

akravis | LAW
GROUP

Washington D.C. | New York

akravis | LAW
GROUP

Washington D.C. | New York

From Washington
To The World

Akrivis Law Group, PLLC. 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Suite 440, Washington, DC 20015

📞 202.730.1271 ✉ info@akrivislaw.com 🌐 akrivislaw.com



\ Ak-ri-vis \

A commitment to providing the highest quality legal expertise, personalized service, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness to clients around the world. The word Akrivis means "precise" in Greek, and precision serves as the cornerstone of our practice, focus, and attention to clients.

Based in Washington, DC, Akrivis Law Group, PLLC is committed to providing its clients expertise and outstanding professional service on par with what they could expect at a large global law firm, but with a personal touch and cost effectiveness that is only possible at a focused, boutique practice.

Our attorneys are graduates of prominent law schools and have years of experience at some of the world's most prestigious and largest law firms, where they worked on and led numerous multi-faceted, complex and high-profile transactions and legal representations. All of our lawyers have international experience. When required, we can quickly assemble a team of outside experts to assist us in the matter at hand.

Akrivis regularly represents clients from around the United States, Europe, and the Middle East region and beyond. They include major multinationals, startups, and high net worth individuals around the world.

- Sanctions & Trade Regulatory
- White Collar Sanctions Defense & Corporate Investigations
- FCPA and Anti-Corruption
- Banking & Finance
- International Tax and Offshore Compliance
- Business & International Commerce
- International Private Client & Family Offices

With extensive experience in each of these areas, Akrivis provides its corporate and individual clients with elegant, optimal solutions to their sophisticated issues without compromising the quality of representation. Our size allows us to offer heightened attention, developing personal relationships with our clients that enable us to understand their needs and concerns more clearly.

Effectiveness, depth, perspective, creativity, agility, and efficiency. At Akrivis, there is no need to have to sacrifice any of these for the others. Welcome.

Farhad R. Alavi
Managing Partner

5335 Wisconsin Avenue, NW
Suite 440
Washington, DC 20015
202.730.1271
akrivislaw.com

From Washington
To The World

Sanctions & Trade Regulatory

Navigating the labyrinth of sanctions and trade regulations can be a challenge for all, from multinational corporations all the way to private individuals. Whether you are seeking an Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) or Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) license to export certain commodities, or have customs regulation challenges, Akrivis Law Group can help you every step along the way, covering compliance and enforcement.

Sanctions, Export Controls & State Department Licensing

Akrivis regularly advises industrial, manufacturing, and trade firms, as well as high net worth individuals around the world on this increasingly relevant issue. From our Washington office, our fingers are constantly on the pulse of this ever-changing area of law. Globally, we are very well-positioned to help you meet your sanctions and export control compliance and enforcement needs, such as:

- International Internal Compliance Programs
- Obtaining Specific Licenses for Transactions with Sanctioned Countries
- Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) List Removal
- Civil Enforcement Matters
- International Funds / Wire Transfer Issues
- BIS Commodity Classifications
- Criminal Defense Arising from Alleged U.S. Sanctions and Export Control Violations

Our sanctions practice covers a broad spectrum, and although our work with Iran sanctions is particularly well-known, we work diligently to assist you with all licensing matters, be it a petition to unblock funds, Russian divestment, the sale of permitted and permissible goods to sanctioned countries, or engaging in charitable and educational activities in Cuba, Sudan or Syria, and other matters. Beyond licensing and compliance, we represent clients on all facets of enforcement, including criminal defense litigation.

Complementing our OFAC and BIS practice, we can also advise on exports falling under the jurisdiction of the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) and apply for licenses from the U.S. Department of State's Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC).

Customs Regulations

Customs matters have become highly relevant as trade globalization accelerates. The United States maintains sophisticated laws and regulations on issues ranging from inbound Tariff Rate Quotas (TRQ) to Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) classifications to enforcement matters and seizures.



