
Government Contracts

Bringing significant depth and critical experience to government contracting matters.

Government and internal investigations related to government contracts present unique challenges, due to the complex regulatory regimes for doing business with the US government. We leverage our firm's market-leading Government Contracts, White Collar Defense and Investigations and False Claims Act practices to help our clients navigate high-stakes inquiries while protecting their valued customer relationships.

Our team of highly skilled lawyers is led by a former General Counsel of the Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency and a former manager of the in-house litigation/bid protest group for a multinational government contractor. Drawing on our many years of experience in government, in-house and private practice, we combine technical know-how with creative lawyering to help clients navigate the complex world of federal procurement and other government transactions. We counsel a diverse range of clients on issues arising in the pursuit or performance of government contracts, including contract negotiations, intellectual property rights, commercial item status, flow down clauses and GSA Schedule compliance. We offer pre-eminent experience on key national security areas affecting government contractors, such as cybersecurity; foreign ownership, control and influence; and export and defense trade controls.

We work closely with our transactional colleagues on M&A matters involving government contractors. Relying on our strong litigation background, clients confidently look to us to protect their interests in enforcement actions, investigations, federal court litigation, board of contract appeals litigation, bid protests and other contested proceedings. Our pragmatic approach to problem solving includes a focus on alternative dispute resolution and other proactive means for resolving disputes quickly and efficiently. As counselors to our clients and advocates for them, we take the time to learn and understand their businesses to ensure that our legal advice aligns with their goals.

Key Contacts



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Areas of Focus

Bid Protests

Government Contract
Investigations

Government Contracts and
Procurement Counseling

Technology, Software and
Data Rights

Government Contract Claims
and Litigation

Defense Tech Transactions

GSA Schedule and Commercial
Item Contracting

Supply Chains, Subcontracts
and Teaming Arrangements

Defense Sector False Claims
Act

Government R&D and
Technology Transactions

Government Contractor
Labor/Employment and Small
Business Programs

Related Solutions

Cybersecurity and Privacy

Foreign Investment in the US
(CFIUS)

Export Controls and
Economic Sanctions

Recognition

- *The Legal 500 United States* recognized WilmerHale across 30 practice areas, including Government Contracts, in 2021, 2022 and 2023. It stated that the firm “has a strong record in representing major contractors in multibillion-dollar bid protests, investigations, claims and allegations of procurement fraud.” Andrew Shipley was individually named an elite “Leading Lawyer” in the category and clients stated he is “accessible, attentive, knowledgeable, brilliant.”
- *Law360* recognized WilmerHale in the ‘Government Contracts’ category of its 2021 Practice Groups of the Year awards, which honor the attorney teams behind litigation wins and major deals that resonated throughout the legal industry. The firm was said to have “assembled a large number of attorneys with years of trial experience or past work in ‘very high levels’ of government or as in-house attorneys” and the group is “wired to take on ‘every aspect’ of government contracting.”
- *Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business* consistently names WilmerHale among the most elite firms for government contract work in the US. Clients commented “They are really fantastic” and “really well skilled; people there are super sharp and super helpful.” Andrew Shipley was named one of the nation’s leading lawyers in the practice area in 2019, 2020 and 2021.