

Lawrence Ward

Partner

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CFIUS, EAR, ITAR, OFAC, NISPOM ... As an international business attorney, Larry helps clients navigate the complex alphabet soup of U.S. national security law and international trade compliance.

Larry is the Chair of Dorsey's National Security Law Group and former head of the firm's Seattle office. Clients ranging from small emerging companies or family-owned businesses to Fortune 500 public corporations and international professional associations trust Larry to advise them on ever-evolving national security law and international trade matters. Larry has worked across countless industry sectors and has developed particular expertise in aerospace and defense, mining, technology (including AI/ML), biotech, financial services, higher education, and manufacturing. He helps clients understand various complicated U.S. regulatory schemes so that they can comply in a cost-effective manner to avoid the reputational damage and the monetary, criminal, and other penalties that can occur when those regulations are violated. As a former appointed member of the U.S. State Department's Defense Trade Advisory Group (DTAG), Larry has built important connections with U.S. Government and industry leaders, which further bolsters his ability to provide practical compliance insight to his clients.

Larry advises clients on compliance matters related to U.S. export controls and national security law regularly representing clients before:

- the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) on regulatory issues associated with foreign investment in the United States;
- the U.S. Defense Department's Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DCSA) on compliance with the National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual (NISPOM) and with plans to mitigate foreign ownership, control and influence (FOCI);

Education

- University of Notre Dame Law School (J.D., 2003)
 - Dean's List
 - Dean's Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement in Trial Advocacy
 - Legislative Reform Editor, *Journal of Legislation*
 - Treasurer, Student Bar Association
- University of Notre Dame (M.Ed., 2000)
 - Highest Honors
 - Distinguished Portfolio
- University of Notre Dame (B.A., 1998)
 - Dean's List
 - Class of 1998 Service Award

Bar Admissions

- Washington
- California

- the U.S. Commerce Department on matters involving the Export Administration Regulations (EAR);
- the U.S. State Department on matters involving the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR);
- the U.S. Treasury Department on matters involving the economic sanctions administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC);
- the U.S. Energy Department and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on matters involving energy and nuclear exports; and
- the U.S. Justice Department and Securities and Exchange Commission on matters involving the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA).

Larry helps clients build and refine compliance programs, train employees, classify products for export purposes, apply for export licenses and classification requests from the U.S. Government and structure internal safeguards for dealing with classified federal government information. When something goes wrong, he helps companies internally investigate potential violations of the law and strategize how best to disclose violations to the U.S. Government. Larry also helps clients in building international relationships with various third parties by drafting and negotiating various commercial contracts. Before those relationships are even built, he helps clients craft due diligence programs and assists with vetting of potential foreign partners to ensure that the risks of violations of export control and international business ethics are low.

When the business stakes are highest and a client is involved in transactional activity, Larry provides national security and international trade due diligence. He also helps foreign buyers and U.S. targets navigate important regulatory issues associated with foreign investment in the United States when U.S. national security is implicated through the transaction.

Select Experience

Foreign Investment

Buy Side Representations

- Represented Manara Minerals in a deal to acquire 10% of Vale Base Metals Limited, the holding entity of Vale SA's energy transition metals business.
- Represented a German buyer in connection with its acquisition of a U.S. oil and gas technology company.
- Represented a Saudi Arabian company with its successful investment in a U.S. technology company.
- Represented a Chinese company in its acquisition of a U.S. aerospace manufacturing company and negotiated an extensive mitigation agreement with the U.S. Defense Department in connection with the acquisition.

Professional Affiliations

- Washington State China Relations Council, Board Member, 2025
- Defense Trade Advisory Group (DTAG) for the U.S. Department of State, Former Appointed Member
- Export Controls and Economic Sanctions Committee of the ABA Section of International Law, Steering Group Member and “Year in Review” Co-Editor
- Washington District Export Council, Member
- Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition (PNDC), Member

Charitable & Civic Involvement

- Treehouse, Board Member, 2013 to Present
- Communities Rise (fka Wayfind), Board Member, 2012 to 2018
- Washington State Bar Association, International Practice Section, Member
- St. Joseph School, Former School Commission Member

Accolades

- *Chambers Global*
 - International Trade: CFIUS Experts, USA, 2024-2026
 - International Trade: Export Controls & Economic Sanctions, USA, 2026
- *Chambers USA*
 - International Trade: CFIUS Experts, National, 2023-2026
 - International Trade: Export Controls & Economic Sanctions, National, 2026
- Dorsey & Whitney – Scales of Justice Team Award (The World Ventilator Foundation), 2021
- Dorsey & Whitney – Scales of Justice Team Award (Promise of Justice Initiative’s Unanimous Juries Project), 2022
- Appointed to the Defense Trade Advisory Group (DTAG)
- *Washington Super Lawyers*®, “Rising Star,” 2013-2015
- Puget Sound Business Journal, “40 Under 40,” 2013