White Collar, Sanctions Defense & Corporate Investigations

Akrivis Law Group's attorneys have a wealth of experience representing clients in white collar defense matters at the federal and state levels. Government investigations can quickly lead to criminal investigations and prosecutions for companies and individuals where regulators and prosecutors interpret the facts surrounding regulatory violations to be clear, regardless of whether such actions were intentional or innocent. As such, we can work to mitigate exposure to liability and defend against prosecution. Our insight enables us to adopt an approach that involves strategy, not just representation.

Akrivis regularly represents clients in a host of white collar matters before government agencies and the courts concerning corporate fraud and other non-compliance allegations or regulatory violations, drawing on our very strong sanctions, export control, and general trade compliance background. Our trade compliance practice and experience enables us to provide competent representation on U.S. PATRIOT Act, Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), trade sanctions investigations, and all litigation matters.



We can assist clients with criminal defense in securities, customs and import and export violations, tax fraud, conspiracy, money laundering, FCPA, and most other matters that have been the focus of white collar investigations. Akrivis's attorneys are intimately experienced with training and compliance programs, investigations, assessments and identification of breaches, as well as with advising on compliance decisions arising from those breaches, mitigation of losses, and defense before regulators and prosecutors.

Data Privacy & Cyber Security

Managing data privacy and security risks is imperative to a corporation's success in nearly every industry today. Navigating compliance is complicated as every industry has unique data protection requirements and challenges. Regulations are vast and overlapping and often touch on related laws that are complex, making the risks are very significant. Akrivis can efficiently assist you with your data privacy and cyber security challenges.

FCPA & Anti-Corruption

Companies today must give heightened priority to compliance with anti-corruption laws given the increasing tide of federal enforcement of the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ). Akrivis Law Group regularly advises clients in the United States and abroad on their FCPA obligations, including recommending the implementation of preventative measures such as compliance programs. If an enforcement action has begun, we can advise on the investigatory and defense aspects.

Anti-corruption laws, however, are not just an American phenomenon. Being an internationally focused law firm where every one of our senior lawyers has experience working overseas, we can provide unique insight on matters inherent to global business. As such, our approach on anti-corruption does not stop at the FCPA. Working with our relationships in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, we provide a single solution to our clients' global anti-corruption compliance needs, including the United Kingdom's Bribery Act and other directives.

Our attorneys bring together extensive experience working on FCPA matters in a major law firm setting. This, along with our relationships across the globe in the investigations, accounting, and forensics fields, allows us to provide effective and intelligent advice.

Compliance Advisory

The best defense to prevent FCPA violations requires awareness and compliance. There is no one-size-fits-all approach. We know what questions to ask and how to make sure you have an FCPA compliance game plan that fits your business and operations. From advising on one-off matters to developing and updating a comprehensive compliance program, we can assist in all such areas, be it within the United States or abroad.

Investigations and Defense

An effective defense of an FCPA violation allegation should always begin with a thorough but focused investigation. Our white-collar experience allows us to lead investigations with an eye to not only identifying what took place, but also taking remedial steps that can act as mitigating factors in defending our clients and also preventing future violations.

Investigation and prosecution of FCPA violations are no longer just a concern for large corporations. Individuals are increasingly finding themselves as targets in such enforcement matters. Importantly, FCPA defense requires strategy. Our seasoned experience in defending clients for violations of U.S. trade laws before the DOJ as well as insight gained by our lawyers in the private and public sector make us well positioned for defending parties from major multinationals down to individual executives.



Banking & Finance

As a key component to operating financial institutions, regulatory compliance has never been more critical than now. Ever-changing, complicated laws require counsel that understands the nuances and stringent requirements that are increasingly becoming commonplace in the fabric of international banking and finance.

Akrivis Law Group can advise U.S. and foreign financial institutions on integral compliance areas such as:

- Corporate Governance & Compliance Procedures
- Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA)
- Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)
- Anti-Money Laundering (AML)
- Bank Secrecy Act (BSA), & U.S. PATRIOT Act

Our lawyers are well-versed in advising financial institutions, having experience on private bank, central bank, and monetary authority matters.



