



Hogan
Lovells

Our Business Aviation Services

May 2016



“Acclaimed expertise spans the full spectrum of aviation regulatory matters.”
Chambers USA, 2015

Our Aviation Practice

Hogan Lovells is one of a small number of leading global law firms with in-depth knowledge of aviation-related matters worldwide. Our aviation team regularly receives first-tier rankings from Chambers USA, which notes in its 2014 edition “An excellent law firm, staffed by outstanding attorneys, that achieves results; impressive by any measure.” We are also known for strong cross-border and asset finance work in global markets, earning praise from The Legal 500 for “clarity of thought, a solutions-driven approach and exceptionally talented partners.”

Clients benefit from our aviation lawyers’ experience in public service, which includes positions as Chief Counsel of the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Special Assistant to the Secretary of Transportation, Special Counsel to the Administrator of the FAA, Special Assistant to a member of the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), and Executive Assistant to the Chair and Vice Chair of the Civil Aeronautics Board. Some of our aviation lawyers are also licensed pilots. In addition, our aviation lawyers and specialists team with lawyers from the firm’s network of more than 40 offices worldwide to address a broad range of legal issues, including regulatory, antitrust, corporate, finance, environmental, tax, litigation, and lobbying matters.

We represent all segments of the aviation industry, including business aircraft operators, corporate aircraft owners and operators, air carriers, municipalities, aerospace

manufacturers, repair facilities, aviation trade associations, foreign governments, fractional ownership providers, unmanned aircraft systems providers and operators, and aircraft leasing and financing organizations. The insights we derive from our diverse practice enable us to achieve our clients’ goals more efficiently and effectively.

Representative Experience

- Advising non-U.S. operators and other entities on ownership and control limitations affecting investments in and cooperative arrangements with U.S. air taxi operators.
- Advising a significant aircraft fractional ownership program on U.S. and international regulatory issues relating to the safety and economic regulation of fractional ownership and business aviation.
- Providing strategic regulatory and legislative advice to client in opposing a proposal by the FAA to limit the ability of operators to restrict the movements of their aircraft from public view.
- Advising a foreign government regarding negotiations for bilateral agreement to provide for management of its sovereign airspace by the United States.
- Serving as U.S. and EU regulatory counsel for a major cargo airline group.
- Advising clients on successful efforts to obtain antitrust immunity for an expanded airline alliance.
- Advising clients in FAA regulatory and compliance matters related to airworthiness certification and maintenance requirements.

Areas of focus

- Air carriers
- Aircraft financing and leasing
- Aircraft fractional ownership
- Airports and airport developers
- Airspace obstruction determinations
- Asset finance
- Aviation associations
- Aviation legislation
- Aviation litigation
- Aviation manufacturers and repair facilities
- Business aviation
- Commercial space
- DOT/FAA regulatory
- Financial institutions and other investors in aviation
- Hazardous materials transportation
- Homeland security
- Infrastructure and project finance
- International aviation
- Technology providers

Jonathan Echmalian

Transportation Specialist, Washington, D.C.

Providing dedicated services to business aviation clients.

With a special emphasis on issues affecting the General Aviation community, Jonathan Echmalian addresses the particular needs and concerns of business aircraft operators. He works closely with lawyers in our Washington, DC and global offices to provide efficient, effective, comprehensive service tailored to meet the requirements of a variety of business aviation companies based throughout Europe and other regions of the world. Jonathan is intimately familiar with and regularly provides solutions for both the typical and the unpredictable issues that commonly arise when operators plan and perform tightly scheduled flights to and within North America. He strives to provide prompt, concise and practical assistance to help operators, brokers, and other providers serve their customers effectively while maintaining positive working relationships with regulators and strict compliance with governing U.S. and Canadian agency rules and requirements.

Jonathan understands business aviation, knowing that timeliness, flexibility, and creativity are musts in this fast-paced, highly competitive, but heavily regulated industry. To enable clients to achieve their commercial and personal objectives, Jonathan develops and maintains close cooperative relationships with key government regulators in the United States and Canada. He is also actively involved in government/industry working groups that help shape aviation policies important to our clients.

Jonathan brings more than 20 years of aviation regulatory experience to Hogan Lovells. As a senior professional in our aviation practice, he helps international aircraft operators navigate through the complexities of doing business (and flying) in North America, taking into consideration all of the requirements of the various agencies that oversee aviation. These agencies include the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Transportation Security Administration (TSA), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA), and Transport Canada, among others.

