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Your academic achievements have opened a myriad of doors: the key lies in knowing which door to choose.

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Key

**Current Hiring Demand for Practice**

- Cool
- Warm
- Hot

**Size of Practice in the Market**

- Small
- Medium
- Large
Overview of Practice
Antitrust attorneys advise clients on whether their business practices comply with competition rules and regulations domestically and abroad. In advising their clients, antitrust attorneys engage in a broad range of representations, including litigation, government investigation and merger advice. Many firms will actually break out into different departments those attorneys that handle antitrust litigation and those that support the transactional teams with merger reviews. Antitrust attorneys must understand how different markets work, how they are defined, and how various conduct affects such markets. Most firms handling high-end M&A transactions will have some antitrust capabilities. Antitrust cases tend to be large and high-profile, so an antitrust lawyer is usually a member of a large team.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Arnold & Porter
- Axinn Veltrop & Harkrider
- Boies Schiller & Flexner
- Cahill Gordon & Reindel
- Constantine Cannon
- Cravath Swaine & Moore
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Kelley Drye & Warren
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Shearman & Sterling
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- White & Case
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
- Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
- Winston & Strawn
Bankruptcy

Size of Practice in the Market

Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
Bankruptcy practices have remained a mainstay of most large law firms, keeping attorneys generally active during strong legal economies as well as weak ones. They can be very appealing because work is both litigation- and transaction-oriented. In a New York practice, the range of clients can include Chapter 11 debtors, “official” and unofficial committees of creditors, bondholders or equity holders, individual creditors who may be secured (such as banks) or unsecured, companies looking to purchase assets from a bankrupt company or people otherwise looking to invest in distressed entities. Cases tend to move on an expedited time frame and will often be staffed leanly to minimize expenses.

Firms to Consider for Debtor Practices
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Jones Day
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher

Firms to Consider for Committee, Lender or Creditor Representations
- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
- Brown Rudnick
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Dechert
- Kelley Drye & Warne
- Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
- Latham & Watkins
- Linklaters
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Morrison & Foerster
- Otterbourg Steindler Houston & Rose
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Ropes & Gray
- Stroock
- White & Case

Firms to Consider for Bankruptcy Litigation
- Kasowitz Benson Torres
- Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
- Quinn Emanuel
- Ropes & Gray
- Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz
- White & Case
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
Overview of Practice

While the rules and regulations governing the operation of the financial industry are passed in Washington, DC, they are interpreted and applied here. Banks, funds, broker-dealers, investment advisers and insurance firms rely heavily on New York lawyers as New York is considered the banking/financial capital of the world. Lawyers consult on the larger policymaking implications of new regulations as well as how they impact clients’ day to day banking and trading activities. During the early stages of the recession, lawyers in these practices worked closely with various government agencies such as the Federal Reserve and SEC to help craft effective solutions to the financial crisis. While the future of many of the regulatory schemes put in place over the last 10 years is evolving with recent deregulation, bank regulatory work is nevertheless likely to remain in demand.

Firms to Consider for this Practice

- Arnold & Porter
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Cravath Swaine & Moore
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Linklaters
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Morgan Lewis & Bockius
- Shearman & Sterling
- Sidley Austin
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
**Overview of Practice**

Investment management practices have become increasingly visible in New York given the proliferation of private equity funds, hedge funds and mutual funds. Funds practices can vary significantly; certain focus on advising private equity and/or hedge funds when they form new funds and raise capital to finance their activities while other practices advise registered funds, such as hedge funds or mutual funds, and investment advisors or managers on compliance with federal regulations and disclosure obligations. Depending on the practice, you may get involved with drafting and negotiating agreements and disclosure documents used in fundraising or you may focus on the academic side of the practice involving interpreting regulations and the impact they have on your clients. Most firms, but not all, distinguish between private equity, hedge fund and mutual funds lawyers.

