



# Hanson Bridgett Practice Group Transportation & Logistics

Hanson Bridgett possesses a wide variety of experienced general transportation and logistics attorney-practitioners, representing both privately and publicly-owned companies for their particular distribution and supply-chain requirements. The firm is counsel to a broad and diverse range of domestic and international commercial carriers, including motor, water, rail, passenger, air cargo and household goods companies. In addition to direct suppliers and users of such services, Hanson Bridgett regularly assists local and national third-party brokers, intermediaries and full-service logistics enterprises with litigation, transactional, and contractual matters.

## **Our Services**

The scope of services for the transportation clientele served by the firm includes: mergers and acquisitions; contractual relationships; comprehensive service contracts; risk management mitigation; business structures and management; successorship planning; financings; security and credit arrangements; insurance coverage; regulatory compliance; real estate development, sales and due diligence; and, other business-related resources essential to participants in this dynamic industry. Likewise, litigation activity regularly includes: freight loss and damage claims; contract construction and interpretation; freight payment disputes; environmental laws and compliance; creditor's rights; defense of state and agency enforcement actions related to environmental, equipment and clean air initiatives; and, labor disputes, including defense of class actions designed to challenge independent

contractor status, all of which are consistent with the types of domestic and international transportation disputes which often occur between transportation companies or as a result of government intervention at all levels.

### **Our Clients**

The firm's transportation clients represent a cross-section of specialty carriers such as: less-than-truckload; package; truckload general freight; liquid and dry bulk; agriculture; passenger (bus, limousine, airport shuttle, taxi, and public transit carriers); water; air cargo; foreign and domestic ground, air and ocean freight forwarders; rail and bus commute; transportation brokers; warehouses; and passenger ferries. Within the Public Agency Section, the firm represents a number of public transit agencies, including the Golden Gate Bridge, Highway & Transportation District, BART, SamTrans, Caltrain and other major districts throughout the country.

## Areas of Expertise

Our Transportation & Logistics Practice Group regularly is called upon to provide advice, counsel and representation regarding such diverse legal services as:

- Domestic and cross-border transportation; full-service logistics and supply-chain management planning, structures and services, including those related to e-commerce and distribution functions; NAFTA compliance and implementation.
- Employment law, with a focus on independent contractor/employment disputes, including defense of class actions, overtime, exit strategies, contracts, classification, and other employment status issues.

- Negotiating, drafting and implementing a full range of relevant transportation documents and logistics management and distribution agreements; bills of lading and alternatives; direct and third-party transportation contracts; facilities contracts; owner-operator leases and services.
- Mergers and acquisitions; joint ventures; pooling arrangements; business associations.
- Domestic and international loss and damage claims representation; claims processing, negotiation, and litigation.
- Insurance advice and due diligence risk management issues, including coverage disputes and related litigation.
- Railroad short-line acquisitions, operations and management, including trackage rights and comprehensive indemnity agreements.
- International trade, including customs compliance and enforcement, export licensing, letters of credit, and other foreign trade documentation and processing.
- Antitrust law counseling and advocacy at federal and state levels, reflecting unfair trade and business practices in a deregulated environment.
- Freight invoice collection issues, security agreements, financing arrangements, and secured transactions.
- Admiralty and maritime law, contracts and litigation.
- Federal and state regulatory compliance and audits of services related to transportation activities, including U.S. Department of Transportation, the Surface Transportation Board, and FMCSA, as well as various state tax and licensing jurisdictions.
- Criminal and civil defense of federal and state enforcement actions against companies and their employees for safety and hazardous materials violations.
- Alternative dispute resolution through mediation and arbitration processes.