Jonathan has worked with numerous on-demand global business jet operators, and aircraft management companies, not to mention passenger airlines, and scheduled and charter all-cargo air carriers, including several start-ups. He frequently addresses issues and approvals involving DOT traffic rights for scheduled and charter service, including first-time applicants; FAA/Part 129 operations specifications, both new applications and OpSpecs maintenance; CTA licensing and tariffs; Transport Canada FAOC applications; CBP facilitation issues, APIS issues and landing rights; Visa Waiver Program (VWP) carrier approvals; cabotage compliance; advertising compliance; air carrier fitness issues; and analyses of DOT, FAA, and CBP regulations affecting clients' business proposals.



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Representative Experience

- Assisting more than three dozen operators based in EU Member States, Switzerland, Russia, the Middle East, Asia and the Caribbean achieve key authorizations to conduct commercial operations to and from the United States and Canada.
- Assisting more than 30 global air carriers in obtaining and maintaining Part 129 (foreign) operations specifications issued by FAA international field offices.
- Preparing comprehensive guidance documents for European business jet operators and management companies to address U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) requirements with respect to private and commercial flights to the United States.
- Analyzing complex charter itineraries proposed by international business jet operators to ensure compliance with U.S. and Canadian cabotage prohibitions and traffic rights requirements.
- Assisting airlines from China, India, Japan, Korea, and Russia in obtaining Department of Transportation economic authority for their first scheduled passenger flights to the United States.



A Global Law Firm

A fast-changing and inter-connected world requires fresh thinking combined with proven experience. With 2,500 lawyers on six continents, we provide practical legal solutions wherever your work takes you. Our experience in cross-border and emerging economies gives us the market perspective to be your global partner.

Key Aviation Contacts

Our Washington, D.C. aviation team and lawyers throughout the world have in-depth industry knowledge and a proven track record of success handling a variety of business aviation matters.



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Sheryl Israel

Counsel, Washington, D.C.

Sheryl Israel helps global clients in the aviation sector understand and comply with the web of complicated United States government regulatory requirements. She provides a unique and highly informed perspective as a former in-house lawyer at both the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Sheryl navigates issues for clients related to DOT and FAA requirements, as well as Customs and Border Protection (CBP), State Department, and Transportation Security Administration (TSA). She assists more than two dozen foreign business jet operators obtain government authorizations required for their U.S. operations.



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Aleksandar Dukic

Partner, Washington, D.C.

Recognized for “excellent service” and “depth of experience,” Aleksandar Dukic routinely provides counseling to Hogan Lovells’ aviation clients on cross-border activities. Whether developments relate to Iran, Cuba, Russia, or other destinations, Aleksandar has long been providing practical, industry-specific advice on how to navigate complex U.S. regulations to ensure compliance with Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctions, U.S. export controls, immigration, and USA Patriot Act anti-money laundering obligations.



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Robert E. Cohn

Partner, Washington, D.C.

With a decades-long aviation-focused legal career, Bob Cohn is widely recognized as one of the deans of the U.S. aviation bar. He heads Hogan Lovells’ Aviation Practice Group and brings a wealth of aviation industry knowledge and skillsets to client problem solving and advocacy. Bob’s practice spans every facet of aviation law, including airline licensing and compliance, antitrust, airline investment structures, airport use and lease agreements, aircraft acquisitions and financing, mergers and acquisitions, U.S. Export Import Bank financings, and public private partnerships.



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Patrick R. Rizzi

Counsel, Washington, D.C.

For more than two decades, Pat Rizzi has represented and advised clients on legal and regulatory issues involving aviation. Pat focuses on aviation law, regulations, litigation, and transactions, and regularly represents clients before the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and other government agencies. Pat has deep and extensive experience advising passenger and cargo airlines, airports, infrastructure and development companies, on-demand air taxi operators, operators and manufacturers of unmanned aircraft systems, aerospace manufacturers, banks, investment firms, repair stations, technology companies, and government agencies on international and domestic aviation regulatory, litigation, and transactional issues.



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E. Tazewell Ellett

Partner, Washington, D.C.

