



John A. Howell

partner

With more than 40 years of experience, John is nationally recognized for his comprehensive government contracts practice, which spans the full lifecycle of federal procurement, including contract formation and administration, claims and bid protests, litigation, procurement fraud investigations, and international procurement.

John has handled procurement matters involving virtually every major federal department and agency, including the Departments of Defense, Energy, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, State, Transportation, and Veterans Affairs, as well as agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency, General Services Administration, NASA, Small Business Administration, USAID, and U.S. Postal Service. He also has deep experience with key components such as the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, Federal Aviation Administration, and Federal Transit Administration. In contested matters, he regularly represents clients before the Government Accountability Office, agency boards of contract appeals, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the federal district courts, and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

In addition to his federal procurement practice, John advises clients on grants, cooperative agreements, and state and local public contracts. He also counsels clients on a wide range of international trade matters, bringing strategic guidance on complex regulatory and cross-border business issues including export controls and sanctions, the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977.

John is widely recognized for his extensive experience in commercial products and services contracting, including General Services Administration and Department of Veterans Affairs multiple-award schedule contracting. His practice also encompasses biodefense and healthcare contracting, export controls and sanctions, patent and data rights, proposal preparation, technology transfer, telecommunications and IT procurement, contractor team arrangements, country-of-origin determinations, homeland security, contingency contracting, security clearances, CFIUS matters, and Foreign Corrupt Practices Act compliance.

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

The National Law Center of The
George Washington University,
L.L.M., 1979

Duke University School of Law,
J.D., 1975

- *Duke Law Journal*, Editorial Board

Duke University, B.A., *summa cum laude*, 1972

LANGUAGES

- German, *introductory*

SERVICES

Government & Regulatory Affairs

- Economic development
- Government contracts
- Regulatory advocacy
- Zoning and land use

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

- Represented Department of State embassy construction contractor in protest to the Court of Federal Claims and appeal to the Federal Circuit
- Represented military drone manufacturer in successful effort to obtain listing on the Department of Defense's Green UAS list
- Represented major engineering company in contract claim against the Department of the Air Force.
- Represented large industrial absorbents manufacturer in regard to various socioeconomic programs applying to government contractors
- Represented major information-technology company in settlement of qui tam action under the civil False Claims Act
- Represented manufacturer of industrial molds in export-controls and sanctions matters
- Represented Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) contractor in various bid protests
- Represented electronic-health-records (EHR) unit of Fortune 20 company on various Department of Defense/Department of Veterans Affairs procurements
- Represented various providers of commercial products and services selling to the government under the General Services Administration's multiple-award schedule

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Virginia
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces
- District of Columbia Court of Appeals
- U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit
- U.S. Tax Court
- U.S. Court of Federal Claims
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- U.S. Court of International Trade
- Supreme Court of the United States

PRESENTATIONS

- "How the Politics and Policies of Washington Today are Impacting Your Business," AFLA International, December 2018
- "FAR/DFARS Rulemaking," American Bar Association Annual Meeting, Public Contract Law Section, Aug. 3, 2018
- "'Substantial Transformation' After the USCIT's *Energizer Battery Case*," American Bar Association, February 2018

SERVICES (CONTINUED)

Business Competition, Advice & Litigation

- Non-compete, non-solicitation, non-recruitment, and non-disclosure agreements

Construction

International Business & Trade

- Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and anti-bribery laws
- Foreign direct investment
- International trade compliance

Investigations, White Collar Defense and Shareholder Litigation

- White-collar criminal defense

Labor & Employment

- Affirmative action
- Employment law compliance counseling

Litigation

- Commercial litigation

Privacy & Data Security

- Data security and breach notification

Regulatory & Administrative Law

Technology

- Joint research, development and joint ventures
- Software development, licensing and services
- Technology transfer and licensing
- Unmanned and autonomous systems (drones and driverless vehicles)

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Virginia State Bar, Member
- The District of Columbia Bar, Member, Government Contracts and Litigation Section
- American Bar Association, Member, Sections of Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice, Business Law, International Law, Public Contract Law, and Forum on Construction Law
 - Member, Council, Section of Public Contract Law, 2026-2027
 - Co-Chair, Commercial Products and Services Committee, Section of Public Contract Law, 2003-2006, 2011-2014; Vice Chair, 1998-2003; 2006-2011; 2014-present
- Federal Bar Association, Member, Government Contracts Section
- Federal Circuit Bar Association
- U.S. Court of Federal Claims Bar Association
- Boards of Contract Appeals Bar Association, Member, Board of Governors, 2006-2009
- Fairfax Bar Association
- Judge Advocates Association
- Coalition for Government Procurement, Charter Member, Board of Advisors
- International Policy Committee, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Member
- National Contract Management Association, Member
- Society for International Affairs, Member

COMMUNITY

- Duke Law Alumni Association, Member, Board of Directors, 2010-2016
- Duke Alumni Association, Member, Board of Directors, 2010-2013