Select Presentations

- Co-Presenter, “Cracking the CFIUS Code: Challenges to IP Rights in CFIUS Reviews,” New York City Bar Webinar, May 14, 2020
- Presenter, “End-Use and End-User Due Diligence,” 11th Annual Pacific NW Export Control Conference, July 31, 2019
- Presenter, “Import and Export Factors Impacting Northwest Businesses,” Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition Briefing, May 9, 2019
- Co-Presenter, “Practical Issues in CFIUS and Export Controls,” Berkeley Center for Law & Technology, April 10, 2019
- Presenter, “Structuring Your Classification Approach: Determining Jurisdiction,” PNDC’s Export Compliance Summit: EAR & ITAR, December 7-8, 2017
- Presenter, “The Impact of Regulatory Changes on the M&A Market: Focus on Economic Sanctions, Export Control Laws, FCPA, and CFIUS,” 11th Annual M&A Seminar (The Seminar Group), November 1, 2017
- Presenter, Webinar “Introduction to the U.S. Export Administration Regulations (EAR),” PNDC Webinar, October 12, 2017

- Presenter, "US Economic Sanctions and Russia, Doing Business in Today's Russia: Practical Considerations for Minnesota Companies," Sept. 26, 2017
- Presenter, "Export Control Compliance in the Oil & Gas Industry," Strafford Webinar (CLE), Sept. 12, 2017
- Presenter, "Legal Due Diligence for Your Exporting Business," Pacific Northwest Export Controls Conference (PNECC), Seattle University School of Law, July 27, 2017
- Presenter, "International Trade Compliance," 9th Annual Northwest Export Conference: Exporting and the New Administration – Compliance and Opportunities, Export Finance Assistance Center of Washington (EFACW), July 25, 2017
- Co-presenter, "Section 734.13(b) of the EAR: How to Satisfy the 'Deemed Export' Rule, Foreign National Screening and Form I-129 Requirements amid Conflicting Foreign Privacy and Human Rights Laws," ACI's EAR Boot Camp on May 23-24, 2017
- Co-presenter, "Labor & Employment Lawyers: What they should all know about U.S. Export Controls and Sanctions" Dorsey Video Training Program, April 28, 2017
- Presenter, "U.S. Economic Sanctions and Non-U.S. Companies," BA-HR Programme: Anti-Corruption, Compliance and Trade Sanctions Seminar, January 19, 2017
- Presenter, "Practical Tips For Responding to Export Control Concerns at all Stages of your Company's Growth," 2016 Export Controls Conference: Evolving Controls for a Changing World, Seattle, Washington, July 28, 2016
- Co-presenter, "Structuring Your USML Classification Approach: Understanding the "Order of Review" Post Reform, Determining ITAR Jurisdiction, and Submitting a Commodity Jurisdiction Request," ACI's 14th ITAR Boot Camp, Chicago, Illinois, May 25, 2016
- Co-presenter, "U.S. Economic Sanctions Programs and Recent Changes Impacting What Banks Can Do in Cuba and Iran," Dorsey Bank Counsel Roundtable, April 27, 2016
- Presenter, "Overview of U.S. Economic Sanctions and their Impact on Exporters," Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition (PNDC) – Defense Export Compliance & Opportunities Conference, Seattle, Washington, April 21, 2016
- Presenter, "Important Developments on US Iranian Economic Sanctions," ABA Sanctions Year in Review, Washington, DC, February 2, 2016
- Presenter, "Enforcement Cases and What to do if Something Has Gone Wrong," PNDC ITAR Summit, Portland, Oregon, December 9-10, 2015
- Co-presenter, "International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) Update," PNDC Lunch & Learn, Seattle, Washington, September 30, 2015
- Presenter, "Export Violations in the Post-ECR Environment," 2015 Export Controls Conference, Seattle, Washington, July 29-30, 2015
- Co-presenter, "Navigating Ukraine-Related Sanctions: Meeting the Latest U.S. and E.U. Sanctions," Strafford CLE, June 9, 2015
- Presenter, "U.S. National Security Laws and Their Impact on Classified Contractors," DSS CI & FBI Strategic Counterintelligence Partnership with Defense Industrial Base - 2nd Annual Conference, Anchorage, Alaska, May 7, 2015
- Co-presenter, "When and How to Submit a CJ Instead of Conducting a Self-Determination: How to Prepare the Request and What to Do after Receiving a DDTC and DTSA Determination," ACI's 13th ITAR Boot Camp, San Diego, California, February 24-25, 2015
- Presenter, "Russia/Ukraine-related sanctions," ABA Sanctions YIR Event, Washington, DC, January 29, 2015
- Presenter, "Impact of U.S. Export Control Laws on Immigration Filings," Dorsey

