

Communications, Internet, and Technology

As the Communications, Internet, and Technology industries converge, Jenner & Block is at the forefront of rapid business and regulatory change. We represent clients pursuing large mergers and other transactions, entering new industries, navigating new regulations and government enforcement, and creating new products and services. We are known for tackling particularly difficult problems and bet-the-company matters that require our unique combination of top legal skills, hands-on FCC experience, and commitment to work wherever and whenever needed to achieve our clients' goals.

For more than four decades, our Communications, Internet, and Technology practice has achieved major successes for clients on some of the most significant communications matters before the FCC, DOJ, other agencies, and courts. Representing cable/broadband, wireless, Internet, satellite, and technology companies, as well as private equity investors, we have negotiated industry-leading transactions and prevailed in wide-ranging litigation, regulatory proceedings, and agency enforcement actions.

Insight Through Experience

We excel in solving our clients' most intractable problems. Our litigators, regulatory advocates, economic experts, and telecom engineers look at problem from many different perspectives to solve challenges. Having served as FCC General Counsel, senior FCC policy advisor, Senior Counsel to the Chairman for Transactions, Chief Engineer of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, member of the Telecom Taskforce, and clerks of the US Supreme Court and Federal courts of appeals, our lawyers combine broad legal experience with an insider's perspective on how regulators and judges think and decide cases. Our group also includes multiple engineers well-versed in the legal and technical intricacies inherent in the industry and many nationally recognized leaders in their field.

Winning Strategies for Challenging Issues

We represent telecommunications and media clients in nearly every facet of US communications, from transactions to rulemaking, policymaking, and litigation. Whether working with Congress to shape legislation, conducting regulatory advocacy, preparing legal analysis, or efficiently handling litigation and dispute resolution, we anticipate what's next at all levels of the industry and stay on the offense to help our clients succeed. Our strengths include:

- Mergers and acquisitions

- Government investigations and enforcement
- Advocacy before the FCC and other federal and state agencies
- Litigation related to communications regulations
- Spectrum allocation, assignment, auctions, licensing, and relocation
- Satellite communications, orbital resource management, collision avoidance, and space safety
- Foreign ownership planning and compliance
- Universal service, block-grant infrastructure programs, and other federal and state funding programs
- Broadband mapping, network analytics, and management of structured, semi-structured and unstructured data
- Privacy and cybersecurity

A Collaborative Approach that Drives Results

Clients rely on our team to anticipate regulatory challenges and opportunities, so that they can protect and grow their business. Leveraging our extensive experience, diverse perspectives, industry depth, and close working relationships with FCC and public utilities commissioners and staff, trade associations, legislators, and industry leaders, we craft creative, long-term strategies to address regulatory, financing, transactional, and litigation issues. We work closely with other practices—including our nationally recognized Content, Media, and Entertainment; Appellate and Supreme Court; Corporate; and Native American Law practices—to tackle important issues before the FCC and courts, including net neutrality, media ownership, online video, and content restrictions on video programming and video games.

Experience

Policy, Regulatory Strategy, and Enforcement Defense

- Represent providers and private equity in numerous transactions where FCC and other telecom regulatory approvals are required, including representing a nationwide wireless provider in \$43 billion merger, as well as supporting FCC licensees in the successful sale of a combined spectrum portfolio to a major wireless operator for \$3.5 billion.

- Represent terrestrial and satellite service providers, trade associations, new entrants, and investors before the FCC, Congress, and in federal court a wide range of communications policy matters, including net neutrality, data security, spectrum acquisition, orbital resource acquisition and management, financial subsidies, emergency communications, interoperability, standards development, authorization of new technologies, network resiliency, and deployment.
 - Defend telecom providers against FCC enforcement actions, including investigating alleged wrongful acceptance of millions of dollars in universal service subsidies.
 - Represent clients in matters related to the FCC's comprehensive review of the role of states and localities in permitting and fee requirements applicable to the deployment of advanced wired and wireless broadband facilities.
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Network infrastructure

- Lead efforts to provide a framework for mapping broadband data and provide federal support to connect underserved areas and advise on a variety of issues ranging from rural call completion, universal service, and broadband mapping before the FCC and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.
 - Ensure compliance with federal, state, and local tower and antenna siting requirements, including environmental considerations with the National Environmental Policy Act and the National Historic Preservation Act.
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Terrestrial wireless

- Advocate for new spectrum allocations and service rules that increase wireless-service density, reduce regulatory risk, and encourage investment; support negotiations of cross-border spectrum use agreements among the administrations of the United States, Canada, and Mexico to promote efficient use of spectrum along international borders free of interference; and negotiate spectrum-access arrangements in the secondary market, including purchases, leases, and encroachments.
- Support applicants in FCC-designed forward and reverse auctions for spectrum and financial support throughout the auction lifecycle, including auction design, short- and long-form applications, prohibited communications compliance, and post-auction substantial service.

Advised client in winning over \$1 billion in subsidies from an FCC auction to connect unserved, rural areas with broadband.

Aerospace systems

- Help aerospace companies secure spectrum and orbital resources to support global satellite systems, launch vehicles, and on-ground testing.
- Help develop and observe rules for space safety, including orbital debris mitigation and remediation strategies, on-orbit deconfliction, and de-orbit casualty expectations compliance.

Co-Chairs



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Related Capabilities

Antitrust and Competition Law

Bankruptcy and Restructuring

Business Litigation

Congressional Investigations

Content, Media, and Entertainment

Culture Risk and Sensitive Investigations

Data Privacy and Cybersecurity

Energy

Government Contractor Litigation and Compliance

Government Controversies and Public Policy Litigation

International Arbitration

Investigations, Compliance, and Defense

Investor and Securities Litigation

Mergers and Acquisitions

Native American Law

Post-*Chevron* Task Force

Real Estate and Hospitality

Sports and Gaming

State Attorneys General

Technology

Trade Secrets and Restrictive Covenants