PRACTICE AREA OVERVIEWS

EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS FOR A CAREER IN BIG LAW

WHITE & CASE

LAUNCH YOUR GLOBAL LEGAL CAREER



WHITE & CASE is an elite global law firm serving leading companies, financial institutions and governments worldwide. Our long history as an international firm means we are perfectly placed to help our clients resolve their most complex legal challenges wherever they may be.

With lawyers operating from more than 40 locations, we have invested heavily in building a high-quality full-service practice competing at the top of the market. We are distinguished by our on-the-ground presence in the world's key financial markets and our strengths in handling complex cross-border work.

SUMMER PROGRAM

As a summer associate, you will gain hands-on experience working on substantive legal matters, receive mentorship from experienced lawyers and participate in professional development opportunities. You will be welcomed as an integral member of our team from day one, receiving the support and tools you need to thrive.

Our ten-week Summer Program is designed to leverage your skills and ambition. You will be exposed to practice areas of interest to you, working side-by-side with our lawyers. Summer associates have the opportunity to explore various practice areas and assignments, including pro bono work.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

3 Overview

5 Capital Markets

6 Competition

9 Debt Finance

10 Disputes

13 Energy, Infrastructure, Project & Asset Finance (EIPAF)

14 Financial Restructuring and Insolvency (FRI)

15 Mergers & Acquisitions (M&A)

19 Practice area summary

20 Practice area by office guide

OVERVIEW

EVERY large law firm is structured slightly differently and has its own areas of proficiency. At White & Case, our lawyers are structured into regional sections, with some sections composed of different practice areas. This guide provides a brief introduction into those sections and groups. At the end of the guide, you will find a summary of which practice areas are available in which US offices.

While we ask our summer associate candidates to provide their practice area preferences during the interview process and prior to the start of the summer, all of our summer associates have the opportunity to try work in various areas. At the end of the summer, they are asked to rank their practice area preferences. Once they receive a full-time offer, the Firm then communicates in which practice area they will be placed as a first-year associate.

In most of our US offices, our first-year associates are placed directly into a practice area. In Houston and New York, first-year associates are part of either a Corporate or Litigation Pool with two focus areas (called a major and a minor) in which they receive the majority of their assignments. Interests, business needs and feedback during the summer are all taken into account when making practice area placement decisions. Those in a Pool for their first year will be placed into either their major or minor around May of the following year.

For questions related to the recruiting process, please contact usgradrecruiting@whitecase.com or view our Careers site at uslawcareers.whitecase.com.

OUR PRACTICE AREAS

CAPITAL MARKETS

CAPITAL MARKETS lawyers assist companies in accessing capital while ensuring compliance with legal and regulatory frameworks. White & Case's acclaimed Capital Markets Practice spans securities products, including debt and equity markets, high yield, structured finance, derivatives, securitization and corporate trust. Our clients include leading global investment banks, NYSE, Nasdaq and FTSE-listed corporates, sovereigns and funds.

We have a notable history, including advising on the first sovereign debt rescheduling (Republic of Indonesia, 1975) and assisting more than 60 sovereigns and state-owned enterprises with complex legal challenges. We represented Visa in its record-setting US$19.3 billion IPO on the NYSE in 2008.

Our involvement in sustainable finance includes advising on a groundbreaking US$3 billion green securitization deal by Crédit Agricole in 2017. We are also the sole legal knowledge partner to the G20 Sustainable Finance Study Group.

Typical summer associate assignments in Capital Markets include preparing signature pages for closings, assisting in drafting documents for registered offerings, assisting with SEC filings and SEC/shareholder disclosures, and due diligence.

Successful Capital Markets associates are hard-working, proactive with a can-do attitude, engaged, team players, inquisitive and curious, responsive, eager to learn and improve, commercially minded, strong communicators, and show accountability and ownership.

COMPETITION

ANTITRUST

Antitrust lawyers ensure fair competition, fostering a healthy market environment. White & Case has a globally recognized track record in antitrust law, handling many precedent-setting and industry-transforming matters.

Our Antitrust team spans five continents, with more than 315 lawyers in 28 offices across 19 countries. We offer innovative solutions for a full range of competition issues, including merger clearance, cartel investigations, monopolization, class action defense, pharmaceutical antitrust litigation, state aid awards, foreign direct investment and compliance.