**Firms to Consider for this Practice**

- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Dechert
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Katten Muchin Rosenman
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Latham & Watkins
- Linklaters
- Lowenstein Sandler
- Morgan Lewis & Bockius
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Proskauer Rose
- Ropes & Gray
- Schulte Roth & Zabel
- Seward & Kissel
- Shearman & Sterling
- Sidley Austin
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
Size of Practice in the Market

Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice

M&A continues to be a driver at most Big Law firms. In NY, associates may be exposed to M&A transactions involving public companies (“public M&A”) or transactions involving privately held companies (“private M&A”). Private equity work is a third subset of M&A, relating to investments or acquisitions made by private equity firms. In the last few years, there has been an emphasis on what is referred to as mid-market deals, which are deals that are smaller in size but just as sophisticated and complex. Private equity firms and to some extent, hedge funds, have emerged as key drivers in the public and private M&A markets as they continue to make investments in other companies or acquire portfolio companies and dispose of existing investments. A large part of an M&A lawyer’s work may also be done on behalf of corporate clients making strategic investments/acquisitions or divestitures.

Firms to Consider for this Practice

- Arnold & Porter
- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
- Baker Botts
- Baker & McKenzie
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Clifford Chance
- Cooley
- Cravath Swaine & Moore
- Covington & Burling
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Goodwin Procter
- Greenberg Traurig
- Jones Day
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
- Latham & Watkins
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Morgan Lewis & Bockius
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Proskauer Rose
- Ropes & Gray
- Schulte Roth & Zabel
- Shearman & Sterling
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- White & Case
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
- Winston & Strawn
Overview of Practice
New York is a leading financial center with many of the top investment banks headquartered here. It is not surprising, therefore, that it is also home to many of the leading securities practices (otherwise known as “capital markets”). Capital markets lawyers assist companies (“issuers”) in issuing securities in sales that are either registered with the SEC or exempt from registration. They also represent investment banks (“underwriters”) that are “underwriting” such sales. They are called upon to draft the disclosure documents that get filed with the SEC (such as “prospectuses”) and the various agreements that set out the terms of the securities. Interpretation and application of the SEC’s rules and regulations will also be a large part of this practice as will advising public companies with ongoing reporting and disclosure obligations.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Allen & Overy
- Cahill Gordon & Reindel
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Cooley
- Covington & Burling
- Cravath Swaine & Moore
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Goodwin Procter
- Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian
- Jones Day
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Latham & Watkins
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky & Popeo
- Morgan Lewis & Bockius
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Proskauer Rose
- Shearman & Sterling
- Sidley Austin
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Vinson & Elkins
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- White & Case
- Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
Overview of Practice
Lawyers in this practice represent start-ups and emerging companies from the earliest stages of inception through maturity including the execution of viable business plans, early and later stage fundraising, negotiation of joint ventures with strategic partners, technology and development agreements and, as they grow, possibly the sale of business or public offering of its stock. They will also advise on various aspects of the company’s business lines (which are often technology-driven given the current economy). Attorneys in this practice often feel like outside “in-house counsel” to their clients because they are relatively small and don’t yet have an internal general counsel.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Cooley
- Covington & Burling
- Dentons
- DLA Piper
- Fenwick & West
- Foley Hoag
- Fox Rothschild
- Friedman Kaplan Seiler & Adelman
- Goodwin Procter
- Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian
- Hand Baldachin
- Kimelberg
- Latham & Watkins
- Loeb & Loeb
- Lowenstein Sandler
- Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky & Popeo
- Morrison Cohen
- Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe
- Perkins Coie
- Sheppard Mullin
- WilmerHale
- Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
Energy

Size of Practice in the Market

Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
The work of energy lawyers is largely transactional and can involve advising on M&A, joint ventures, capital markets, private equity, venture capital, project development and finance matters. These attorneys may counsel clients on negotiating and drafting agreements related to energy projects, the sale of power companies, investment in and development of natural resources and the financing of various energy investments. Certain energy practices may be more regulatory in nature and may focus on infrastructure and/or construction projects and take place before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which regulates sales, rates and pricing. New York has a solid foothold in transactional work in the energy space, although Washington, DC is likely to have a stronger regulatory practice and Texas will be a larger market generally.

