

Sarah Oliai

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Sarah Oliai's practice focuses on helping companies navigate complex regulatory issues regarding international trade and national security. Specifically, Sarah advises clients on issues relating to the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), economic sanctions programs administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), and the Committee on Foreign Investment in the US.

Sarah's experience also includes consulting on EAR, ITAR, and OFAC compliance, developing policies and procedures; performing risk assessments, audits and operations mapping, providing recommendations for corrective actions based on leading practices; training compliance teams and business units; classifying products and technology and implementing compliance programs for multinational companies in a variety of industries around the globe.

Sarah is nationally ranked by Chambers USA as a CFIUS associate to watch, and clients praise her "practical and actionable" advice.

Previously, Sarah clerked for a federal judge on the US Court of International Trade, researching and drafting opinions in customs classification and anti-dumping duty cases, and served as a fellow at the Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia, assisting clients with federal and District of Columbia public benefits matters. She also consulted for the World Bank Group, analyzing draft legislation in Spanish on topics including customs enforcement, weapons control, money laundering and human rights. She is fluent in Spanish and has intermediate proficiency in Persian/Farsi.

Education

University of Michigan Law School
JD, 2014

Michigan State University, James Madison College of Public Policy
BA, International Relations, with honors, 2010

Admissions & Credentials

New York

District of Columbia

Rankings & Accolades

Chambers USA: International Trade: CFIUS Experts – Nationwide (2021 – 2025)

The Legal 500 US: Customs, Export Controls and Economic Sanctions (2025)