Clients choose us for:

- Cross-border mergers, joint ventures, licensing, distribution arrangements and criminal investigations
- Litigation against governmental authorities and private parties
- Global cartel investigations, including Sherman Act class actions, EU proceedings, extradition and extraterritorial discovery

Typical summer associate assignments in Antitrust include researching non-compete laws, precedent research, jurisdictional discovery, legal analysis, summarizing FTC instructions and document review for depositions.

Successful Antitrust associates are driven, commercially minded, professional, adaptable and take ownership of their work. An economics or accounting background is beneficial but not required.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP)

IP lawyers help clients protect their innovations, brands and creative works, thereby maximizing the value of their intellectual property assets.

Our IP Practice specializes in providing strategic legal services related to the protection, enforcement and commercialization of intellectual property rights. We provide specialized advice on a broad spectrum of IP matters, including patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets and patent licensing agreements. Our team excels in developing and implementing IP strategies, conducting IP due diligence, and managing IP litigation and dispute resolution.

Leveraging our extensive experience and global reach, we help clients safeguard their innovations, maximize the value of their IP assets and navigate the complexities of international IP law, ensuring competitive advantage in the market.

Typical summer associate assignments in IP include researching case law and copyright registrations, creating risk assessment memos, conducting regulatory reviews, and assisting with depositions and drafting of motions.

Successful IP associates are tenacious, proactive, strong critical thinkers and collaborative. While having a STEM background can be helpful in this practice, it is not a requirement.

TRADE

Trade lawyers help businesses navigate the complexities of international trade, ensuring compliance with laws and regulations, and protecting their interests in the global marketplace.

Our Trade Practice specializes in advising clients on international trade laws and regulations, guiding them through the complexities of global commerce. We offer strategic legal counsel on a range of matters, including import/export compliance, trade sanctions, customs regulations and trade policy. Our team helps clients manage risk associated with cross-border transactions, secure necessary trade licenses and permits, and resolve disputes related to international trade. We also represent clients in trade-related litigation and before regulatory bodies.

By leveraging our in-depth knowledge of global trade frameworks and policies, our Trade Practice supports clients in optimizing their international operations, ensuring regulatory compliance and achieving their business objectives in a competitive global market.

Typical summer associate assignments in Trade include reviewing SEC filings, document review and research of sanctions, providing overviews of regulatory frameworks and drafting of related documents.

Successful Trade associates are resilient, agile, professional, proactive, disciplined, detail-oriented, have a global mindset, and are persuasive writers and strategic thinkers.

DEBT FINANCE

DEBT FINANCE lawyers specialize in legal matters related to the borrowing and lending of money.

Since our founding in 1901, finance has been at the core of White & Case.

Our Debt Finance Practice specializes in advising clients on all aspects of debt-related transactions and financial structuring. We provide legal proficiency to borrowers, lenders and other financial institutions on a wide range of financing matters, including syndicated loans, leveraged buyouts, refinancing and structured finance. Our team assists clients in negotiating and drafting loan agreements, security documents and related contracts, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements and managing potential risks.

By leveraging our extensive knowledge of global financial markets and regulations, our Debt Finance Practice helps clients secure favorable financing terms and navigate complex financial landscapes, ultimately supporting their strategic financial goals and operational needs.

Typical summer associate assignments in Debt Finance include generating signature pages, reviewing deal documents and implementing edits, creating fee letters and amendments, and preparing closing checklists.

Successful Debt Finance associates are diligent, attentive to detail, strong communicators, responsive and professional.

DISPUTES

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Commercial Litigation lawyers specialize in handling disputes and legal issues arising from business and commercial relationships.

White & Case's global Litigation & Trial team protects and represents clients at every stage of dispute resolution, from risk assessment through trials and appeals, where our courtroom capabilities shine. Our clients—the world's leading corporations, financial institutions, sovereign governments and executives—trust us repeatedly to guide them through their most significant challenges.

