Nationally ranked by *Chambers USA*, Pillsbury’s International Trade practice is known for its sophisticated work on export controls and sanctions, Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) reviews, international trade agreements, and Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) and customs compliance.

Combining in-depth knowledge of trade measures with a nuanced understanding of the related political, policy and diplomatic context, Pillsbury provides clients with the full range of legal services related to regulation of international trade and investment.

Our International Trade lawyers assist clients with matters including: export controls and embargoes; regulation of foreign investment; customs compliance and enforcement; FCPA compliance; the interpretation of international trade agreements; litigation, arbitration and settlement of trade disputes; trade remedy proceedings (such as antidumping investigations); and trade issues that arise in transactions. Experienced in resolving a multitude of trade-related problems, we offer practical, strategic and effective advice to clients from a wide variety of industries, including computer hardware and software, aerospace, defense, semiconductors, financial institutions, satellite services, energy, agriculture, chemicals, steel, travel, automotive and electronics. We regularly team with lawyers in the firm’s other practice areas to ensure comprehensive service and the deep understanding of our clients’ industries and technologies needed to tailor solutions to help clients accomplish both their immediate and long-term goals.
Pillsbury’s lawyers bring their extensive experience to bear in all aspects and fields of International Trade, including:

**Customs Compliance & Enforcement**

We are experienced in virtually all aspects of U.S. customs laws and their administration, including tariff classifications, tariff relief proceedings under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 and Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, country of origin marking, import valuation and rules of origin. Pillsbury lawyers represent clients in requesting Customs and Border Protection rulings. We also assist in designing internal customs compliance programs and in responding to Customs audits, and defend clients in seizure, enforcement and penalty proceedings.

**Economic Sanctions & Embargoes**

Pillsbury lawyers have deep experience advising clients on compliance with economic embargoes imposed by the U.S. government under the International Economic Emergency Powers Act and the Trading with the Enemy Act, including sanctions regulations administered by the Treasury Department’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) with respect to countries such as Cuba, Iran, Sudan, Syria and North Korea, as well as terrorists, drug traffickers and other designated entities.

**Export & Technology Transfer Controls**

Pillsbury assists clients in interpreting Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) requirements to determine if proposed transactions require prior government approval. We help companies classify products on the Commerce Control List and the U.S. Munitions List, assist in preparing license applications and commodity jurisdiction requests, advise on export control law violation disclosures, conduct investigations, negotiate settlements, and defend clients in administrative enforcement proceedings and criminal prosecutions.

**Foreign Corrupt Practices Act Compliance**

Our cross-practice team provides the full range of FCPA-related services, from general compliance and specific transactions advice to investigations and representation before government agencies, offering exceptional guidance on the complex legal and regulatory issues involved in doing business abroad. We monitor U.S. court decisions, DOJ and SEC settlement terms, and enforcement officials’ and regulators’ policy statements, and we help clients establish effective FCPA compliance programs and respond when potential violations arise.

**Anti-Money Laundering**

For both financial institutions and traditional companies, anti-money laundering (AML) laws have broad impact on modern business and intersect in important ways with sanctions, export control, anti-corruption and other trade issues. Pillsbury advises U.S. and non-U.S. financial institutions as well as companies and
investors on regulatory and criminal AML rules, as well as due diligence and know-your-customer. Our work ranges from traditional banking to FinTech to the cutting edge of digital assets.

**International Trade Agreements**

As international trade agreements under the World Trade Organization (WTO) and bilateral/multilateral agreements such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) have greatly expanded the scope of domestic government regulation subject to international obligations, Pillsbury has been advising companies and has represented clients in numerous completed and pending investor-state arbitrations, WTO dispute settlement proceedings and appeals, and other cases under WTO, NAFTA and other trade agreements.

**Regulation of Foreign Investment & National Security**

Pillsbury advises on foreign investments in the U.S., handles CFIUS notifications under the Exon-Florio Amendment and FINSA, and represents clients in complex, high-profile investigations. We are experienced in matters involving foreign government control, highly sensitive technologies, intricate regulatory regimes, transportation, communication and energy infrastructure, and cleared companies. We also assist with security clearances and advise on National Industrial Security Program (NISP)’s impact on business operations and NISPOM’s “foreign ownership, control, or influence” (FOCI) rules.