Firms to Consider for this Practice

- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
- Baker Botts
- Bracewell
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- DLA Piper
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Haynes & Boone
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Jones Day
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Latham & Watkins
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Morgan Lewis & Bockius
- Morrison & Forester
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe
- Paul Hastings
- Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman
- Shearman & Sterling
- Sidley Austin
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Stroock
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Troutman Sanders
- Vinson & Elkins
- White & Case
Executive Comp/Employee Benefits

Size of Practice in the Market

Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
Executive compensation and employee benefits (“EBEC”) attorneys advise on benefits, compensation and other employment-related issues in connection with a variety of corporate transactions, including mergers, acquisitions, spin-offs, divestitures, initial public offerings, financings and restructurings. They design, structure and negotiate equity compensation programs, employment agreements, employee benefit plans and pension plans for executives and employees at public and private corporations, investment funds and investment banks. They also assist with structuring funds in which investors have employee benefit plans subject to the Employment Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). There also are some regulatory aspects to this practice. Attorneys in this practice will collaborate with tax, corporate, employment and trusts and estates attorneys, as well as on legal, tax, accounting, securities, fiduciary and human resource issues.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Cravath Swaine & Moore
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Latham & Watkins
- Morgan Lewis & Bockius
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman
- Proskauer Rose
- Schulte Roth & Zabel
- Seyfarth Shaw
- Shearman & Shearman
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Stroock
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
Size of Practice in the Market
Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
This work typically feels like practicing as a corporate lawyer but with a few more “interesting” clients. Fortunately, you don’t need to live in California to work as a lawyer in the entertainment field (although it would certainly offer you more options). Well-regarded and diverse entertainment, sports and media practices exist in New York at select global firms as well as a handful of mid-sized and smaller firms who have built a name for themselves representing significant individuals and companies in this area. Intellectual property concepts such as trademark and copyright law are prevalent and employers therefore tend to demand a genuine and demonstrable interest in (if not actual professional experience with) IP. Industries that also typically fall under the umbrella include advertising and traditional and new media.

Firms to Consider for this Practice

- Baker Botts
- Ballard Spahr
- Covington & Burling
- Cowan Liebowitz & Latman
- Cravath Swaine & Moore
- Davis & Gilbert
- Davis Wright Tremaine
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Dentons
- DLA Piper
- Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz
- Franklin Weinrib Rudell & Vallario
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Greenberg Traurig
- Grubman Shire & Meisals
- Hughes Hubbard & Reed
- Jenner & Block
- Levine Plotkin & Menin
- Loeb & Loeb
- Morgan Lewis & Bockius
- O’Melveny & Myers
- Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Proskauer Rose
- Pryor Cashman Sherman & Flynn
- Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan
- Reed Smith
- Schreck Rose Dapello Adams Berlin Dunham
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- Winston & Strawn
Overview of Practice
This area of law is being driven in large part by a robust M+A market. Indeed, in terms of demand for associates, leveraged finance may to be the hottest practice area in New York at the moment. Much of the current work in this area is centered around the borrowing of funds to finance the acquisition of a company. Hence, the practice is often referred to as “acquisition finance” or “leveraged finance”. Deals may range in size from billion dollar facilities to smaller loans, and attorneys in this practice area will either represent the borrower or the lenders (traditionally banks). Associates often report that these type of finance deals are great for getting substantive responsibility during the early part of your career. Other significant areas of lending include more traditional lending work outside the context of an acquisition such as to finance working capital or operations. Hedge funds and other “alternative lenders” have become more active in the market as they are not subject to the same financial regulations as banks, resulting in an increase in the number of firms that offer an “alternative” or “direct” lender type practice.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Arnold & Porter
- Cahill Gordon & Reindel
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Clifford Chance
- Covington & Burling
- Cravath Swaine & Moore
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Dechert
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Goodwin Procter
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Jones Day
- King & Spalding
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Latham & Watkins
- Linklaters
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Morgan Lewis & Bockius
- Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe
- Otterbourg Steindler
- Paul Hastings
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Proskauer Rose
- Ropes & Gray
- Schulte Roth & Zabel
- Shearman & Sterling
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Vinson & Elkins
- Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- White & Case
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
- Winston & Strawn
Overview of Practice

This practice encompasses the development and financing of long-term infrastructure and public services projects such as roads, pipelines, power plants, mining projects and hospitals as well as various traditional and renewable power projects. The underlying projects can range in size, complexity and geographic location with many deals based in emerging markets such as Africa, Latin America and Asia. Most practices specialize in either sponsor/developer or lender-side representation, but some do a mix. While firms with a presence in Texas are among those that have historically handled domestic deals in the energy space, the overwhelming majority of international work for projects lawyers is handled in New York and London (as well as an increasing amount of domestic work). Deals may involve money moving across borders and through different currencies and financial products; international deals may also raise additional challenges resulting from political volatility.