Within our Commercial Litigation Practice, our renowned Technology Disputes team serves as trusted advisors to many of the world's leading technology companies. We handle some of the most complex and high-stakes international litigation, often involving cutting-edge, first-of-their-kind legal challenges. Our work spans a broad range of issues, including data privacy, data protection, unfair competition, class actions, intermediary liability, content moderation, terms of use, free speech and defamation. Beyond litigation, we provide strategic counsel on global regulatory, legislative and election-related developments, and support the successful launch and growth of new products and services. Our approach emphasizes risk management and compliance, ensuring consistent legal and commercial strategies across jurisdictions.

Typical summer associate assignments in Commercial Litigation include summarizing depositions, legal research memos, creating hearing presentations, document review and analysis, and preparing comparison charts.

Successful Commercial Litigation associates are resilient, proactive, have a hunger for the law and possess strong writing skills.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION

International Arbitration lawyers specialize in resolving cross-border disputes through arbitration, a form of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) that occurs outside of traditional court systems.

Our International Arbitration Practice specializes in resolving cross-border disputes through arbitration, offering clients a strategic alternative to traditional litigation. We provide specialized legal representation across a wide range of international arbitration matters, including commercial disputes, investment treaty claims and complex multi-party arbitrations. Our team handles all stages of the arbitration process, from drafting and negotiating arbitration agreements to representing clients in hearings and enforcing awards.

With deep expertise in various arbitral institutions and rules, including ICC, LCIA and UNCITRAL, we help clients achieve favorable outcomes and navigate the complexities of international dispute resolution, ensuring efficient and effective outcomes of global disputes.

Typical summer associate assignments in International Arbitration include legal research memos, creating hearing presentations, conducting background checks of witnesses, updating timelines and assisting with drafting.

Successful International Arbitration associates are globally minded, diligent, detail-oriented, motivated, collaborative, and possess strong analytical skills and enthusiasm for their work.

International experience and fluency in a second language other than English are strongly preferred for this group.

WHITE COLLAR

White Collar lawyers play a crucial role in navigating the complex and high-stakes environment of financial and corporate crime. Their know-how helps clients manage legal risks, defend against serious allegations and ensure compliance with the law.

Our White Collar Practice specializes in defending and advising clients on a wide range of corporate crime and regulatory enforcement matters. We provide specialized legal services related to fraud, bribery, corruption, insider trading, money laundering and other financial crimes. Our team conducts internal investigations, manages responses to government inquiries and navigates complex regulatory landscapes. We also represent clients in criminal prosecutions, enforcement actions and associated civil litigation.

By leveraging our extensive legal proficiency and strategic insights into regulatory trends, our White Collar Practice helps clients mitigate risks, handle crises effectively, and safeguard their reputation and business interests.

Typical summer associate assignments in White Collar include legal research, cite checking, business development presentations, drafting memos and conducting fact development.

Successful White Collar associates have a global mindset, are go-getters and self-starters, and have a professional demeanor for client-facing interactions.

ENERGY, INFRASTRUCTURE, PROJECT & ASSET FINANCE (EIPAF)

EIPAF lawyers advise clients on developing, structuring and financing energy, infrastructure and transportation projects, as well as owning, operating, or buying/selling interests in these projects and navigating regulations.

Our competence spans power generation and transmission (thermal, nuclear, renewable energy), oil & gas (LNG, petrochemicals), infrastructure (roads, airports, bridges, railways, ports, social infrastructure), mining & metals, water and wastewater treatment, and telecom (towers, broadband, fiber-optics, satellites).

Clients include lenders, export credit agencies, equity investors, joint venture partners, borrowers, project sponsors, airlines and asset-leasing companies. We serve start-ups, private and public companies, state-owned enterprises, sovereign funds, US agencies, foreign governments, banks, investment banks, private equity funds and investment funds.

Typical summer associate assignments in EIPAF include adding information to stipulations, document amendments, due diligence, preparing signature pages, researching and drafting memos on state laws, and reviewing and commenting on credit agreements and provisions.

Successful EIPAF associates are hard-working, proactive, professional, organized and collaborative.

FINANCIAL RESTRUCTURING AND INSOLVENCY (FRI)

FRI lawyers specialize in legal matters related to distressed businesses, including restructuring debt, managing insolvency proceedings and advising on bankruptcy.

