



Catherine A. Johnson

Associate

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OVERVIEW

Catherine Johnson is an associate at the firm's Washington, D.C. office focusing her practice on International Trade: CFIUS, Sanctions, and Export Controls, as well as National Security Law & Policy.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Catherine supports clients with regulatory issues spanning all facets of international commerce, including compliance and enforcement matters involving U.S. customs laws, export control laws, sanctions laws, anti-boycott laws, and foreign anti-bribery laws such as the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA).

Catherine has advised clients on all sides of international trade operations. On the import/customs side, Catherine has significant experience helping clients with classification and country of origin issues, reviewing and preparing responses to requests for information from U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), preparing and filing protests, disclosures, and ruling requests, and resolving a broad variety of additional customs regulation questions. With respect to export controls and sanctions laws, she commonly assists with export classification and other compliance questions involving the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR).

Across all international trade matters, Catherine assists with licensing, investigations, voluntary disclosures, responses to inquiries from regulators, and other compliance or enforcement issues that arise. In particular, her practice involves guiding clients through dealings involving the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), the U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS), the U.S. Department of State's Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC), and CBP. She also counsels clients on tailoring their business activities and developing internal policies and processes to comply with international trade laws.

Finally, Catherine regularly conducts due diligence into proposed merger, investment and acquisition transactions to ensure compliance with international trade laws. As part of this process, she also reviews prospective transactions for national security concerns that might be raised by the Committee of Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), and assists in guiding clients through CFIUS national security reviews.

EDUCATION

- J.D., George Mason University School of Law, 2019
- B.A., American University, 2014

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of District of Columbia

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 21 March 2024, President Biden Issues Executive Order Restricting Bulk Transfers of Sensitive Personal and US Government-Related Data
- 15 December 2023, US Government Highlights Sanctions and Export Control Obligations to Improve Compliance and Prevent Evasion
- 27 October 2023, US Government Revises Comprehensive Export Controls on Semiconductors and Semiconductor Manufacturing Equipment
- 19 October 2023, OFAC Imposes First Sanctions for Russian Oil Price Cap Violations
- 19 October 2023, United States Eases Sanctions on Venezuela
- 15 August 2023, United States Imposes Unprecedented Outbound Investment Controls Focused on China
- 11 August 2023, CFIUS Proposal Underscores Risks in Foreign Real Estate Acquisitions in the United States
- 6 June 2023, Russia-Related Export Controls Continue to Escalate
- 2 May 2023, US Government to Penalize Failures to Disclose Possible Export Control Violations and Incentivize Reporting of Others' Violations
- 21 October 2022, U.S. Government Imposes Significant New Export Controls on Semiconductor, Semiconductor Manufacturing Equipment, and Supercomputer-Related Transactions Involving China and Chinese Entities
- 13 May 2022, United States Restricts Accounting, Corporate Formation, and Management Consulting Services to Russia
- 7 April 2022, New U.S. Sanctions Restrict Investment and Services in Russia and Block Major Russian Banks
- 25 March 2022, U.S. Imposes Further Rounds of Sanctions on Russia

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- “US Government Revises Comprehensive Export Controls on Semiconductors and Semiconductor Manufacturing Equipment,” *The Global Trade Law Journal*, March-April 2024
- “5 Ways Maritime Cos. Can Enhance Sanctions Compliance,” *Law360*, 23 October 2023

NEWS & EVENTS

- 11 May 2022, K&L Gates Advises Silicon Motion Technology Corporation on US\$3.8 Billion Cross-Border Take-Private Acquisition by MaxLinear, Inc.

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Antitrust, Competition, and Trade Regulation