Firms to Consider for this Practice

- Ashurst
- Baker Botts
- Baker & McKenzie
- Bracewell
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Clifford Chance
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- DLA Piper
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Latham & Watkins
- Linklaters
- Mayer Brown
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Paul Hastings
- Shearman & Sterling
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Troutman Sanders
- White & Case
- Winston & Strawn
- Vinson & Elkins
Overview of Practice
Structured finance is a service offered by many financial institutions for companies with unique financing needs that traditional loans cannot satisfy. It’s also a common vehicle for financial institutions to “monetize” financial products that would otherwise sit on their books. These deals involve highly complex, typically customized transactions and may involve the securitization of mortgages, receivables, debt, royalties, loan obligations and even credit default swaps. Although this area was substantially impacted by the economic downturn beginning in 2008, there has been a re-emergence of demand for structured finance associates in New York. Derivatives are financial instruments used by banks and businesses to hedge risks to which they are exposed from factors outside their control. They can also be used for speculative purposes by investors predicting the fluctuation of just about anything from currency exchange rates to weather patterns in a particular region. Common forms include futures, options and swaps. Lawyers in this area document these transactions and also advise on compliance with government regulations. Hedge funds commonly invest in these types of products so there is often an overlap with funds practices.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Allen & Overy
- Alston & Bird
- Arnold & Porter
- Byran Cave Leighton Paisner
- Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft
- Chapman & Cutler
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Clifford Chance
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Dechert
- Dentons
- DLA Piper
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Jones Day
- Latham & Watkins
- Linklaters
- Katten Muchin Rosenman
- Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
- Mayer Brown
- McDermott Will & Emery
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Morgan Lewis & Bockius
- Morrison & Foerster
- Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe
- Paul Hastings
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Schulte Roth & Zabel
- Shearman & Sterling
- Sidley Austin
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
Size of Practice in the Market
Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
FinTech practices at law firms encompass transactional, strategic, and regulatory counsel in the space where the financial services industry intersects with the rapidly-changing tech sector. The new technologies that FinTech addresses are often termed “disrupters”, as they typically disrupt traditional financial markets and methods. Clients in the FinTech space range from early-stage and established tech companies to leading financial institutions, private equity and venture capital firms, and payment processors. FinTech is necessarily cross-disciplinary due to the breadth of services that clients in the space require, including corporate formation, financing, M&A and public offerings, regulatory compliance, intellectual property protection, and privacy and data security.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Cooley
- Covington & Burling
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- DLA Piper
- Fenwick & West
- Goodwin Procter
- Gunderson Dettmer Stough Villeneuve Franklin & Hachigian
- Latham & Watkins
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- White & Case
Size of Practice in the Market
Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
Healthcare is a relatively small, but stable, area of law, which typically combines regulatory and transactional elements. Regulatory practices focus on the legislative, executive and judicial rules and regulations that govern the health care industry which includes non-profit and for profit hospitals and hospital systems, public and private insurers, pharmaceutical and device manufacturers and large and small physician groups and can cover topics such as fraud and abuse, privacy and food and drug law. Practices can also be transactional in nature and may include mergers and acquisitions within the industry, or licensing and joint ventures.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Arent Fox
- Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft
- Cooley
- Dentons
- Epstein Becker & Green
- Garfunkel Wild
- Goodwin Procter
- Greenberg Traurig
- HodgsonRuss
- HoganLovells
- Katten Muchin Rosenman
- Manatt Phelps & Phillips
- Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky & Popeo
- NixonPeabody
- ProskauerRose
- Ropes & Gray
- Sheppard Mullin
Size of Practice in the Market
Current Hiring Demand for Practice

Overview of Practice
Insurance practices vary at firms but they are typically focused on one of three areas (1) transactional and regulatory work on behalf of insurance-related entities, (2) litigation on behalf of insurers or reinsurers, which are the organizations issuing the insurance policies or (3) litigation on behalf of policyholders, which are the entities/individuals to whom the insurance policies are issued. The insurance industry is highly-regulated with respect to transactional work and policy/contract-based with respect to dispute resolution.

