



Harvey Jay Cohen

Partner

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Harvey is Chair of Dinsmore's International Business Practice Group.

While Harvey was born and raised in the U.S., he has always had a passion and curiosity for lands and cultures outside of his native country. He is a long-standing, accomplished corporate attorney uniquely focused on helping clients win by practically, pro-actively and efficiently assisting with their domestic and foreign transactions. With several decades of studies and dealings abroad, Harvey applies his global experience to address cross-border strategies and complex issues in tandem with client product or service needs, specific industry situations, as well as "must haves" and "must avoids" before crafting any solution or agreement.

His practice extends beyond transactions however. In addition to routinely leading U.S. and foreign M&A and other corporate and tech projects, he and his team daily advise clients on Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), Export Control, and Denied Parties and Sanctions (OFAC) issues, as well as handling licensing, distribution, sales, sourcing and compensation agreements. In recent years, Harvey and Dinsmore have devoted significant resources to cross border bank regulatory and lending matters. Throughout his long career, Harvey also routinely counsels clients on SAAS and complex tech licensing, software development, Cloud/ASP agreements, Data Privacy, hosting, business-to-business issues, outsourcing and all high-tech agreements generally.

Harvey is known for asking the hard, practical questions up front that cause ill-conceived deals to die early or that assist clients to forge alliances that are more likely to succeed and endure. His clients benefit from his extensive experience handling cross-border mergers and acquisitions, and with Dinsmore having more than 250 foreign clients, Harvey tailors his strategy to meet the unique needs of each client. Among his most noteworthy transactions, he handled joint ventures with a German logistics provider and a German consumer products company and both a Chinese alternative energy producer and lubricant oils producer, as well as assisting with a \$150 million cross-border acquisition transaction. Throughout his career, Harvey has represented a number of significant clients, including Procter & Gamble, Standard Register, Fifth Third Bank, other Banks and like enterprises, Omnicare, First Data, Shaw Flooring, Carrs Plc, Private Equity and Venture Capital Funds and their targets and Toyota in deals totaling over billions of dollars. His international business transactions have included joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions of foreign subsidiaries and entities in the U.S., Europe, China, Mexico, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India and Latin America.

Harvey is also the past chair of the Closely Held and Growing Business Enterprises Committee of the International Bar Association (IBA), the Ohio State Bar Association's representative to the IBA's governing Council and Bar Issues Commission, an elected member of the IBA Legal Practice Division Council and its Strategic Planning Committee, appointed to the IBA Constitution and Governance Committee, a member of the IBA Professional Ethics Committee Advisory Board, a member of the IBA Closely Held Committee Advisory Board, and a member of the IBA Law Firm Management Committee Advisory Board. He frequently lectures in the U.S. and abroad on high technology, domestic and international joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions, and other transactions for international organizations and business groups.

Services

- International Business
- International Trade and Regulatory Compliance
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Corporate & Transactional
- Private Equity
- Capital Markets
- Private Placements
- Franchise & Distribution
- Banking & Financial Services
- Executive Compensation
- Beer, Wine & Spirits Industry

Education

- University of Cincinnati College of Law (J.D., 1987)
 - Order of the Coif
- Columbia University (M.A., 1986)
 - International Affairs
- University of Yaounde, Cameroon (Masters Studies, 1983)
 - Rotary International Fellowship
- Georgetown University (A.B., *cum laude*, 1982)
- University of Sussex School of African and Asian Studies, Brighton, England (Undergraduate Studies, 1980)
 - African and Asian Studies

Bar Admissions

- Ohio

Affiliations/Memberships

- European-American Chamber of Commerce, past president
- International Bar Association senior positions
 - Closely Held and Growing Business Enterprises Committee, past chair
 - IBA Council and Bar Issues Commission, member
 - Legal Practice Division Council, elected member
 - Constitution and Governance Committee, member
 - Closely Held Committee Advisory Board, member
 - Law Firm Management Committee, past Advisory Board member
 - Professional Ethics Committee, Advisory Board member
 - Corporate Mergers and Acquisitions and Technology committees, member
- University of Cincinnati College of Law LLM and prior Institute for the Global Practice of Law, Advisory Board member
- ALFA®International, International Law Practice Group, former co-chair
- Leadership Cincinnati, Class XXXIII
- Cedar Village Retirement Community Foundation, past chair and member of the Board and Investment Committee
- May We Help non-profit, past Board Chair
- Art Academy of Cincinnati
- Jewish Community Relations Council, Board member
- Congregation Etz Chaim, past president, past Board member
- French American Chamber, past Board member and officer
- Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, Foreign Investment Attraction Team and International Trade Council, past member
- Ohio Commodores (Trade Promotion Organization), past governor-appointed member
- Southern Ohio and Kentucky District Export Councils, past Board member
- Ohio State Bar Association
 - Corporate Counsel Committee
 - International Law Committee, past chair
- Cincinnati Bar Association
 - International Law Committee, past chair
 - Corporate and Securities Law Committee, past vice chair

- Northern Kentucky International Trade Association, past Board member
- University of Cincinnati College of Law, International Business Transactions, past professor
- United Way, Neighborhood Services Field of Service, past co-chair, Division Leadership Council
- Travelers Aid International, past president

Distinctions

- Peer Review Rated AV in *Martindale-Hubbell*
- *Best Lawyers*®
 - "Lawyer of the Year" in Cincinnati for International Trade and Finance Law (2014, 2019, 2022, 2024)
 - Corporate, Information Technology, International Trade and Finance Law (2021-2024)
- Recommended for Mergers, Acquisitions and Buyouts by *The Legal 500 United States*
- Ohio *Super Lawyers*®
- Ohio Exporter of the Year E-Award presented by the Governor of Ohio (2009)
- M&A Leader in Foreign Transactions – Ohio, Corporate America News (2015)

Languages

- French

Experience

Inbound (FDI) Merger and Acquisition Purchases of U.S. Company, Creating Cross Border Equity Joint Ventures

We have represented a number of French and British technology companies with respect to inbound (FDI) merger and acquisition purchases of U.S. company, creating cross border equity joint ventures. Our years of experience and large number of these clients speeds the process and transactions.

Establishing Foreign Subsidiaries Around the World

We have represented scores of foreign subsidiaries, sometimes for the same client, from international labor and employment issues to tax and corporate issues. We leverage our long history of assisting clients to expand internationally through foreign direct investment.

Publications

October 16, 2020

CFIUS: Now More Complicated and More Expensive