

# Government Contracts & Disputes

Pillsbury's Government Contracts & Disputes team provides local, national and international clients with advice and representation over a full spectrum of government contract matters at the federal and state levels.

Our nationwide practice deploys highly experienced attorneys from Washington, DC and the West Coast to resolve any issue that relates to a government contract or subcontract, including bid protests, claims, allegations of cost mischarging, defective pricing, Cost Accounting Standards, False Claims Act and to conduct internal investigations. We also advise on matters ranging from data rights to security clearances, from mergers to ethics compliance and from small-business issues to international contracting.

## **Bid Protests**

Our firm has extensive experience representing clients in bid protests at the U.S. Government Accountability Office and the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, seeking to overturn or defend agency procurement actions. In recent years, we have won numerous bid protests involving hundreds of millions of dollars in contract awards. These decisions have required agencies to correct their award decisions or helped clients retain contract awards under challenge.

## **Claims and Litigation**

We routinely prosecute contract disputes and claims involving a myriad of executive agencies. Our team is currently handling numerous cases at the Boards of Contract Appeals and Court of Federal Claims, including breach of contract cases for utility companies based on the failure of the Department of Energy to provide its promised disposal of spent nuclear fuel. To date, judgments and settlements have led to the recovery of more than \$2 billion for those clients alone.

## **Mergers and Acquisitions**

Pillsbury has extensive experience in mergers and acquisitions of government contractors, providing counsel, and performing due diligence for clients. We assist with strategic assessments, identify legal risks, and provide guidance on novation issues.

Over the past five years, Pillsbury has handled more than 100 transactions involving government contractors as buyers and sellers. Our M&A clients include public and private companies, as well as a number of private equity groups.

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Pillsbury's Government Contracts  
& Disputes team was named  
"Practice Group of the Year" in 2022,  
2019, 2017 and 2016 by *Law360*.

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## **Subcontracting and Teaming**

Our lawyers advise clients in drafting, negotiating and administering teaming agreements, joint ventures, and subcontracts. We counsel clients in all aspects of these agreements and represent prime contractors and subcontractors in disputes.

### Investigations and Audits

We conduct internal corporate investigations on a variety of government contracts matters, often in response to inquiries or audits by inspectors general, the Department of Justice, or Congressional committees. Our work covers suspected mischarging, employee misconduct, False Claims Act issues, GSA schedule contract compliance, show cause notices, security clearance compliance, the Truth in Negotiations Act and claims.

We use the findings to evaluate potential exposure, and develop and implement strategies for resolution of the issues. We represent clients facing government claims in areas such as procurement fraud, termination for default, false claims and cost allowability.

Pillsbury has successfully represented companies in suspension and debarment situations before the departments of the Navy, Army and Air Force, as well as civilian agencies. In each such instances, we helped our client establish its ongoing eligibility as a government contractor.

### Compliance Counseling

Clients look to Pillsbury for guidance regarding compliance with government contracting statutes and regulations, including issues of ethics and standards of conduct, cost allowability and allocability, security clearances, and labor statutes. Based on our extensive knowledge of regulatory requirements.

### Intellectual Property and Data Rights

Pillsbury guides companies through the labyrinth of government regulations and contract clauses regarding technical data, computer software, and patents. We help contractors take the critical steps necessary to maximize protection of their intellectual property when working for the government.

### Classified Work

We advise contractors on security clearance matters and related export control and foreign ownership and control issues. Many of our attorneys hold security clearances and have litigated classified contract cases.

### Schedules and Other Contracting Vehicles

We advise contractors regarding the unique features of General Services Administration and Department of Veterans Affairs multiple award schedules, as well as other government-wide acquisition contracts.

### Small Business

Addressing issues unique to the needs of small businesses is a particular focus for our team. Pillsbury's experience includes securing regulatory approval under the Small Business Administration's various programs, including mentor-protégé programs, and defending or filing SBA protests and appeals.

### International

Our team represents companies that offer products and services to governments outside their own countries. Our work covers export controls, domestic preferences, issues of foreign ownership and control, FMS and FMF issues, and unique issues related to war-zone contracting. We also counsel foreign corporations on sales to U.S. companies and the U.S. government.

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Pillsbury's Government Contracts & Disputes team members and practice are nationally ranked in their field by *Chambers USA*.

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### State and Local Procurement

We have extensive experience in representation of leading information technology and professional service firms in state and local procurement matters. This includes regulatory counseling, negotiation of complex agreements, bid protest litigation, compliance and performance disputes, and state False Claims Act issues.

### Our Team

Pillsbury has a team of over 20 government contract lawyers on both coasts. Pillsbury attorneys have served as in-house general counsel at large and small companies, and as procurement lawyers for federal agencies. We understand your perspective and know how to help you achieve your goals.

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**ATTORNEY ADVERTISING.** Results depend on a number of factors unique to each matter. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.

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