Firms to Consider for Transactional & Regulatory Insurance
- Clifford Chance
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Drinker Biddle
- Eversheds Sutherland
- Hogan Lovells
- Mayer Brown
- Sidley Austin
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Stroock
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher

Firms to Consider for Insurer/Reinsurer-Side Representation
- Cahill Gordon & Reindel
- Chafetz Lindsey
- Clyde & Co
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Dentons
- Eversheds Sutherland
- Hogan Lovells
- Mound Cotton Wollan & Greengrass
- Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan
- Rivkin Radler
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Stroock
- Squire Patton Boggs
- Wollmuth Maher & Deutsch

Firms to Consider for Policyholder-Side Representation
- Anderson Kill
- Jones Day
- Kasowitz Benson Torres
- McKool Smith
- Proskauer Rose
- Reed Smith
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
Size of Practice in the Market

Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
The concept of “international work” is broad and can encompass many different practice disciplines. International practices exist at both non-U.S. firms with a NY presence as well as U.S. based firms with global platforms. An “international” lawyer in NY might very well be a traditional corporate lawyer representing global companies in connection with cross-border deals (global M&A, finance and/or capital markets). A litigator handling international matters might be advising on disputes arising from actions in foreign jurisdictions or from alleged violations of U.S. laws applicable to foreign entities, such as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. A subset of this area can also include international arbitration, which involves arguing before global tribunals. Regulatory lawyers in this space might advise foreign nationals on the application of and compliance with U.S. laws and regulations.

Firms to Consider for this Practice (Latin America)

- Baker & McKenzie
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Clifford Chance
- Covington & Burling
- Cravath Swaine & Moore
- Curtis Mallet-Prevost Colt & Mosle
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Hogan Lovells
- Hughes Hubbard & Reed
- Latham & Watkins
- Linklaters
- Mayer Brown
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Morgan Lewis & Bockius
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Paul Hastings
- Proskauer Rose
- Shearman & Sterling
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Sidley Austin
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- White & Case
Firms to Consider for this Practice (Middle East)
- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Dentons
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- King & Spalding
- Latham & Watkins
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Reed Smith
- Shearman & Sterling
- White & Case

Firms to Consider for this Practice (Asia)
- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
- Baker & McKenzie
- Clifford Chance
- Covington & Burling
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Dechert
- Dentons
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Jones Day
- K&L Gates
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Latham & Watkins
- Linklaters
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Morrison & Foerster
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Ropes & Gray
- Sidley Austin
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Sullivan & Cromwell
Size of Practice in the Market

Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
Patent lawyers typically specialize in either patent litigation or patent prosecution. NY patent practices are further divided between the life sciences space, representing pharmaceutical or biotech companies and medical device manufacturers, and companies in the technology space, with certain firms possessing both capabilities. Attorneys seeking to specialize in these practices will be expected to have an undergraduate (and sometimes graduate degree) in the relevant discipline. In terms of skill set, patent litigators are first and foremost trial lawyers who try patent infringement cases before juries, judges and arbitrators as well as before the PTAB, Federal Circuit and ITC. Patent prosecutors assist companies in managing their existing portfolio of patents and helping them obtain new patents on novel inventions and technologies. Patent prosecutors should be admitted to the patent bar and typically have a masters or PhD in their relevant specialty.