Commercial Lending

With extensive experience in large and small-scale financing, our lawyers can help deliver sophisticated, elegant solutions incorporating all critical considerations for domestic and cross-border transactions, even in niche areas like Sharia finance.

International Tax & Offshore Compliance

The international business arena has created a highly complex legal tax structure for individuals and corporations who operate across borders. This has fueled an aggressive and hostile civil and criminal enforcement policy by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and the U.S. Department of Justice for perceived tax abuse and non-compliance with U.S. tax laws and offshore accounts.

Drawing on our experience, which includes advising on multi-faceted regulatory frameworks, Akrivis represents clients on critical international tax matters. We offer a host of services to clients having an international financial footprint. Our services include counseling on:

- Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts (FBAR) & the Offshore Voluntary Disclosure Program (OVDP)
- Tax Litigation, Arbitration & Advocacy
- Enforcement Proceedings & Negotiating Settlements
- Cross-Border Disclosure Requests from Tax Authorities
- Investigations & Compliance
- U.S. Expatriation

Business & International Commerce

Washington. New York. London. Dubai. Singapore. Effectively counseling on corporate matters requires not just legal knowledge, but also an understanding of how businesses function locally and globally. We can assist in the following areas:

- Corporate Transactions and Mergers & Acquisitions
- Startups and Venture-Based Entities
- Foreign Inbound Investment
- U.S. Corporate Expansion Overseas and Outbound Investment

An International Edge

Our corporate practice is bolstered by our vast international experience. While this experience is broad-based, we are particularly versed in critical emerging and frontier markets, namely those in the Middle East, East Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Our global outlook, vast relationship network, foreign language skills, and intimate familiarity with the business climates and cultures of other regions allow us to better assist our clients prevent misunderstandings and improve efficiency in structuring and executing cross-border transactions.



Middle East / North Africa (MENA) Practice

MENA is of particular importance to Akivis. We regularly advise clients in the region on U.S. legal issues, and our attorneys have substantive experience with outbound work in the region, particularly the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). The firm's expertise goes hand in hand with our key competence in corporate, energy, and hospitality matters, as well as in sanctions, AML, FCPA, and taxation regulations.

International Private Client & Family Offices

U.S. and foreign based high net worth individuals feature prominently in our client base. This allows us to scale sophisticated, complex practices like sanctions compliance and international tax for private individuals and family offices. Beyond this, we can advise on:

- U.S. investment for foreign clients and foreign investment for U.S. clients
- Cross-border asset acquisition (e.g., real estate, private aircraft, yachts, and artwork)
- Investment-based U.S. immigration

Beyond our standard practice areas, we offer a “concierge” style approach, working with experts in a broad range of areas, all while providing a “gatekeeper” solution for all private client needs.



Managing Partner
falavi@akrivilaw.com

Bar Admissions:
District of Columbia
Maryland

Languages:
Persian (Farsi)
Spanish
German (basic)
Arabic (basic)

Farhad R. Alavi

Mr. Alavi's practice focuses primarily on international and domestic corporate matters and complex trade issues, including U.S. sanctions, export controls, anti-corruption regulations, and compliance, as well as multinational investment, banking and tax matters. He represents clients around the world from major multinationals to small and medium businesses and high net worth individuals. Mr. Alavi previously practiced in several global firms in Washington, including Baker & McKenzie LLP and Holland & Knight LLP, where he also had an appointment in that firm's Abu Dhabi office.

Mr. Alavi has vast experience in U.S. sanctions, export controls, customs, and anti-corruption compliance, and advises clients on related trade enforcement and criminal defense matters, regularly representing clients before OFAC, BIS, and the Department of Justice. His corporate law experience includes international joint venture, distribution, and financing agreements. Mr. Alavi is especially well-versed in issues related to projects and dealings involving key emerging and frontier markets, including China, Latin America, and the Middle East & Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) region.

