

Henry M. Burwell

Partner

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Buzz is a senior partner of the corporate/securities/tax division and serves as co-leader of the firm's International Practice Group, Sanctions Practice Group, and Aerospace Defense & National Security Practice Group member. With over four decades of legal experience, Buzz is widely recognized for his leadership in international law, export trade controls and OFAC sanctions, and U.S. Customs compliance.

His practice spans a broad array of industries including automotive, aviation, manufacturing, procurement and logistics. Buzz advises multinational corporations on customs and trade matters, cross-border transactions, foreign direct investment, export controls (OFAC, ITAR, EAR, OISP), CFIUS matters, and government contracts. He represents clients from more than 20 countries and is sought for his SME counsel in complex M&A transactions involving foreign parties as well as outbound supply and logistics transactions.

Experience

The following is a selected sampling of matters and is provided for informational purposes only. Past success does not indicate the likelihood of success in any future matter.

Experience

- Served as lead counsel in more than 150 green field manufacturing start-ups in the U.S. and other North American countries
- Represents multinational businesses in a variety of transnational trade, investment and commercial undertakings, establishment of entities, import and export trade controls, trade sanctions, U.S. customs tariff planning, audits, mitigation actions, defense procurement, and aviation transactions in more than 20 countries
- Serves as automotive transportation counsel to OEMs, Tier 1–3 global supply chain companies in international manufacturing environment
- Organizer and presenter of Firm Webinars, author of manuals,

Education

University of North Carolina School of Law, JD

- Founder and Editor in Chief, North Carolina Journal of International Law & Commercial Regulation (1976)

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, MBA

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, BA

Admissions

District of Columbia

South Carolina

U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

U.S. Court of International Trade

U.S. District Court for the District of South Carolina

Practice Areas

[International](#)

[Customs, Tariffs, and International Trade](#)

policies, workshops on tariff planning, export trade controls and sanctions (OFAC, ITAR, EAR, FCPA) under import and export trade agency regulations

- Familiarity with federal and defense acquisition regulations (FARs/DFARS/DEARs) on wide range of commercial issues from protests to compliance with Buy America/n Acts, and like mandatory “flow downs” to commercial issues such as protection of IP
- Aviation counsel to air carriers (121/298/408), air taxis (135), FBO's and general aviation dealers, FAA Certified Repair Stations, Aircraft Modification and Maintenance companies, Aircraft DER companies, Accessory/parts manufacturer and supply companies, airport authorities and private corporate aircraft owners/operators (91) and charter services handling numerous domestic and international aircraft transactions and third country airline start-ups including Export Certificates of Airworthiness and related regulatory matters
- Lectured on Foreign Direct Investment and Trade Agreements in Germany, Canada, Austria, Japan, and South Korea
- Advises on sanctions compliance with rules of OFAC/Treasury, DDTC/State Dept.(ITAR), BIS/Dept Commerce (EAR), OISP/ Treasury in a variety of international commercial transactions and inbound and outbound Investments
- Advises on inbound CFIUS compliance and outbound sectoral and national security investment restrictions under Treasury and OISP rules
- Develops and manages business migration plans for global personnel transfers

Previous Professional Experience

- International Tax Advisor, Arthur Young & Co.
- Vice President and General Counsel, Pinehurst Airlines, Inc.

Recognitions

The bar rules of some states require that the standards for an attorney's inclusion in certain public accolades or recognitions be provided. When such accolades or recognitions are listed, a hyperlink is provided that leads to a description of the respective selection methodology.

- Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette, awarded by Emperor of Japan (2023)
- [TALK Greenville Magazine's Top Lawyers List](#), Immigration Law (2023)
- [Greenville Business Magazine "Legal Elite of the Upstate"](#)
 - International (2021-2024)
 - Appellate (2024)
- [The Legal 500 United States](#), Labor and Employment: Immigration (2021)

[International Sanctions](#)

[Government Contracts & Grants](#)

[Business Immigration](#)

Industries

[Manufacturing](#)

[Aviation](#)

[Automobiles & Other Motor Vehicles](#)

- National Law Journal "Immigration Trailblazer" (2020)
- Ben Landey Pro Bono Award from Catholic Social Services of Atlanta
- Nelson Mullins Pro Bono Award
- Japan American Association of South Carolina pro bono award for community service to a nonprofit association

Professional Activities

- Founder, International Law Committee, South Carolina Bar
- International Representative for South Carolina, ALFA International
- American Bar Association
- District of Columbia, South Carolina Bar Associations
- Oregon Bar Association

Community

- Founder and Former President, Japan American Association of South Carolina
 - served two nonconsecutive terms
- Former Chair, Advisory Board, University of South Carolina joint degree program for the International Master of Business Administration and Juris Doctor degrees
- Member, Advisory Board, University of South Carolina Upstate School of Business (1990 - 2015)
- Member, South Carolina District Export Council, U.S. Department of Commerce (1990 - 2001)

Military Service

- Assistant Staff Judge Advocate and Senior Advisor, International Law Division, U.S. Central Command, United States Air Force (1978 - 1995)
 - Responsible for legal sufficiency reviews of international and joint venture procurement contracts for USAF CENTCOM in Southwest Asia comprising 17 countries
 - Responsible for aircraft accident safety board legal opinions
 - Drafted AFR 110-14 aircraft maintenance regulation

Articles & Speeches

Insights

[Law and Practice: North Carolina](#)- Contributor (September 29, 2021)

Events/Speaking Engagements

[Trade Issues Review](#)- Speaker (March 6, 2025)

FinTech and US Sanctions Programs, *FinTech University Series*- Speaker (August 6, 2024)

Business Immigration - Helping Clients Meet the Demands of a Global Economy- Speaker (September 16, 2022)

Nelson Mullins' Buzz Burwell to Present on Export Trade Controls- Presenter (June 6, 2017)

Foreign Direct Investment on Matters of International Trade and Investment in the United States and the North American South Asian Bar Association , *Area Development Magazine*- Speaker (2007-2013)

Complying with U.S. Export Controls BIS/ITAR , *South Carolina District Export Council*- Speaker (2002, 2005, 2007-2015, 2017)