The FRI Practice represents clients across all aspects of restructurings, workouts and insolvency matters, including both transactional and litigation matters. Our offering covers the full spectrum of the distressed continuum, advising clients from a wide range of sectors on all aspects of corporate and financial restructurings through to chapter 11 proceedings. When working on clients' complex restructuring and bankruptcy deals, we are able to draw on the expertise of lawyers from our other global practices, including M&A, Litigation, Debt Finance, Tax and Regulatory, and other practices.

Typical summer associate assignments in FRI include assisting with motion preparation, document review, legal research, reviewing dockets and briefings, summarizing filings, and reviewing and analyzing contracts for chapter 11 filings.

FRI has components of both transactional and litigation practices. Successful associates have strong persuasive drafting and oral argument skills. Responsiveness and an ability to stay calm under pressure are key. Having a JD/MBA is a plus but not required.

MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS (M&A)

THE M&A group is composed of several subsections at White & Case. The largest is the Corporate/M&A area, but within M&A, we also have a number of proficient groups, described below.

Typical summer associate assignments in M&A include drafting working group lists, revising checklists, creating termination notices, researching example disclosures, reviewing and analyzing documents, and incorporating comments into drafts.

Successful M&A associates are hard-working, proactive, resourceful and have strong time-management skills.

CORPORATE/M&A

Corporate/M&A lawyers specialize in legal matters related to the buying, selling and merging of companies.

Our M&A Practice is globally recognized as a top-tier leader in both public and private M&A transactions. We deliver unparalleled legal services for complex corporate deals, offering strategic planning, due diligence, negotiation and execution of mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, joint ventures and other business combinations. Serving a diverse clientele, including multinational corporations, private equity firms and banks, our team ensures regulatory compliance, manages risk and structures transactions for optimal outcomes.

EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION & BENEFITS (ECB)

ECB lawyers play a critical role in helping employers navigate complex legal landscapes, manage risks, and create fair and legally compliant workplaces.

We advise across the full spectrum of employment, compensation and benefits issues, including advisory and transactional, contentious and non-contentious. This includes advising on issues from executive compensation, employment, incentives, labor, employee relations, disputes, HR policies and privacy, to restructuring, pensions and immigration.

ENERGY REGULATORY

Energy Regulatory lawyers help energy companies navigate the complex and ever-evolving regulatory landscape. Their expertise ensures that clients remain compliant with regulations, mitigate risks and achieve their business objectives in a highly regulated industry.

In the power industry in the US, we have pioneered strategies to protect market participants from the vagaries of an unstable market design and have helped our clients navigate the resulting market failures. Our Energy Markets and Regulatory Group assists clients with regulatory issues, energy project financings, energy company or asset sales and acquisitions, workout assessments, restructurings or bankruptcies, and bet-the-company litigations.

FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATORY (FSR)

FSR lawyers specialize in legal matters related to the regulation of the financial services industry, including banks, investment firms, insurance companies and other financial institutions.

Our FSR Practice provides comprehensive advice to the world's leading financial institutions, including commercial and investment banks, broker-dealers and investment advisers, nonbank lenders, sovereign wealth funds and government-owned banks, as well as emerging financial services providers such as fintechs and payment companies. We ensure clients stay informed of new regulatory initiatives, develop innovative products and services, implement and maintain effective compliance programs and controls, monitor and respond to new risks, and explore strategic opportunities in emerging markets.

PRIVATE CLIENTS

Private Clients lawyers, also known as private wealth or private client services lawyers, specialize in advising individuals and families on a range of personal legal matters, particularly those related to wealth management, estate planning and tax issues.

We assist high-net-worth individuals and families worldwide with the accumulation, management, transfer and protection of personal wealth. We are a recognized leader in trusts and estates, and estate litigation, representing many of the world's leading families, Fortune 500 executives and corporate fiduciaries. Our experience stems from our founding when J.P. Morgan himself selected White & Case to create Bankers Trust Company in 1903.

REAL ESTATE

Real Estate lawyers specialize in legal matters related to real property, including residential, commercial and industrial real estate transactions.