Firms to Consider for this Practice

- Arnold & Porter
- Baker Botts
- Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft
- Desmarais
- Fish & Richardson
- Fitzpatrick Cella Harper & Scinto
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Goodwin Procter
- Greenberg Traurig
- Hogan Lovells
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Jones Day
- King & Spalding
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
- Mayer Brown
- O’Melveny & Myers
- Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler
- Paul Hastings
- Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan
- Ropes & Gray
- Sidley Austin
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
- WilmerHale
Size of Practice in the Market

Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
Sophisticated trademark and copyright litigation and prosecution practices exist at both national and global firms as well as boutiques, with work spanning a range of industries that includes fashion, media, sports and technology as well as consumer products and manufacturing. Unlike patent attorneys, lawyers in this practice are not expected to have a technical or science degree. Given the popularity of these practice areas, however, a demonstrated interest in this area is very helpful. Relevant law school coursework and outside activities are looked upon favorably.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Cowan Liebowitz & Latman
- Davis & Gilbert
- Davis Wright Tremaine
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Dorsey & Whitney
- Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz
- Fross Zelnick Lehrman & Zissu
- Greenberg Traurig
- Jenner & Block
- Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton
- Lathrop & Gage
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Patterson Belknap
- Pryor Cashman
- Stroock
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
Size of Practice in the Market
Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
Transaction IP lawyers represent a range of businesses including start-ups, Fortune 500 companies and financial services firms in all of the transactional aspects related to their intellectual property. This includes licensing, outsourcing, privacy work, joint ventures, collaboration agreements and software development agreements. In most large firms in New York, transactional IP lawyers work closely with the corporate group to advise on the IP issues that arise in connection with their M&A, financing and securities matters. A limited number of firms have “stand alone” groups that are engaged specifically for this expertise in addition to supporting other practices.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Covington & Burling
- Davis & Gilbert
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Dechert
- Dorsey & Whitney
- Greenberg Traurig
- Hughes Hubbard & Reed
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Loeb & Loeb
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Morrison & Foerster
- Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Proskauer Rose
- Ropes & Gray
- Shearman & Sterling
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- White & Case
Size of Practice in the Market
Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
Labor and employment practices historically remain steady during strong and weak economies although the nature of the work may vary depending on whether companies are hiring or downsizing. Employment practices at large law firms will involve representing clients through all phases and types of employment counseling and litigation, ranging from individual claims to broad-scale class and collective actions involving claims of employment discrimination, harassment, retaliation, wrongful discharge, wage and hour violations, entitlement to employee benefits, and misappropriation of trade secrets and confidential information. Labor attorneys might find themselves representing clients in union negotiations and will advise employers who are facing union organizing campaigns and unfair labor practice proceedings. These practices may also have a non-litigation oriented advisory element, counseling companies on hiring and employee issues generally.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
- Arnold & Porter
- Bond Schoeneck & King
- Davis & Gilbert
- Davis Wright Tremaine
- Epstein Becker & Green
- Jackson Lewis
- Jones Day
- Kasowitz Benson Torres
- Littler Mendelson
- Morgan Lewis & Bockius
- Ogletree Deakins
- Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe
- Paul Hastings
- Proskauer Rose
- Seyfarth Shaw
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
Overview of Practice
Commercial litigation encompasses a wide range of disputes with the opportunity to gain exposure to many facets of the law. These practices may entail disputes arising from breach of contract, torts, fraud, breach of fiduciary duties and claims arising from proposed or completed mergers. Since New York is a leading financial center, it is common to see commercial disputes that have been borne out of the representation of banks. Cases will typically be pending in federal and state courts across the country, not just in New York, as well as before arbitrators, tribunals or mediators.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Arnold & Porter
- Boies Schiller & Flexner
- Cahill Gordon & Reindel
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Covington & Burling
- Cravath Swaine & Moore
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Friedman Kaplan Seiler & Adelman
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Greenberg Traurig
- Hughes Hubbard & Reed
- Jones Day
- King & Spalding
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
- Latham & Watkins
- Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy
- Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Proskauer Rose
- Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan
- Schulte Roth & Zabel
- Shearman & Sterling
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- White & Case
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
- WilmerHale
- Winston & Strawn
**Overview of Practice**

“International arbitration” covers disputes between parties located in different countries. The types of cases are typically heard by an international tribunal, such as the ICC, the IACAC, or the ICSID, and often involve significant amounts of money and complex issues that may arise under different treaties. The nature of the disputes vary and can arise out of energy and mining disputes, construction issues, IP disputes, general breach of contract matters or joint ventures. International arbitration is a highly coveted, competitive practice in New York and difficult to get into. Other cities that have robust international arbitration practices are Washington, DC, Paris and London. Fluency in a second language is typically required or at least preferred.

