

Carlton Forbes

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Issues and Appeals
Commercial Litigation
Cyber/Data/Privacy
Export Controls and Economic Sanctions
Arbitration
Investment Treaty Arbitration
Public International Law
Pro Bono
CooleyREG

Carlton is an experienced appellate advocate and former senior US government lawyer. He has represented clients in high-stakes disputes in state and federal courts and before international arbitral tribunals. Carlton's government service spans multiple agencies, including the US Department of Justice (DOJ), the US Department of the Treasury and the US Department of State, giving him a comprehensive understanding of federal regulatory and enforcement mechanisms. Drawing on his diverse experience, he offers clients creative solutions to help them navigate rapidly changing legal and regulatory environments.

Before joining Cooley, Carlton served in key roles in the federal government, most recently as senior counsel to the deputy attorney general at the DOJ. In this capacity, he regularly advised department leadership on some of the highest-profile civil litigation facing the federal government, as well as other legal, policy and operational issues arising from the DOJ's Civil Division, National Security Division, Tax Division, Environmental and Natural Resources Division, and Office of the Solicitor General. Among other areas, Carlton advised the deputy attorney general on various foreign investment issues, including transactions reviewed by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS). Before his time at the DOJ, Carlton served as senior adviser to the general counsel at the Department of the Treasury, where he focused on sanctions, international trade, international arbitration and national security litigation.

Carlton clerked for US Supreme Court Justice Stephen G. Breyer, Judge Cornelia T.L. Pillard of the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit, and Judge Raymond J. Lohier Jr. of the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Education

Yale Law School
JD, 2014

Harvard College
AB, Social Studies, 2009

Admissions & Credentials

New York

District of Columbia

Court Admissions

US Court of Appeals for the First Circuit

US Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit

US Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit

US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit

US District Court for the District of Columbia