

Professional Liability

We represent accounting firms in high stakes regulatory matters and litigation. Our attorneys understand the applicable professional standards, monitor legal developments on a weekly basis, and know how to defend professionals at trial. In the last decade, King & Spalding has handled more than 400 matters involving large accounting firms, including audit, consulting, and tax matters.

In recent years, King & Spalding has been lead counsel in four auditing malpractice cases that have gone to jury trials, three of which had potential exposure greater than \$1 billion. Two of those cases resulted in complete defense verdicts and two settled during trial. Although we stand ready to take any matter to trial, we also work with our clients to seek the most favorable resolution, taking into account all of the client's concerns, including reputational and institutional interests.

We also regularly represent accounting firms and their professionals in regulatory investigations and enforcement proceedings. Partners in our group have handled more than 100 investigations and enforcement proceedings in the last ten years, successfully dealing with, among others, the PCAOB, SEC, DOJ, OCC, FDIC, CFTC, FTC, HUD, HHS, IRS, Senate and House committees, the New York Attorney General's Office, the Florida Department of Financial Services, and various state agencies and accountancy boards. Our team includes former senior SEC and DOJ attorneys and a former PCAOB associate director.

Our team has significant experience representing the non-U.S. members of the global network firms. Our clients have included firms and individuals in more than a dozen countries, including Argentina, Australia, the Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, China, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, the Philippines, and the United Kingdom.

We leverage the experience of our partners in our

Capability Lawyers



Richard T. Marooney
New York



Michael R. Pauze
Washington, D.C.

Recognition

Ranked as Leading
Practitioners for General
Commercial Disputes

LEGAL 500, 2022

Singled out Among the Best
Law Firms in Complex
Commercial Litigation

BTI LITIGATION OUTLOOK,
2022

Ranked in Tier 1 for General
Commercial Litigation

BENCHMARK LITIGATION,
2022

Appellate, Securities Litigation, Special Matters/Government Investigations, and Financial Restructuring practices to address the full range of issues facing our clients. When appropriate, we involve our firm's industry experts in matters challenging an accounting firm's work relating to that industry. Through our weekly Auditor Liability Bulletin, we update our clients on legal and regulatory developments.

Cases & Deals

May 22, 2015

King & Spalding Achieves Appellate Victory in Pro Bono International Child Custody Case

May 20, 2015

King & Spalding Obtains Complete Defense Verdict for Deloitte Following Six-Week Jury Trial

[VIEW ALL](#)

Insights

CLIENT ALERT

April 2, 2024

PCAOB Division of Enforcement's First Quarter Continues Record-Setting Pace

ARTICLE

July 5, 2023

Public Company Accounting Oversight Board Proposes Role-Altering Audit Standards

ARTICLE

December 16, 2020

Protection of Work Product Shared With Outside Auditors

[VIEW ALL](#)

Events

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

October 13, 2022

Paul Murphy to Speak on Ernst & Young's Q3 Audit Committee Webcast

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News

IN THE NEWS

April 2, 2024

Partners Jennifer Recine, Sarmad Khojasteh and David Kupfer join K&S's Business Litigation practice group in New York, focused on real estate litigation and complex commercial litigation

PRESS RELEASE

April 2, 2024

King & Spalding Adds Three-Partner Litigation Team in New York

PRESS RELEASE

March 11, 2024

Former PCAOB Trial Counsel Mike Plotnick Joins King & Spalding to Enhance SEC and Professional Services Liability Defense Practice

VIEW ALL