

Autonomous and Connected Vehicles

Steering Companies Through New Challenges



King & Spalding has a long history of partnering with automotive and transportation companies to help them navigate complex regulatory, litigation, and investigatory issues. Our practice combines lawyers with senior-level experience in key agencies, such as the NHTSA, EPA, FTC, SEC, and DOJ, with lawyers with several decades of private-practice experience helping automotive companies overcome some of the most significant issues impacting the industry. This unrivaled broad-based experience uniquely positions us to counsel key industry participants confronting the evolving legal landscape presented by autonomous and connected vehicles.

We are actively advising companies in this area on significant Board matters, ever-changing compliance issues, cutting-edge intellectual property developments, and problem and risk avoidance strategies.

Legislative and Regulatory Policy

Our lawyers have decades of experience writing and implementing legislation, developing regulatory programs and helping define the best way to build a policy infrastructure around emerging issues. Boasting key team members from the major agencies regulating the industry, 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 vehicles evolve, we are uniquely equipped to help companies act proactively and avert a crisis.

Complex Civil Litigation

Our experienced and deep bench of trial lawyers have decades of experience representing automotive companies in complex litigation. We have served as state, regional or national counsel for a wide range of auto manufacturers in defending product liability claims and have also represented them in a variety of other class action, mass tort, and multidistrict litigation matters. We have also served as resolution counsel for automotive companies in complex product liability and consumer litigation. Our breadth of experience and depth of understanding of automotive and transportation litigation uniquely positions us to respond to new challenges as autonomous and connected vehicles become commonplace.

“Automotive Practice Group of the Year” in 2018

Law360

“[P]articularly recommended for its experience in issues involving autonomous vehicles.”

THE LEGAL 500 US

Ranked in Transport: Rail and Road - Litigation and Regulation from 2018 - 2020

“[B]rings real insight into how the agencies work and what the political implications are.”

CHAMBERS USA

Ranked in Transportation: Road (Automotive) in 2019 - 2020

Insurance

Our knowledge in the insurance space complements our litigation experience. As automated technologies emerge our insurance lawyers, versed on risk transfer and management strategies, can help our clients consider how adaptation of these technologies can best occur and what changes to traditional insurance and risk management systems are needed.

Data Privacy & Security

Our cybersecurity and data privacy team, which includes former cybercrime prosecutors and software engineers, has wide ranging experience identifying, preventing, and responding to cyber threats, leveraging the group's personal relationships with law enforcement, national security agencies, and cybersecurity specialists. This experience, coupled with the team's deep knowledge of U.S. and global privacy statutes, places it at the forefront of the challenges facing the industry, including the application of cybersecurity guidelines in the automotive and autonomous context and the handling of sensitive data collected from an ever-increasing number of connected devices.

Congressional and Department of Justice Investigations

Our government investigations team, considered a "major player in the market" by Legal 500, represents Fortune 50 corporations in complex federal and state criminal investigations, internal investigations, and Congressional investigations, as well as 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.

Intellectual Property

Recognized as one of the best U.S. IP practices, we offer clients a full-service IP practice that combines proven first-chair trial experience with true scientific specialties. With our knowledge of the motor vehicle industry, we are prepared to assist clients with the most important and challenging IP issues arising in the autonomous and connected vehicles space.

Corporate

Our corporate, finance and investments group offers clients the benefit of a global team with local knowledge and experience in areas such as corporate activism, finance, capital markets, complex finance, securitization, technology transactions and other areas. In particular, the team represents clients in shareholder relations, finance, debt offerings, securitizations, trade finance, supply chain finance, general corporate, technology joint ventures and other transactions relevant to the transportation, technology and other industries.

"Product Liability Practice Group of the Year" from 2013 – 2018, 2020

Law360

"Renowned for its deep bench, strong trial capabilities and experience in serving as national coordinating counsel."

CHAMBERS USA

Ranked in Band Two (Nationwide): Product Liability & Mass Torts from 2016 - 2020

"Data Privacy Practice Group of the Year" in 2016

Law360

"GIR 30" List of Top 30 Firms for Investigations Matters from 2015 - 2020

Global Investigations Review

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