Our Real Estate Practice provides market-leading advice on transactions and disputes with real estate at the core. We assist developers, owners, private and institutional investors, corporates, lenders, and underwriters around the world in understanding industry trends and their impact on business. Our proficiency extends to advising borrowers, lenders, and servicers across all types of domestic and international real estate financings. Clients trust us to manage the intricacies of their transactions and disputes, synthesizing legal and commercial knowledge to provide counsel that translates into successful outcomes. By leveraging our deep understanding of real estate and legal frameworks, we help clients achieve their goals in a dynamic and evolving market.

TAX

Tax lawyers specialize in legal matters related to tax law, providing advice and representation to individuals, businesses and organizations on a wide range of tax-related issues. Their competence ensures that clients can make informed decisions, comply with tax regulations and effectively address tax-related challenges.

Our lawyers work closely with our other leading transactional practice areas to provide integrated tax advice necessary to successfully complete transactions. Our clients rely on our extensive experience and technical knowledge, and on our global tax presence for sophisticated and practical advice to reach their business goals.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSACTIONS

Technology Transactions lawyers provide advice and support to clients on a wide range of issues involving technology development, licensing, commercialization and use. Their know-how ensures that clients can effectively develop, protect, and commercialize their technology assets while managing legal risks and complying with applicable laws.

Our Technology Transactions Practice, one of the largest of any global law firm, offers decades of knowledge and experience. Our work ranges from structuring, negotiating and implementing complex sourcing and strategic alliances to advising on cybersecurity, Big Data and data management concerns. We advise on pricing, performance and governance — all with a view to developing sustainable relationships that serve our clients' objectives.

PRACTICE AREA SUMMARY

Practice area	Description	Relevant skills/Background
TRANSACTIONAL PRACTICE AREAS		
Capital Markets	Helps companies raise funds via IPOs, bonds and securities	Securities law, drafting prospectuses, regulatory insight
Debt Finance	Advises lenders/borrowers on complex loan deals	Financial acumen, cross-border lending, regulatory knowledge
Energy, Infrastructure, Project & Asset Finance	Focuses on financing large infrastructure/energy projects	Engineering/Energy background helpful, risk allocation
M&A	Advises on buying/selling of companies and joint ventures	Corporate law, finance, strategic thinking
COMPETITION/DISPUTES PRACTICE AREAS		
Antitrust	Represents clients in price-fixing, monopoly and merger-related suits	Economics knowledge, regulatory exposure
Commercial Litigation	Civil disputes in court (contracts, torts, etc.)	Oral advocacy, legal research, procedural law
Intellectual Property	Disputes over patents, trademarks, copyrights	Science/Tech background often useful
International Arbitration	Resolves global disputes outside of court	Multilingual skills, cross-border knowledge, advocacy
Trade	WTO disputes, trade policy, tariffs	Policy knowledge, international law, economics
White Collar	Handles fraud, bribery, corporate investigations	Criminal law, FCPA, compliance background
CROSS-PRACTICE AREAS		
Financial Restructuring and Insolvency	Advises on bankruptcies and reorganizations	Finance, litigation, negotiation

PRACTICE AREA BY OFFICE GUIDE

Hiring in each office for specific practice areas may vary each year. An office having lawyers in that practice does not guarantee them taking first-year associates into the group each year.

	BOSTON	CHICAGO	HOUSTON	LOS ANGELES	MIAMI	NEW YORK	SILICON VALLEY	WASHINGTON, DC
Antitrust	◆					◆		◆
Capital Markets	◆		◆		◆	◆		
Commercial Litigation	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		◆
Debt Finance	◆	◆		◆	◆	◆		
Employment Compensation & Benefits (ECB)		◆				◆		
Energy, Infrastructure, Project & Asset Finance		◆	◆		◆	◆		◆
Financial Restructuring and Insolvency (FRI)		◆	◆	◆	◆	◆		
Intellectual Property	◆					◆	◆	◆
International Arbitration					◆	◆		◆
M&A – Corporate	◆	◆	◆			◆	◆	
Pool Associates – Corporate			◆			◆		
Pool Associates – Litigation						◆		
Private Clients						◆		
Real Estate		◆	◆		◆	◆		
Technology Transactions						◆		
Tax			◆			◆		◆
Trade								◆
White Collar	◆					◆		◆



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