



Joseph R. Clark

partner

Joe is admitted only in the state of California and directly supervised by Jay Levine, a member of the District of Columbia Bar.

Drawing on nearly a decade of experience in the executive and legislative branches of the federal government, Joe's practice focuses on financial institutions regulatory matters, government relations, and internal investigations. Among other matters, Joe provides counsel on the application of anti-money laundering (AML) regulations, including issues related to emerging financial payment technologies (e.g. cryptocurrencies). Joe also represents clients before the U.S. Congress and federal departments and agencies.

Most recently, Joe served in senior policy and legal roles at the U.S. Department of the Treasury, where he supervised significant issues involving the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence, with a particular emphasis on sanctions and AML matters involving the Office of Foreign Assets Control and the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) respectively. He also spent significant time leading the development of policy and regulatory proposals with respect to virtual currencies intended for use as digital payments, and he helped design and implement economic relief measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This included the Payroll Support Program for air carriers and the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program. In addition, from October 2020 to January 2021, Joe performed the duties of the FinCEN Chief Counsel, providing legal advice to the FinCEN director, deputy director, and other senior officials. Before working at Treasury, Joe was a Special Assistant and Associate Counsel to the President in the Office of the White House Counsel, where he advised the President, White House staff, and senior administration officials on rulemakings, executive orders, and appointments across a number of areas.

Joe is well-versed in the legislative process. As the General Counsel and Parliamentarian of the U.S. House Committee on Financial Services, Joe supervised all aspects of the committee's legislative and oversight agenda, helping to enact more than 20 bills into law during the 114th Congress. As a senior Treasury official, Joe drafted major provisions of, and was instrumental in negotiating, a bipartisan, bicameral agreement to enact the Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2020, a key update to the nation's

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EDUCATION

University of Virginia School of Law,
J.D., 2011

Claremont McKenna College, B.A.,
magna cum laude, 2008

SERVICES

Financial Institutions

- Financial institution regulation and corporate governance
- Financial services litigation
- Representation of financial institution regulatory agencies

Technology

Government & Regulatory Affairs

- Legislative advocacy and drafting
- Regulatory advocacy and drafting

Corporate & Internal Investigations

AML framework that overhauled regulatory requirements under the Bank Secrecy Act and established a new “beneficial ownership” reporting regime to curtail the illicit use of shell companies. In March 2020, at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Joe also negotiated and drafted key provisions of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

Joe has navigated complex investigations, including those involving Congress’s oversight function. At the White House and Treasury, he regularly provided counsel with respect to congressional and other inquiries involving executive branch equities. As a Financial Services Committee staff member, Joe orchestrated numerous oversight hearings and investigations, including with respect to LIBOR manipulation and the 2011 collapse of MF Global Holdings Ltd. and its subsidiary MF Global, Inc. He also advised on privilege and other legal issues related to the oversight process.

Joe is a recipient of one of Treasury’s highest awards for excellence, the Distinguished Service Award, along with the Treasury Meritorious Service Award, and the FinCEN Director’s Award for Special Impact.

BAR ADMISSIONS

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HONORS | AWARDS

- U.S. Department of the Treasury, Distinguished Service Award, 2021
- U.S. Department of the Treasury, Meritorious Service Award, 2020
- Financial Crimes Enforcement Network Director’s Award for Special Impact, 2020

SERVICES (CONTINUED)

International Business & Trade

- Export control restrictions and compliance
- International trade and customs regulation and compliance