SQUIRE PATTON BOGGS

Robert E. Stup, Jr.

Partner

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About Robert

Robb Stup focuses his practice on regulatory and transaction matters in communications. He has an in-depth understanding of state and federal regulations with impact on international, domestic and wireless telecommunications providers, including 5G wireless providers, domestic microwave and fiber optic network owners and operators and submarine cable owners and operators.

Robb assists service providers with entering new markets and obtaining the necessary international, federal and state operating authority. He provides regulatory compliance advice for ongoing operations and works closely with carrier clients to develop regulatory compliance programs, make required regulatory filings, address regulatory issues that arise on a daily basis and resolve customer and wholesale disputes.

He has broad experience negotiating, drafting and reviewing communications-related contracts, including purchase agreements, customer agreements, joint build agreements, carrier agreements, right-of-way and access agreements, and operating agreements.

Robb helps businesses negotiate and close mergers and acquisitions in the telecommunications industry and regularly counsels clients on business strategies and regulatory compliance, developments and policy. Robb has represented numerous clients by assisting them with due diligence reviews of licenses and regulatory approvals held by the target company, as well as reviews of the agreements necessary for the ongoing provision of services.

Robb has extensive experience advising clients on federal, state and local taxes and regulatory fees, including the federal universal service program. He advises clients with respect to both their obligation to pay surcharges into the program as well as their rights to receiving support funding from the program. Robb has worked with numerous domestic and international providers to review the application of universal service to their services to ensure compliance, including reviewing strategies to minimize the assessment of surcharges.

Robb is a leading member of the firm's C-band relocation payment clearinghouse team, which is administering the reconfiguration of the C-band to make available 300 MHz of spectrum for flexible use of wireless services, including 5G. He served in a similar role with the firm's 800 MHz Transition Administration team, which has administered the reconfiguration of more than 2,000 wireless

networks to improve public safety communications and to minimize increasing levels of interference caused by having both commercial wireless cellular systems and critical public safety communications systems operating in the same band.

Leveraging his prior experience as a Certified Public Accountant (qualified in 1991) and auditor, Robb has worked closely with the clients to resolve complicated financial aspects of the programs, including cost review, audit, financial statement and program financial security issues.

Experience

- Serving as US counsel to a digital infrastructure fund in its acquisition of an owner and operator of a group of companies that provide capacity services across a subsea fiber optic telecommunications network with associated cable landing stations in Europe and the US.
- Advising a consortium member for a new hyper-scale submarine cable regarding Joint Build Agreement, Cable Landing Agreements, US licensing and international trade controls.
- Serving as US counsel to the owner and operator of the world's largest internet backbone provider, including the sale of the US portion its 67,000-km long fiber internet network that connects more than 300 points of presence in 115 countries spanning Europe, North America and Asia.
- Advising a developer of new submarine cable landing stations, data centers and backhaul networks with active projects in Washington DC and Virginia.
- Advising a developer of new dark fiber networks in the US, including engineering, procurement and construction, collocation, supplier and customer agreements.
- Serving as a primary project manager for the legal team for the C-band relocation payment clearinghouse since 2020, with primary responsibility for acting as the liaison and legal contact with the other teams on the project, and responsibility for legal oversight of claims review and finance issues.
- Representing licensees in FCC matters, including assignments, transfers of control, enforcement and revocation proceedings, including negotiations with Team Telecom.
- Acting as a primary project manager for the legal team of the 800 MHz Transition Administrator, LLC since 2005, with primary responsibility for project management of the legal team and acting as the liaison and primary legal contact with the other teams on the project, with substantive responsibly for contract review, reconfiguration schedule management and finance issues.
- Representing international service providers entering the US market, including advising on the agreement to purchase a domestic provider, regulatory due diligence, foreign ownership issues and ongoing regulatory compliance.
- Representing broadband service providers on federal universal service issues including reviewing the potential liability associated with an acquired subsidiary, reviewing service offerings to determine the application of universal service surcharges and structuring service offerings to minimize the assessment of surcharges.
- Served as lead counsel on the global review of the licensing and regulatory compliance for in-flight communications services.

Credentials

Education

- Cornell University, J.D., 1995
- University of Maryland, B.S., *magna cum laude*, 1989

Admissions

- Maryland, 2005
- District of Columbia, 1997

Expertise

Services

- Communications

About our firm

One of the world's strongest integrated law firms, providing insight at the point where law, business and government meet. We deliver commercially focused business solutions by combining our legal, lobbying and political capabilities and invaluable connections on the ground to a diverse mix of clients, from long-established leading corporations to emerging businesses, startup visionaries and sovereign nations. More than 1,500 lawyers in over 40 offices across four continents provide unrivaled access to expertise.