Breakfast Briefing, January 27, 2015

- Presenter, "2014 Enforcement Matters and What to do When Something Has Gone Wrong," PNDC ITAR Summit, Portland, Oregon, January 8, 2015
- Panelist, "What BIS and DDTC Expect from Your Technology Control Plan: How to Incorporate and Implement New IT Management, Security and Training Procedures that will Impress the Agencies," American Conference Institute's 8th Forum on International Technology Transfers & Deemed Export Compliance, San Francisco, California, September 2014
- Co-panelist, "OFAC Ukraine-Related Sanctions: Overcoming Compliance Challenges, Meeting Evolving U.S. and EU Sanctions," Strafford CLE, September 2014
- Presenter, "Internal Investigations and Voluntary Self-Disclosures," Microsoft Export Controls 2014 Conference, Redmond, Washington, July 10, 2014
- Co-presenter, "Ensuring Your Company's Success Through Compliance with the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act," PNDC ITAR Summit, Portland, Oregon, January 30, 2014
- Presenter, "Recent Enforcement Cases and What to Do if Something has Gone Wrong," PNDC ITAR Summit, Portland, Oregon, January 30, 2014
- Co-presenter, "Establishing & Maintaining an Effective Export Controls Compliance Program," PNDC ITAR Summit, Portland, Oregon, January 29, 2014
- Presenter, "2013 U.S Export Controls Year in Review," ABA Section of International Law, Washington, DC, January 2014
- Panel Moderator, "Stay Private or Take Our A&D Company Public?" Orange County Aerospace and Defense Forum, Costa Mesa, California, November 2013
- Panelist, "Export Control Reform and Industry," ICE Seattle Export Control Seminar, October 2013
- Presenter, "An Overview of Export Controls under the U.S. Department of Commerce," ICE Seattle Export Control Seminar, October 2013
- Presenter, "Recent FCPA Developments and Conducting Internal Investigations," WSBA International Law Section CLE, Seattle, Washington, September 2013
- Panel Moderator, "Is Your A&D Company Part of the \$500B Yearly CYBER Loss?" Orange County Aerospace and Defense Forum, Costa Mesa, California, August 2013
- Presenter, "Recent Developments with CFIUS," Dorsey U CLE Program, July 2013
- Presenter, "Nuts and Bolts of Export Controls: Dealing with the Regulations," Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition and U.S. Commercial Service, Portland Oregon, January 2013
- Presenter, "Overview of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act," Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition and U.S. Commercial Service, Portland Oregon, January 2013
- Presenter, "How U.S. Export Control and Related Laws and Regulations May Change during the Next Four Years," Orange County Aerospace and Defense Forum, Costa Mesa, California, December 2012
- Presenter, "The Impact of Deemed Exports in the University and Research Institute Setting," Export Council of Oregon and U.S. Commercial Service, Portland, Oregon, November 2011 and December 2012
- Presenter, "Fundamentals of U.S. Export Control Laws," WSBA International Law Section CLE, Seattle, Washington, September 2012
- Presenter, "U.S. Export Controls," Montana World Trade Center, Bozeman, Montana, May 2012
- Presenter, "Overview of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act," U.S. Commercial Service and Pacific Northwest Defense Coalition, Portland, Oregon, January 2012
- Presenter, "Legal Considerations for International Business," Montana World Trade

Center ExportTech, Missoula, Montana, April 2011

- Presenter, "Basic Considerations for Selling and Sourcing in International Agreements," International Trade Alliance New-to-Export Seminar, Seattle, Washington and Tukwila, Washington, March, August and September 2011
- Presenter, "Foreign Investments and Acquisitions in the United States: Dealing with CFIUS," Dorsey U CLE Program, February 2011

Cross-Border Counselor

June 5, 2026

Trump Administration Proposes New Section 301 Tariffs

February 7, 2020

CFIUS Expands Foreign Investments Subject to Scrutiny with Significant Carve-out for Canadian, Australian and U.K. Investors

Insights

June 4, 2026

Proposed New Section 301 Tariffs and Other Trade-Related Developments

May 8, 2026

U.S. Court of International Trade Holds Section 122 Tariffs Unlawful – Enjoins Tariff Collection and Orders Refunds for Plaintiff-Importers

March 13, 2026

Opportunity to Comment on Foreign Trade Practices with New Tariffs Looming Under Section 301

March 12, 2026

DOJ Releases "First-Ever" Corporate Enforcement Policy Promoting Self-Disclosure and Cooperation

February 20, 2026

U.S. Supreme Court Strikes Down Trump Emergency Tariff Actions

January 5, 2026

USDA Seeks Input to Update the Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act of 1978

December 9, 2025

Partner Larry Ward Discusses Nvidia's Renewed Access to China's AI Market

November 6, 2025

Trump Decreases Tariffs on Chinese Goods, Increases Tariffs on Canadian Goods, and Announces a Flurry of Trade Arrangements

October 30, 2025

Trump Escalates Sanctions Against Russia

October 2, 2025

Commerce Extends U.S. Export Control Restrictions to Affiliates of Parties on the Entity List

September 16, 2025

U.S. Supreme Court to Consider IEEPA Tariffs on Expedited Basis

August 4, 2025

Trump Increases Tariffs on Dozens of Countries

May 29, 2025

Federal Court Strikes Down Trump's Border Emergency and Global Tariffs

May 14, 2025

U.S. Agrees to Lower Tariffs on Imports from China and United Kingdom; Trump Administration Launches New Investigation Into Aircraft and Aircraft Parts

April 25, 2025

Trump Administration Modifies Tariff Actions under National Security Powers