

Matthew L. Haws

Partner

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Areas of Focus

Government Contractor
Litigation and Compliance

Intellectual Property

Japan Practice

National Security and Crisis

State Attorneys General



Overview

Matthew Haws represents clients on government contract and grant law issues, including claims, compliance, and investigations. These clients look to Matthew to help them navigate complex issues in their relationship with the government, including claims against the government, DCAA audits, Inspector General investigations, mandatory disclosures, False Claims Act litigation and suspension/debarment proceedings. He also has significant experience litigating disputes between contractors and subcontractors and resolving government contract intellectual property, cost allowability and business systems disputes.

Matthew's government contracts work is diverse. He has successfully resolved significant cost allowability, cost accounting and business systems disputes with the government for a major IT services company; successfully resolved *qui tam* litigation alleging defective pricing; conducted effective mandatory disclosure investigations for one of the largest GSA Schedule contract holders; developed a comprehensive strategic response to agency investigations, litigation, and Congressional requests for a major software company; and served on an independent monitor team pursuant to an administrative compliance agreement in one of the most significant debarment proceedings within the Department of Defense.

In any contract dispute or legal issue, no matter how complex, Matthew dives deep into the issues to identify the critical strategic considerations for the business and provide focused legal counsel to help them work through that issue and avoid similar problems in the future.



To be successful in government contracts, you need not only an appreciation for the legal complexities, but also sound judgment and strategic vision.”

Areas of Focus

- Government Contractor Litigation and Compliance
- Intellectual Property
- Japan Practice
- National Security and Crisis
- State Attorneys General
- Trade Secrets and Restrictive Covenants
- Tariff Task Force

Representative Matters

- Secured complete dismissal of \$29 million in government claims based on incurred cost disallowance following DCAA audit of major IT services contractor.
- Resolved a *qui tam* False Claims Act case against an office furniture manufacturer under its GSA Schedule contract alleging commercial sales practice disclosure and price reduction clause noncompliance.
- Crafted an effective response to a debarment show cause notice sent to a Fortune 500 company, resulting in the withdrawal of the notice, abandonment of threatened criminal proceedings, and return of eligibility to compete in agency procurements.
- Led an internal investigation for a Fortune 500 company in response to allegations of proposal fraud. Following communication of the results of this investigation, the Department of Justice did not intervene in a related *qui tam* lawsuit.
- Obtained a significant victory for an aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul contractor leading to settlement of its contract claim for costs related to excess repair efforts required during overhaul of aircraft landing gear systems.
- Defended a top-10 defense contractor in multi-million-dollar defective pricing and false claims litigation, resulting in a successful settlement.

Credentials

Admissions

- District of Columbia, 2005

- Virginia, 2002

Education

- Harvard Business School, Credential of Readiness (CRe), business analytics, financial accounting, economics for managers; with honors, 2015
- The George Washington University, JD, 2002
- University of Florida, BA, *cum laude*, 1998

Court Admissions

- US Court of Appeals, District of Columbia Circuit, 2006
- US Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit, 2008
- US District Court, Eastern District of Virginia, 2005
- US Court of Federal Claims, 2008

Service / Recognition

Awards

- Capital Pro Bono Honor Roll, 2022, 2024-2025
- Jenner & Block Mentorship Award, 2020
- *Legal 500*, Government - Government Contracts, 2016

Community

- Center for Nonprofit Advancement, Member, Board of Directors
- DC Bar Pro Bono Center, DC Bar Pro Bono Committee, Chair

Service to the Bar

- American Bar Association
- International Procurement Committee, Public Contract Law Section, Chair
- Section of International Law to the Public Contract Law Section, Liaison
- Section's Strategic Planning Committee, Member
- UNCITRAL Working Group on Procurement, Representative
- Service Contracting Best Practices Task Force