**Firms to Consider for this Practice**

- Arnold & Porter
- Baker & McKenzie
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Covington & Burling
- Curtis Mallet-Prevost Colt & Mosle
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Hughes Hubbard & Reed
- King & Spalding
- Latham & Watkins
- Linklaters
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Paul Hastings
- Proskauer Rose
- Shearman & Sterling
- Sidley Austin
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate, Meagher & Flom
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- White & Case
- WilmerHale
Size of Practice in the Market

Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
White collar work includes not only defense of “traditional” white collar violations, but also now includes preemptive internal investigations and enforcement proceedings involving U.S. and foreign government agencies. Clients have become increasingly vigilant about ensuring that they are complying with existing and new regulations, therefore generating an uptick in investigations work for enforcement attorneys. It is common for enforcement matters to have a criminal component as well as a separate civil component, with the same law firms often handling both aspects of the litigation. “Securities litigation” refers to disputes arising out of alleged violations of the federal and state securities laws, many of which involve complex, high stakes civil actions. These cases may include allegations of criminal violations, not just civil, thereby causing them to fall under the “white collar” umbrella. Given that New York is a financial center, most law firms will have some expertise in securities disputes and enforcement/investigations generally.

Firms to Consider for this Practice

- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
- Boies Schiller & Flexner
- Ballard Spahr Stillman & Friedman
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Cooley
- Covington & Burling
- Cravath Swaine & Moore
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Dechert
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Freshfields
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Holwell Shuster & Goldberg
- Jenner & Block
- King & Spalding
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Kobre & Kim
- Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
- Lankler Siffert & Wohl
- Latham & Watkins
- Levine Lee
- Milbank
- MoloLamken
- Morrison & Foerster
- Morvillo
- O’Melveny & Myers
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Perkins Coie
- Richards Kibbe & Orbe
- Shearman & Sterling
- Sidley Austin
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Spears & Imes
- Steptoe & Johnson
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- WilmerHale
Overview of Practice
Products liability practices in New York typically involve the defense against allegations of personal injury or property damage resulting from a design or manufacturing defect, disclosure deficiency or catastrophic event. These types of practices will vary depending on the industry expertise of the firm and may include clients specifically in pharmaceuticals and medical devices, health care, food and beverage, automotive, electronic devices, software, manufacturing and construction industries. Cases range from actions by individual plaintiffs or certified classes to criminal and administrative proceedings and investigations brought by government agencies.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Arnold & Porter
- Baker Botts
- DLA Piper
- Dechert
- Goodwin Procter
- Greenberg Traurig
- Herbert Smith
- Hogan Lovells
- Holland & Knight
- Hughes Hubbard & Reed
- Jones Day
- Kasowitz Benson Torres
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Mayer Brown
- Morrison & Foerster
- Norton Rose Fullbright
- Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe
- Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler
- Pepper Hamilton
- Proskauer Rose
- Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan
- Reed Smith
- Sidley Austin
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Troutman Sanders
- Winston & Strawn
Overview of Practice
Privacy is a small but growing area of law which now exists in some form at most major firms and includes privacy and cybersecurity issues. Certain firms have stand-alone privacy practices with their own client base while others serve clients originating from other practice areas. Privacy lawyers may advise a range of companies, from Fortune 500 to startups, financial services companies to technology companies, health care systems, universities, and governmental entities. They will advise clients on how to prepare for and respond to data breaches or other incidents, privacy litigation, risk management, compliance with domestic and foreign regulatory regimes and issues that arise in the context of transactions. Certain privacy practices are specific to the healthcare industry and focus on issues arising out of HIPAA.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Arnold & Porter
- Baker Hostetler
- Baker & McKenzie
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Cohen & Gresser
- Cooley
- Covington & Burling
- Davis & Gilbert
- Davis Wright Tremaine
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- DLA Piper
- Eversheds Sutherland
- Greenberg Traurig
- Hogan Lovells
- Hunton Andrews Kurth
- Kelley Drye & Warren
- Loeb & Loeb
- Manatt, Phelps & Phillips
- McDermott Will & Emery
- Morrison & Foerster
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Reed Smith
- Venable
Overview of Practice
Real estate practices vary widely depending on the type of firm and group. Large real estate practices support a wide range of activities in the real estate market including financings, developments, acquisitions and dispositions as well as joint ventures and leasing, zoning and land use. The firms listed here have real estate practices that are particularly focused on and recognized for their strength in corporate and finance work. Real estate finance work can include construction loans, “balance sheet lending,” financing relating to the sale of a property or loans that ultimately end up being securitized.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Arnold & Porter
- Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Dechert
- DLA Piper
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Goodwin Procter
- Goulston & Storrs
- Haynes & Boone
- Hunton Andrews Krutch
- Jones Day
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Latham & Watkins
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Morrison & Foerster
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Proskauer Rose
- Riemer & Braunstein
- Schulte Roth & Zabel
- Shearman & Sterling
- Sidley Austin
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Stroock
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
Real Estate (Mainly “Dirt” Work)

