

Autonomous and Connected Vehicles Practice



King & Spalding has a long history of helping automotive and transportation-related companies overcome some of the most significant issues impacting those industries, including in product liability and class action litigation, as well as government and agency investigations. In recent years, King & Spalding has bolstered its capacity to represent automotive and transportation companies by adding lawyers who have held senior positions in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Trade Commission, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Department of Justice. Today, our lawyers are recognized as leaders and experts in the legal areas expected to shape and impact the development and deployment of autonomous and connected vehicles, including safety and environmental rule-making and regulation, congressional and government oversight, product liability and class action litigation, insurance disputes, cybersecurity, privacy, and intellectual property. With our unrivaled broad-based expertise, we are well-positioned to advise and assist our clients in thinking through the complex policy issues and litigation matters they will face as autonomous and connected vehicles hit the road. We are actively advising companies in this area on a wide range of matters, from significant Board matters, to ever-changing compliance issues, to cutting-edge intellectual property developments, to problem and risk avoidance strategies.

Legislative and Regulatory Policy

King & Spalding's lawyers have decades of experience writing and implementing legislation, developing regulatory programs and helping define (both from the perspective of government and the private sector) the best way to build a policy infrastructure around emerging issues. Our lawyers were instrumental in the early implementation of NHTSA's early warning program, the development of EPA's Enforcement policy and related legislative efforts. As issues surrounding autonomous and connected technology continue to develop, no law firm is better equipped to help companies respond proactively and avert, mitigate or manage a crisis.

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Congressional and Department of Justice Investigations

A "major player in the market," according to *The Legal 500*, and *Law360's* 2016 White Collar Defense Practice Group of the Year, King & Spalding's government investigations team represents clients from Fortune 50 corporations in every region of the world in complex federal and state criminal investigations, internal investigations, and Congressional investigations, as well as in related civil and regulatory proceedings. We have deep experience in the automotive sector, having been involved in three of the most recent and largest investigations in the industry.

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King & Spalding ranked in Tier 1 in the 2017 *Legal 500* Transport: Rail and Road category.

Law360 named King & Spalding "Product Liability Group of the Year" five consecutive years (2013-2017).

Jackie Glassman, former Acting Administrator and Chief Counsel of NHTSA, has been recognized as a Band 1 "Leading Individual" in Transportation: Road (Carriage & Commercial) by *Chambers USA* since 2009.



Law360 named King & Spalding “White Collar Defense Practice Group of the Year” in 2016.

U.S. News & World Report selected King & Spalding as “Law Firm of the Year” for Mass Tort Litigation/Class Actions in both 2015 and 2017.

Law360 honored King & Spalding as “Data Privacy Practice Group of the Year” in 2016.

Complex Civil Litigation and Insurance

King & Spalding has decades of experience representing automotive companies in complex product liability and class action litigation, and our team consists of a deep bench of first-chair trial lawyers. King & Spalding was named a Tier 1 firm for Product Liability and Mass Tort Defense by *The Legal 500 US* in 2016, has been recognized by *Law360* as “Product Liability Practice Group of the Year” for the past five consecutive years, and has twice received the *Law360* “Class Action Group of the Year” award. Our breadth of experience and depth of understanding of past automotive and transportation litigation and practice uniquely positions us to respond to new challenges as autonomous and connected vehicles become commonplace on the roads.

Our established knowledge in the insurance space complements our unparalleled automotive litigation experience. As autonomous technologies emerge, traditional insurance and risk-management systems will need to adapt to handle new realities. Our insurance-oriented practitioners can help our clients consider how that adaptation might best occur and what types of changes may best serve the needs of a future autonomous vehicle world.

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Data, Privacy & Security Practice

Advanced vehicle technologies and connected devices raise unique and evolving cybersecurity and data privacy challenges. Named *Law360* Data Privacy Practice Group of the Year in 2016, our cybersecurity and data privacy team is at the forefront of advising clients on those challenges. From the application of cybersecurity guidelines in the automotive and autonomous context to the handling of sensitive data collected from an ever-increasing number of connected devices, King & Spalding attorneys are well-prepared to counsel our clients through the various issues implicated by autonomy, regardless of where their products are on the autonomous scale.

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Intellectual Property

Recognized as one of the best IP practices in the U.S. in *Managing Intellectual Property’s* “2014 Managing IP Handbook,” King & Spalding offers clients a full-service intellectual property practice that combines proven first-chair trial experience and business lawyers with true scientific specialties. With our knowledge of the motor vehicle industry, we are prepared to assist clients work through the most important and challenging IP issues arising in the autonomous and connected vehicles space.

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