

Tech Forum Presenters

Industry Spotlight Presenters



Thomas Ayres

Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel,
Voyager Space

Tom is the Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel of Voyager Space. He is a retired Army major general, having served over 33 years on active duty. Tom is a veteran of multiple combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, he has extensive litigation experience, and has led large legal teams, and was the deputy leader of the Army's Judge Advocate General's Corps.



Jennifer Catanese

Senior Corporate Counsel,
Amazon Web Services (Auto
Industry)

Jennifer currently serves as Senior Corporate Counsel for Amazon Web Services. She supports Amazon Web Services business teams including AWS Automotive, AWS Industry Products, AWS Partner Network and Solution Provider, and AWS Training & Certification teams through high-visibility deals, product development, and program launches.



Jake Levine

Chief Climate Officer,
U.S. International Development
Finance Corporation

Jake Levine serves as Chief Climate Officer of the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation, where he leads the agency's climate team, and is responsible for setting the vision for and implementing DFC's climate finance agenda. He also serves on DFC's Risk Committee, and works closely with DFC's Public Board agencies—the U.S. Departments of State, Treasury, Commerce, and the U.S. Agency for International Development—to coordinate administration policy in climate finance.

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Paris Aboro advises clients across a range of industries in complex international disputes, including in both investor-state and commercial arbitrations, and related litigation. Her practice also includes sovereign representation in international courts.



Susan Cassidy
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Susan Cassidy advises a broad range of government contractors on compliance with FAR and DFARS requirements and conducts internal investigations when allegations of violations of those requirements arise. Susan relies on her expertise and experience with the Defense Department and the Intelligence Community to help her clients navigate the complex regulatory intersection of cybersecurity, national security, and government contracts. Susan is co-chair of the firm's Aerospace and Defense Industry Group and co-chairs the firm's Supply Chain Initiative. She is Chair of the firm's Business Committee and serves on the firm's Public Service Committee.



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Marney Cheek leads Covington's International Arbitration and Disputes practice and has advised companies, non-governmental organizations, and governments on high-stakes international disputes and legal strategy for more than 20 years. Marney's work draws upon her expertise in public international law, investment, and international trade. She serves as both counsel and advocate before numerous international arbitral tribunals and courts, including the International Court of Justice. She currently represents the Government of Ukraine in its landmark cases before the International Court of Justice adverse to the Russian Federation.



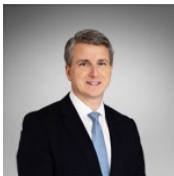
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Moriah Daugherty advises clients on a broad range of cybersecurity, data privacy, and national security matters, including government and internal investigations, regulatory inquiries, litigation, and compliance with state and federal privacy laws. As part of her cybersecurity practice, Moriah specializes in assisting clients in responding to cybersecurity incidents, including matters involving Advanced Persistent Threats targeting sensitive intellectual property and personally identifiable information. Moriah also assists clients in evaluating existing security controls and practices, assessing information security policies, and preparing for cyber and data security incidents.



David Fagan
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David Fagan co-chairs the firm's top ranked practices on cross-border investment and national security matters, including reviews conducted by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), and data privacy and cybersecurity. In the foreign investment and national security area, David is known for his work on matters requiring the mitigation of foreign ownership, control or influence (FOCI) under applicable national industrial security regulations, including for many of the world's leading aerospace and defense firms, private equity firms, and sovereign investors, as well as telecommunications transactions that undergo a public safety, law enforcement, and national security review by the group of agencies known as "Team Telecom."



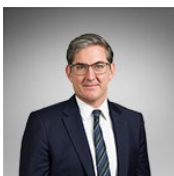
Daniel Feldman
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Drawing on his prior positions in government service spanning multiple Administrations, former Ambassador Dan Feldman's practice focuses on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) counseling, business and human rights (BHR), global public policy, as well as broader international regulatory compliance. He is a member of the firm's Global Problem Solving initiative. Dan has extensive experience counseling multinational corporations on mitigating risk and maximizing opportunities in the development and implementation of their ESG and sustainability strategies, with a particular background in advising on BHR matters. He assists clients in strategizing about their engagements with a range of key stakeholders, including Members of Congress, executive branch officials, foreign government officials and Embassy representatives, multilateral institutions, trade and industry associations, non-governmental organizations, opinion leaders, and journalists.



Joshua Gray
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Joshua Gray is a technology and data-focused lawyer with a distinctly international practice combining commercial and regulatory expertise. Joshua excels in assisting clients for deals with no precedent where technology and data are at the heart of the project. Joshua's practice includes structuring and negotiating bespoke technology projects, privacy and GDPR, innovative collaborations involving the use of new (and often data-driven) technologies, and other business critical commercial transactions. Joshua provides "product counselling" to clients looking to launch new digital products and services and he routinely support multi-jurisdictional projects covering areas such as e-commerce, consumer law, media licensing and telecoms.



Moritz Hüscher
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Moritz Hüscher is partner in Covington's Frankfurt office and co-chair of Covington's Technology Industry Group and Covington's Internet of Things (IoT) Group. His practice focuses on complex technology- and data-driven licensing deals and cooperations, outsourcing, commercial contracts, e-commerce, m-commerce, as well as privacy and cybersecurity. Moritz is regularly advising on issues and contracts with respect to IoT, AV, big data, digital health, and cloud-related subject matters. In addition, he regularly advises on all IP/IT-related questions in connection with M&A transactions. A particular focus of Moritz's practice is on advising companies in the pharmaceutical, life sciences and healthcare sectors, where he regularly advises on complex licensing, data protection and IT law issues.



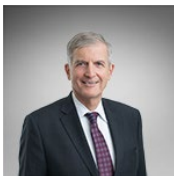
Jennifer Johnson

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Jennifer Johnson is a partner specializing in communications, media and technology matters who serves as Co-Chair of Covington's Technology Industry Group and its global and multi-disciplinary Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Internet of Things (IoT) Groups. She represents and advises technology companies, content distributors, television companies, trade associations, and other entities on a wide range of media and technology matters. Jennifer has almost three decades of experience advising clients in the communications, media and technology sectors, and has held leadership roles in these practices for almost twenty years. On technology issues, she collaborates with Covington's global, multi-disciplinary team to assist companies navigating the complex statutory and regulatory constructs surrounding this evolving area, including product counseling and technology transactions related to connected and autonomous vehicles, internet connected devices, artificial intelligence, smart ecosystems, and other IoT products and services. Jennifer serves on the Board of Editors of The Journal of Robotics, Artificial Intelligence & Law.



Alan Larson

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Alan Larson provides clients with strategic advice, counseling and representation at the intersection of international business and public policy. A Ph.D. economist, decorated diplomat and non-lawyer, Alan advises clients on high stakes international challenges. His trouble shooting takes him to all parts of the world. His practice encompasses international investment and acquisitions; sanctions and trade compliance; international energy transactions, international aviation and international trade. He has helped win approval of the U.S. Committee on Foreign Investment in the U.S. (CFIUS) for some of the highest profile foreign investments in the United States, including several by state-owned companies and sovereign wealth funds. Alan co-leads Covington's innovative Global Problem Solving (GPS) initiative.



Sinead McLaughlin

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Sinead McLaughlin has a broad commercial disputes practice, with a particular focus on crisis management and multi-party disputes, across a number of sectors, including advising major banks and financial institutions, media and technology companies. Her work often requires her to work across a range of practice areas, conducting internal investigations, advising clients in relation to investigations by regulators and other authorities, and acting in any subsequent disputes or litigation which may arise.



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Micaela McMurrough serves as co-chair of Covington's global and multi-disciplinary Technology Group, as co-chair of the Artificial Intelligence and Internet of Things (IoT) initiative. In her practice, she has represented clients in high-stakes antitrust, patent, trade secrets, contract, and securities litigation, and other complex commercial litigation matters, and she regularly represents and advises domestic and international clients on cybersecurity and data privacy issues, including cybersecurity investigations and cyber incident response. Micaela has advised clients on data breaches and other network intrusions, conducted cybersecurity investigations, and advised clients regarding evolving cybersecurity regulations and cybersecurity norms in the context of international law. She regularly engages with government, military, and business leaders in the cybersecurity industry in an effort to develop national strategies for complex cyber issues and policy challenges.



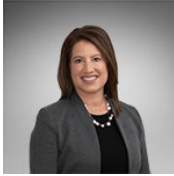
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Catharina Min represents both U.S. and international clients in mergers and acquisitions, private financings, joint ventures, strategic alliances, corporate partnering, securities offerings, and other corporate transactions. She also represents emerging companies in general corporate matters and venture capital financings. In addition, Catharina has extensive experience representing Asian clients doing business in the United States.



Brian Nester
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Brian Nester is a first-chair trial litigator with extensive experience litigating before the U.S. International Trade Commission and district courts throughout the country on both patent and trade secrets issues. Brian has tried more than 20 matters to successful conclusion, including many "bet the company" cases. He represents world leading technology clients, including SK hynix, Microsoft, Nokia, Alibaba, Research in Motion, Samsung, LGE, Seagate, Intel, ASUS, Tyco, and other major computer manufacturers.



Michele Pearce

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Michele Pearce has wide-ranging experience working on national security issues throughout her two decades of military and government service. She provides advisory and advocacy support and counseling to clients facing policy and political challenges in the aerospace and defense sectors. Before joining Covington, Michele held several senior staff positions within the Department of Defense (DoD) and Congress. Most recently, she served as General Counsel (Acting) of the Department of the Army, providing legal and policy advice to the Secretary of the Army and other service leadership. In this role, Michele was responsible for legal matters related to modernizing acquisition and contracting practices to meet emerging threats, implementing AI and hypersonic systems, and reforming ethics and diversity and inclusion programs.



