



Sean

Sean McGowan
Partner

smcgowan@thompsoncoburn.com

Washington, D.C.

D - (202) 585-6976

MY SERVICES

Maritime
Aviation
International Trade
Regulatory
Transportation
Railroad
Drone Law
Hazardous Materials Transport
Trucking

EDUCATION

Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law,
J.D., 1999

The George Washington School of Law, B.A., 1991
Political Science

ADMISSISSONS

Virginia
District of Columbia

overview

Sean McGowan helps clients navigate the complex web of federal regulations that affect their transportation and export operations.

Sean has over 20 years of transportation regulatory experience in the aviation, trucking, rail and maritime industries. During this time he has handled numerous compliance issues regarding: general, commercial and unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) matters; establishment of public charters; hazardous materials (HAZMAT) classifications; responses to HAZMAT violations; obtaining U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) registration and motor carrier (MC) operating authority; responding to USDOT safety audits; drafting and reviewing transportation contracts; placing rail systems into the rails-to-trails system; and general inquiries regarding maritime regulatory and Shipping Act violations. Sean practices before a variety of federal regulatory agencies, including the USDOT; the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA); the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA); the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA); the Surface Transportation Board (STB); and the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC). He is also co-chair of the firm's UAS/drone practice and co-hosted the podcast "Three Lawyers and a Drone."

Sean also counsels clients on U.S. federal regulatory compliance issues associated with the export of controlled products, technology and related services. Sean routinely assists clients in: determining the correct export classifications for items controlled under the Commerce Department's Export Administration Regulations (EAR) Export Control Classification Number (ECCN) list or the State Department's International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) United States Munitions List (USML); obtaining export licenses; drafting and implementing export compliance manuals and procedures; reviewing transactions for compliance with U.S. sanctions; and representing clients in the initial and full voluntary disclosure (VD) or voluntary self-disclosure (VSD) process. Sean practices before a variety of federal regulatory agencies, including the Department of Commerce (DOC) Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS); the Department of State (DOS) Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC); the U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC); the Department of Homeland Security (DHS); and Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

affiliations

- Aero Club of Washington
- American Association of Exporters and Importers
- American Bar Association
- Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International
- Society for International Affairs
- Virginia State Bar