Given his knowledge of U.S. trade regulation and experience, Mr. Alavi is often quoted by media around the world, including The New York Times, CNN Money, Bloomberg, Financial Times, and The Wall Street Journal, and has appeared on the BBC, Al Jazeera English & Arabic, CCTV America, and BBC Persian, among others. He also regularly lectures in the United States and abroad. Mr. Alavi is a member of the International Bar Association (IBA) and has served multiple terms on the national Board of Directors of the Iranian-American Bar Association (IABA). He is also an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University Law Center.

Education:

LL.M., Banking & Financial Law, Boston University School of Law
J.D., George Mason University School of Law
B.A., Economics and International Relations, Tufts University
Court Admissions:
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia

Court Admissions:

U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia



Senior Counsel
wgray@akrivilaw.com

Bar Admissions:
District of Columbia
Virginia

Languages:
French (basic)
Italian (basic)
German (basic)
Arabic (basic)

T. Wayne Gray

Mr. Gray represents domestic and foreign clients (private and government) on projects including business, construction, energy/oil & gas/off-shore platforms, technology, aviation/satellite, procurement and services matters, and related matters. Mr. Gray was previously in the Washington office of Holland & Knight LLP, where he also had an appointment in that firm's Abu Dhabi office.

Mr. Gray has extensive experience in reviewing, drafting and negotiating various types of contracts for client projects for the development, design, procurement, construction and provision of services.

Mr. Gray started his legal career as a government lawyer in Vietnam, Germany and Italy and then with the Army Corps of Engineers in Saudi Arabia. After entering private practice, he returned to Saudi Arabia and managed his law firm's Riyadh office. Mr. Gray has lived in Europe, Asia and the Middle East for 14 years and having also traveled and worked in Africa and South America.

Mr. Gray is also a Strategic Advisor to a prominent government and business relations firm also in Washington, DC with international affiliates. Mr. Gray has written and lectured nationally and internationally on construction and contract law matters.

Education:

J.D., University of Virginia School of Law
B.A., English, Virginia Military Institute

Court Admissions:

U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia



Partner

ttaylor@akrivilaw.com

Bar Admissions:

District of Columbia
Maryland
New York

Teresa N. Taylor

Ms. Taylor advises corporations and individuals on international tax issues, U.S. trade compliance, and white collar defense. She defends clients before U.S. federal courts, the Department of Justice, and federal agencies involving alleged violations of U.S. trade laws. Before joining Akrivis, Ms. Taylor was a Senior Attorney at the U.S. Department of the Treasury and practiced at Clifford Chance US LLP.

Ms. Taylor's practice includes federal appeals; spearheading corporate investigations; advising and implementing corporate compliance programs; FATCA representation before the Internal Revenue Service (IRS); international tax analyses; trademark; and business immigration.

Ms. Taylor's international human rights work includes participation in the UN Conference on the Establishment of the International Criminal Court, where she assisted in drafting the gender crimes portion of the Statute of the Court and advocated to country delegations on the need for inclusion of gender crimes in the Statute. She additionally founded and served as the Executive Director of a non-profit organization whose mission was to raise awareness of contemporary genocidal atrocities with a focus on the need for justice and accountability under international humanitarian law.

Ms. Taylor is an appointed member to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, Board on Professional Responsibility, Hearing Committee. The Hearing Committee hears cases concerning attorney disciplinary matters and makes recommendations for discipline to the Board. She has taught as an Adjunct Professor at Georgetown University Law Center, the University of Maryland, and other colleges.

Education:

LL.M., International & Comparative Law, Georgetown University Law Center
J.D., cum laude, M.A., International Affairs & Politics, Washington College of Law, American University
M.A., Liberal Arts, St. John's College
B.A., English, University of Maryland College Park

Court Admissions:

U.S. Supreme Court
U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia
U.S. Tax Court
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia
U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland