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Kevin Poloncarz co-chairs the firm's Environmental and Energy Practice Group, Energy Industry Group and ESG Practice. Kevin is ranked by Chambers USA among the nation's leading climate change attorneys and California's leading environmental lawyers, with sources describing him as "a phenomenal" and "tremendous lawyer." He represents electric utilities, financial institutions, investors and companies in policy, litigation and transactional matters concerning power and carbon markets, carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS), sustainable aviation fuel, green and blue hydrogen and carbon offsets projects. Kevin also helps clients establish and communicate their ESG commitments and decarbonization objectives to investors, customers and other stakeholders.



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Ryan Quillian, former Deputy Assistant Director of the Technology Enforcement Division at the U.S. Federal Trade Commission (FTC), advises clients on the full range of civil antitrust issues, including conduct and merger investigations, civil litigation, and counseling and compliance. Ryan joined Covington after eight years of public service with the FTC, where he worked on antitrust investigations in a variety of industries, including technology, pharmaceutical and life sciences, retail, distribution, consumer goods, and healthcare.



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Caleb Skeath advises clients on a broad range of cybersecurity and privacy issues, including cybersecurity incident response, cybersecurity and privacy compliance obligations, internal investigations, regulatory inquiries, and defending against class-action litigation. Caleb specializes in assisting clients in responding to a wide variety of cybersecurity incidents, ranging from advanced persistent threats to theft or misuse of personal information or attacks utilizing destructive malware. Such assistance may include protecting the response to, and investigation of an incident under the attorney-client privilege, supervising response or investigation activities and interfacing with IT or information security personnel, and advising on engagement with internal stakeholders, vendors, and other third parties to maximize privilege protections, including the negotiation of appropriate contractual terms.



Doug Sprague

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Leveraging his experience as a former federal prosecutor, Doug Sprague represents individuals and organizations in high-stakes internal, federal, and state investigations, in white collar criminal matters, and in high-stakes civil litigation in both federal and state courts. Doug represents clients in the technology, financial services, pharmaceutical, life sciences, and consumer products industries in connection with DOJ, SEC, and state attorneys general investigations. He also has conducted numerous internal investigations for public and private companies in a wide array of industries.



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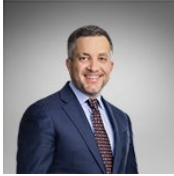
Atli Stannard is an attorney in the firm's Public Policy practice. He guides clients in highly regulated industries through complex EU policymaking processes, protecting and advancing their core business and regulatory priorities. Atli's practice covers all aspects of EU policymaking and legislative advocacy, including the regulation of the tech, food and beverage, pharmaceutical and medical devices, and industrial sectors, and on EU trade, environmental and ESG, and competition policy. He has handled matters before the European Commission, European Parliament, Council of the EU, and Member State and UK governments. Clients rely on him to identify regulatory risks and opportunities, and engage in the policy process to defend and promote their business interests.



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Ranganath (Ranga) Sudarshan helps innovation-driven clients resolve their most important technology disputes. His successful outcomes for companies — both plaintiffs and defendants, and across a wide variety of industries — earned him a recent spot among Law360's Rising Stars in the Technology category. In addition to his work for clients in the intellectual property space, Ranga serves as a co-chair of the firm's Hiring Committee, maintains an active pro bono practice, and frequently writes and speaks about IP topics. He also serves on George Washington University Law School's Intellectual Property & Technology Law Advisory Council.



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Winslow Taub has nearly 20 years of experience representing clients on intellectual property and technology matters, and focuses his practice on IT and technology transactions. He advises a broad range of public, private, and emerging companies with respect to technology development and licensing, outsourcing, supply and manufacturing, collaboration, and other complex commercial transactions, and in connection with mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures, and asset sales and purchases. As an IP litigator, Winslow represented clients in intellectual property, commercial, and regulatory disputes involving critical technology and intellectual property assets, from pre-suit planning and negotiation to final resolution through litigation or negotiated settlement. Winslow has worked in the software and hardware industries for 25 years, as an engineer and as an attorney.



Lauren Willard

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Lauren Willard is a partner in Covington's Antitrust/Competition and Appellate practices. Drawing on her deep substantive antitrust experience in both the government and private practice, Lauren represents and advises clients on a variety of antitrust matters. She defends clients in complex civil litigation and class actions, counsels on mergers and acquisitions, and represents clients before federal regulators. She also represents clients in appellate matters before the U.S. Supreme Court and federal courts of appeals. Lauren rejoined Covington after spending four years at the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) working on antitrust and appellate matters, with a particular focus on competition in the digital economy.

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