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M. Lee Stratton

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Expertise

Financial Services

Business Practices

Taxation

Compliance and Risk Solutions

Education

- University of Ottawa, LL.M., 1993
- Queen's University, LL.B., 1983
- York University, B.A. (Honours), 1979

Bar Admission

- Ontario, 1985

Executive Summary

Lee is a member of the Business and Corporate Commercial and the Compliance and Risk Solutions Groups at Gardiner Roberts. Lee practices in the areas of business law (with a special emphasis on wholly-owned Canadian subsidiaries of multi-national enterprises), regulatory law including competition law, and foreign investment review, GST/HST, customs and international trade. His varied experience with privately-held businesses, with regulators and government officials, and his ability to resolve tax controversies make him a valued general counsel. Lee has advocated for clients with federal and provincial government officials, seeking clarity concerning desired applications of legislation and government policies. He has represented clients before the Canadian International Trade Tribunal and the Tax Court of Canada in a variety of tax and trade disputes.

Lee structures and implements secured debt financings, domestic and international transactions, consulting and employment agreements and arrangements with suppliers, manufacturers and distributors. In addition, he provides competition law and foreign investment review advice, prepares Competition Act and Investment Canada Act filings and liaises with Competition Bureau and ISED Foreign Investment Review and Economic Security Branch officers. Lee advises clients on a wide range of regulatory matters.

For several years, Lee taught Private International Business Law at the Faculty of Law, Queen's University and co-authored materials for that course. In addition, Lee has authored materials concerning the roles and responsibilities of directors, officers and shareholders of corporations for the Law Society of Ontario. Lee has made presentations on directors' duties, Canada's competition laws, the Canada-United States-Mexico Free Trade Agreement, and product distribution to various professional and business groups.

Articles and Presentations

- "Made in Canada" Claims and the Competition Act - 5/13/2025
- Competition Act Wage-fixing and no-poach provisions - 11/21/2023
- Merger Review under the Competition Act - 11/12/2015
- The Competition Act and Business Activity: Misleading Advertising, Price Maintenance and Compliance Programs - 10/28/2014

Professional Involvement

- Law Society of Ontario
- Ontario Bar Association
- Canadian Bar Association - Competition Law Section, and Commodity Tax, Customs and Trade Section