly dissuades the extortionist of their naively held belief that they will escape accountability or remain anonymous.

"If they'll hear me out, I can convince them to do the right thing for everyone," Weisberg says.

Sometimes the perpetrator's methods are downright cruel. "It's shameful when an extortionist exposes someone's sexual preference and weaponizes it for profit or revenge," says Weisberg. "Even worse, we handle a number of extortionary acts against teenagers—mostly boys led to believe they're engaging with another kid on Instagram or Snapchat." Explicit photos and texts are exchanged; suddenly, the innocent teenager is entrapped by someone who might live halfway around the world. After advising the client to confide in their parents, the duo takes action.

Whether knocking on doors across the United States, communicating through WhatsApp, or putting boots on the ground abroad, no distance is too great nor violator too savvy to abuse the former lawmen's clients with impunity.

"Extortionists should have no misgivings," Saland says. "It doesn't matter if you met our client on the internet or at a bar. We will find you, and, if you perpetrated your fraud online, the bank account, website, and apps used to further your scheme. When we do, I will bring the full force of my experience and the law to stop you."



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