With deep roots in the Washington D.C. aviation community, Ted Ellett provides clients with studied insight into the thinking and inner workings of the critical federal aviation agencies. Ted has been advising clients for decades on their most complex FAA regulatory and policy issues. As a former FAA Chief Counsel and Special Counsel to the Administrator, Ted co-founded the firm's Aviation Group. He also Co-Chairs the firm's Global Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) (drones) practice, which he also co-founded. He uses his background from senior-level positions at the FAA and decades of client problem-solving at all levels of the FAA to resolve clients' critical FAA challenges.



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Kathy M. Miljanic

Attorney, Washington, D.C.

Kathy Miljanic has practiced U.S. federal aviation law for over two decades with a focus on corporate aviation, including aircraft sales and leasing transactions and merger and acquisition of aviation regulated businesses. With an eye on complex and sometimes counterintuitive regulatory requirements, Kathy helps clients identify options for maximizing aircraft use within the private aviation regulatory framework. She advises companies on executive use of corporate aircraft, corporate aircraft policies, reimbursement for shared airplane use, company aircraft ownership and operation, aircraft leasing and trust arrangements, and other matters. Kathy regularly drafts and negotiates clients' commercial agreements with aircraft managers, charter operators, aircraft manufacturers, and pilot services companies.



George U. Carneal

Partner, Washington, D.C.

For decades, George Carneal has been counseling clients from virtually all sectors of the aviation industry on a broad array of issues. As the founder of the firm's Aviation Practice Group, and former general counsel of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), he is exceptionally qualified to help clients identify risks and surmount the most challenging matters. Clients benefit from George's knowledge and insights, whether the assignment involves obtaining federal authorities approvals to the provision of commercial aviation services; advising with respect to the Department of Transportation (DOT), FAA, and other federal agency regulatory compliance; the defense of enforcement proceedings; or the activities of civil aviation authorities.

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Lourdes Catrain

Partner, Brussels

As a partner in the Trade practice, Lourdes Catrain has achieved milestone successes for clients on all areas of EU trade law and economic sanctions. She regularly advises companies on complex business dealings with countries subject to EU sanctions and together with the anti-corruption and white collar crime teams conducts internal investigation and prepares voluntary disclosures to the Member State authorities. She is a pan-European team player and leads a trade controls, sanctions and customs team well beyond Brussels with colleagues from Amsterdam, London, Madrid, Moscow, Munich, Paris and Rome offices.

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Robert Fugard

Partner, London

A partner in our Banking Group, Robert Fugard heads our Asset Finance practice. Robert focuses on complex cross-border financing in the aviation sector, advising airlines, banks and leasing companies on the acquisition and disposal of aircraft portfolios and on the financing of aircraft using a range of financing techniques. Robert's practice covers both commercial and corporate aircraft. At the forefront of the sector's search for new and innovative sources of finance, Robert has structured and worked on a wide array of pre-delivery, export credit-supported, tax-enhanced and Islamic financing, in the leasing, bank and capital markets.

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Alexander Premont

Partner, Paris

Alexander is a banking and finance lawyer based in our Paris and London offices. He is admitted as a solicitor in England and Wales and to the Paris bar as an Avocat. Alexander has an extensive cross-border finance practice and acts for sponsors and lenders in acquisition financings relating to groups holding significant assets in the hotel, maritime and aviation industries. Alexander is also regularly involved in a broad range of asset financings including shipping, super-yachts, aviation and other plant and equipment transactions.



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Alexander McMyn

Partner, Singapore

A partner in our Singapore Banking practice, Alexander advises creditors, sponsors and borrowers on a wide range of transactions across Asia-Pacific. Alexander has been involved in a broad range of asset finance work with an emphasis on shipping and aviation related matters. Recognized as a leading practitioner in the APAC finance market, Alexander brings a wealth of regional knowledge to bear for the benefit of clients, which has proven of critical importance to them as markets have fluctuated and business performance and risk appetites have changed.



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Dimitra Kouvelakis

Partner, Johannesburg

Dimitra Kouvelakis focuses on general and commercial litigation, as well as franchising and aviation law. Dimitra has experience in legal matters relating to fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters that involve liens over aircraft, charter flight charges, faulty aircraft maintenance and disputes arising out of contracts with regard to buying and selling of aircraft, pilot negligence claims, salvage operations claims, lease and management agreements in connection with cross-border transactions, and dealing with various aviation experts.





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Our offices
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"Hogan Lovells" or the "firm" is an international legal practice that includes Hogan Lovells International LLP, Hogan Lovells US LLP and their affiliated businesses.

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