

George V. John

Senior Associate
Washington, D.C.

Biography

George John ensures regulations do not disrupt innovation and investment for established and emerging technologies particularly in the aerospace, telecommunications, sports, medical, and mobility industries.

Technologies empowering satellite connectivity, smartphone downloads, the monitoring of ball trajectory and speed or athlete biometrics at sporting events, real-time telehealth applications, and drone deliveries encounter U.S. and international regulation.

Operators of these and similar platforms regularly rely on George to navigate related legal, policy, and technical challenges. He advises clients on radiofrequency (RF) spectrum use, orbital debris mitigation, and remote sensing licensing while engaging the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, national administrations outside the United States, and international standards bodies, including the International Telecommunication Union. Those interactions have helped him shape and streamline regulations on RF spectrum, the safety and sustainability of space, and Earth imagery; negotiate RF spectrum rights at international fora; and complete associated due diligence for venture-capital and private-equity investments.

Before joining Hogan Lovells, George served as in-house regulatory and transactional counsel for a pioneering nanosatellite company, where he secured



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Languages

English

Practices

Communications, Internet, and Media

Space and Satellite

Administrative and Public Law

Government Relations and Public Affairs

Private Equity

Mergers and Acquisitions

Industries

Technology and Telecoms

Aerospace and Defense

satellite, earth station, and remote sensing licenses and negotiated satellite launch and insurance agreements. Other previous stops include the FCC's International Bureau Satellite Division, where he tackled satellite and earth station licensing and rulemakings, and the Federal Aviation Administration's Office of Chief Counsel, where he undertook commercial space launch, reentry, launch site operation, and other aviation regulation projects.

Outside of work, George actively mentors young lawyers and others interested in space, telecommunications, and technology.

Representative experience

Helps pre-revenue and well-capitalized companies modernize requirements for RF spectrum licensing and auctions; Earth imaging; orbital debris mitigation; and government funding.

Procures RF spectrum licenses for satellites; earth stations; smartphones; sports equipment; medical devices; and platforms on airplanes, drones, cars, and other transport modes.

Secures experimental operating authority for industry disrupting technologies.

Obtains remote sensing licenses for Earth observation (panchromatic, hyperspectral, synthetic aperture radar, and other space-based applications).

Coordinates sharing of RF spectrum among commercial operators and with U.S. federal agencies (DOC, DOD, NASA, NOAA, NWS, and others).

Ensures investors make funding decisions that comply with domestic and international authorities' rules on RF spectrum use and Earth observation.

Participates in federal advisory committee meetings that develop the public views of the U.S. administration on permissible international allocations for RF spectrum and related regulatory procedures.

Served as one of the youngest U.S. delegates at ITU WRC-19, a treaty-making meeting, and successfully

Sports, Media and Entertainment

Life Sciences and Health Care

Mobility and Transportation

Education and admissions

Education

J.D., American University
Washington College of Law, 2016

B.A., American University, 2013

Memberships

Member, Federal Communications
Bar Association

Member, Forum on Air and Space
Law, American Bar Association

Member, Space & Satellite
Professionals International

Member, Washington Space
Business Roundtable

Member, South Asian Bar
Association of Washington, D.C.

Bar admissions and qualifications

District of Columbia

California

garnered international support for protecting clients' RF spectrum rights.

Awards and rankings

- 20 Under 35, *Space & Satellite Professionals International*, 2020

Latest thinking and events

- News
 - U.S. Congress has unveiled bipartisan draft bills to spur American space industry growth
- News
 - Innovations in Space: Chinese satellite mega-constellations
- Sponsorships and Speaking Engagements
 - SSPI – Leadership in Turbulent Times
- News
 - Fixed-satellite service operators may soon access new frequencies and routine licensing procedures
- News
 - 5G operators inch closer to critical mid-band spectrum at 2.5 GHz
- Awards and Rankings
 - George John named to "20 Under 35" list for the space and satellite industry