Size of Practice in the Market
Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
In contrast to real estate finance, real estate “dirt work” refers to broader real estate practices that focus on the property itself and may have a more varied client base. In practical terms, this includes construction development, acquisitions, dispositions, zoning and land use. Some real estate lawyers will get involved with leasing matters as well.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Davis & Gilbert
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- DLA Piper
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Greenberg Traurig
- Goulston & Storrs
- Herrick Feinstein
- Holland & Knight
- Kasowitz Benson Torres
- Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
- Loeb & Loeb
- Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler
- Paul Hastings
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Proskauer Rose
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Stroock
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
Size of Practice in the Market
Current Hiring Demand of Practice

Overview of Practice
Most firms in New York with a meaningful transactional practice will likewise boast tax capabilities. Tax practices in New York largely support firms’ transactional practices, advising on how to structure deals to minimize tax consequences and ensuring compliance with relevant tax laws. Tax lawyers work closely with a wide range of departments, including M&A, finance, capital markets, investment management, executive compensation, estate planning and benefits. Certain firms are known for unique tax practices which are distinct from their corporate groups, including state and local tax practices (also called “SALT”) and controversy practices (largely litigation in nature).

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld
- Alston & Bird
- Baker & McKenzie
- Bracewell
- Brown Rudnick Berlack & Israels
- Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton
- Clifford Chance
- Cooley
- Cravath Swaine & Moore
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson
- Gibson Dunn & Crutcher
- Greenberg Traurig
- Kirkland & Ellis
- Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel
- Latham & Watkins
- Linklaters
- McDermott Will & Emery
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Morrison & Foerster
- Norton Rose Fullbright
- Paul Weiss Richkind Wharton & Garrison
- Proskauer Rose
- Schulte Roth & Zabel
- Shearman & Sterling
- Sidley Austin
- Simpson Thacher & Bartlett
- Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz
- Weil Gotshal & Manges
- White & Case
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
Overview of Practice
New York boasts one of the largest and most sophisticated trusts and estate practices in the country given the amount of longstanding wealth centered in the region. T&E lawyers have the opportunity to interface with corporate, finance, tax and litigation attorneys at all stages in their careers as they counsel family offices, high net worth individuals, foreign entities and entrepreneurs on tax and estate planning and administration. Some sophisticated T&E practices also represent banks and trust companies in their capacities as fiduciaries in both general administrative matters as well as litigated or contested matters.

Firms to Consider for this Practice
- Arnold & Porter
- Blank Rome
- Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft
- Carter Ledyard & Milburn
- Davis Polk & Wardwell
- Day Pitney
- Greenberg Traurig
- Holland & Knight
- Katten Muchin Rosenman
- Loeb & Loeb
- McDermott Will & Emery
- Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
- Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison
- Proskauer Rose
- Schulte Roth & Zabel
- Stroock
- Sullivan & Cromwell
- Willkie Farr & Gallagher
- Withers Bergman