**Trade Remedy Proceedings**

We have extensive experience representing clients in trade remedy proceedings before the Commerce Department and the International Trade Commission (ITC) involving complex topics, including antidumping issues, anti-circumvention, hyperinflation and non-market economies, as well as the countervailability of subsidies granted to government-owned entities before their privatization. We also represent clients in national security investigations under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 before the Department of Commerce and tariff proceedings under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974 before the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative. We handle appeals to the Court of International Trade, the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit and the U.S. Supreme Court.

**REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE**

- Served for years as U.S. counsel to the Mexican government with respect to NAFTA, WTO and other trade-related issues.
- Advised U.S. and foreign clients on matters relating to U.S. laws imposing a trade embargo against Cuba.
- Advised solar components manufacturer on compliance with Buy American Act and Trade Agreements Act compliance issues.
Served as principal international trade counsel for one of the largest petroleum companies, advised on all sanctions and compliance issues, including Iran sanctions developments (CISADA, ITRA, NDAA, etc.), the impact of new Burma sanctions developments on grandfathered investment activity, as well as Sudan, Syria and other sanctions programs.

Designed and implemented export control internal compliance programs for domestic and multinational clients in the aviation, technology, satellite services and other industries.

Represented a major U.S. aerospace company in connection with internal investigations of possible FCPA violations in China, Greece, Spain, Argentina, Saudi Arabia and Indonesia.

Served as counsel to Mexico in WTO dispute involving origin labeling for beef products, a case that helped established legal standard for interpreting Technical Barriers to Trade Agreement’s anti-discrimination provisions.

Represented a Japanese multinational corporation in acquiring a large U.S. entity involved in activities regulated under the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR). Assisted in the negotiation of a mitigation agreement with CFIUS and in satisfying requirements imposed by the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls in connection with the pre-notification requirements of the ITAR.

Represented U.S. fabricator in DOC administrative reviews and changed circumstances review related to an antidumping duty order’s certification and reexport requirements involving impact of Japanese tsunami on re-export requirements.

PRACTICE AREA HIGHLIGHTS

Pillsbury’s International Trade practice is nationally ranked by Chambers USA, and partners Stephan Becker, Nancy Fischer and Christopher Wall ranked as Chambers USA and Chambers Global leading lawyers in International Trade.

Selected as 2020 Regulatory Law Firm of the Year by The Women in Compliance Awards program. The program acknowledges standout women leaders as well as high-performing teams that are either led or heavily composed of women. Nancy Fischer and Sahar Hafeez, were also recognized as finalists this year. Fischer was a finalist for the Compliance Lawyer of the Year category and Hafeez was a finalist for the Junior Compliance Lawyer of the Year category. Last year, Pillsbury was selected as 2019 Global Trade & Customs Compliance Law Firm of the Year and shortlisted for Regulatory Law Firm of the Year.

Recognized by 2020 Legal 500 U.S. for the breadth of our International Trade capabilities, with partner Christopher Wall named to the Hall of Fame, partner Nancy Fischer recognized as a Leading Lawyer, and Matt Rabinowitz called a Rising Star. Client testimonial hails the Pillsbury International Trade team as “A knowledgeable team that collaborates well, leverages its connections, and uses its legal expertise and messaging strength to develop cogent, fact-based campaigns to advocate successfully for its clients.”

Pillsbury received U.S. News/Best Lawyers recognition for International Trade & Finance.
• A finalist for four awards, Pillsbury shines at 2019 Women in Compliance Awards with the International Trade Practice named Global Trade & Customs Compliance Firm of the Year. The firm was shortlisted for Regulatory Law Firm of the Year, and partner Nancy Fischer was shortlisted for Compliance Lawyer of the Year and for the Lifetime Achievement Award for Contribution to the Compliance Community.