



Franchise & Distribution Group Automotive and Transportation

Our cross-disciplinary Franchise & Distribution group draws upon its decades of experience to assist domestic and international motor vehicle manufacturers in navigating the issues affecting their dealer/franchisee relationships and market representation.

Our Industry Experience

For more than 30 years, our group has been at the forefront of the legal issues and developments impacting the auto industry. We have helped our clients develop, grow, restructure, and defend their dealer networks and franchise systems to achieve their business and strategic objectives. We advise clients on regulatory shifts and novel challenges created by technological innovations, including electric and autonomous vehicles, as well as changing consumer behaviors that are reshaping the transportation industry and distribution models.

How We Help

Our attorneys are strategic thinkers, creative problem-solvers, and fierce advocates. We help our clients anticipate issues and find practical solutions. When disputes arise, we provide aggressive representation with a proven record of success. We have significant experience with a broad range of industry matters, including:

- Developing dealer agreements, dealer network modification and implementation and enforcing and defending operating and performance standards, and market actions.
- Warranty reimbursement, pricing, incentive, and promotional programs.
- Digital/online retailing and alternative distribution models.
- Bankruptcy and financially distressed operations.
- Data management and cybersecurity.
- Evolving labor and employment issues, including franchisee misclassification, joint employer, and vicarious liability.
- Trademarks, trade secrets, and non-competition agreements.

Our clients trust us to be their go-to counsel on their most significant matters and we are regarded as thought leaders on regulatory, technological, and other competitive developments impacting the industry. While we provide a full range of the traditional corporate, transactional, regulatory, and litigation services, we also collaborate across many related practice areas to provide comprehensive counsel to our clients.



Future of Automotive Series

The motor vehicle industry continues to be transformed by new technologies and consumer preferences. The roadmap forward for automotive companies has become even more complicated.

Our Future of Automotive series—authored by our multidisciplinary team—regularly assesses the trends in this dynamic industry to help clients develop appropriate strategies to navigate the evolving landscape while minimizing disruption to your business and protecting your operations.

www.seyfarth.com/futureofauto

Select Industry Recognition

U.S. News & Best Lawyers 2021 “Best Law Firms” Rankings

Recognized as a Tier 1 national Franchise practice by U.S. News & World Report. In addition, Franchise Group co-chair John Skelton was recognized as “Lawyer of the Year” in Franchise Law.

Chambers 2020 Ranks Seyfarth Attorney for Transportation

Litigation Group chair James McGrath was recognized in Chambers 2020 for Transportation: Road (Automotive).

Law360 Names Seyfarth “Practice Group of the Year” in Transportation Law

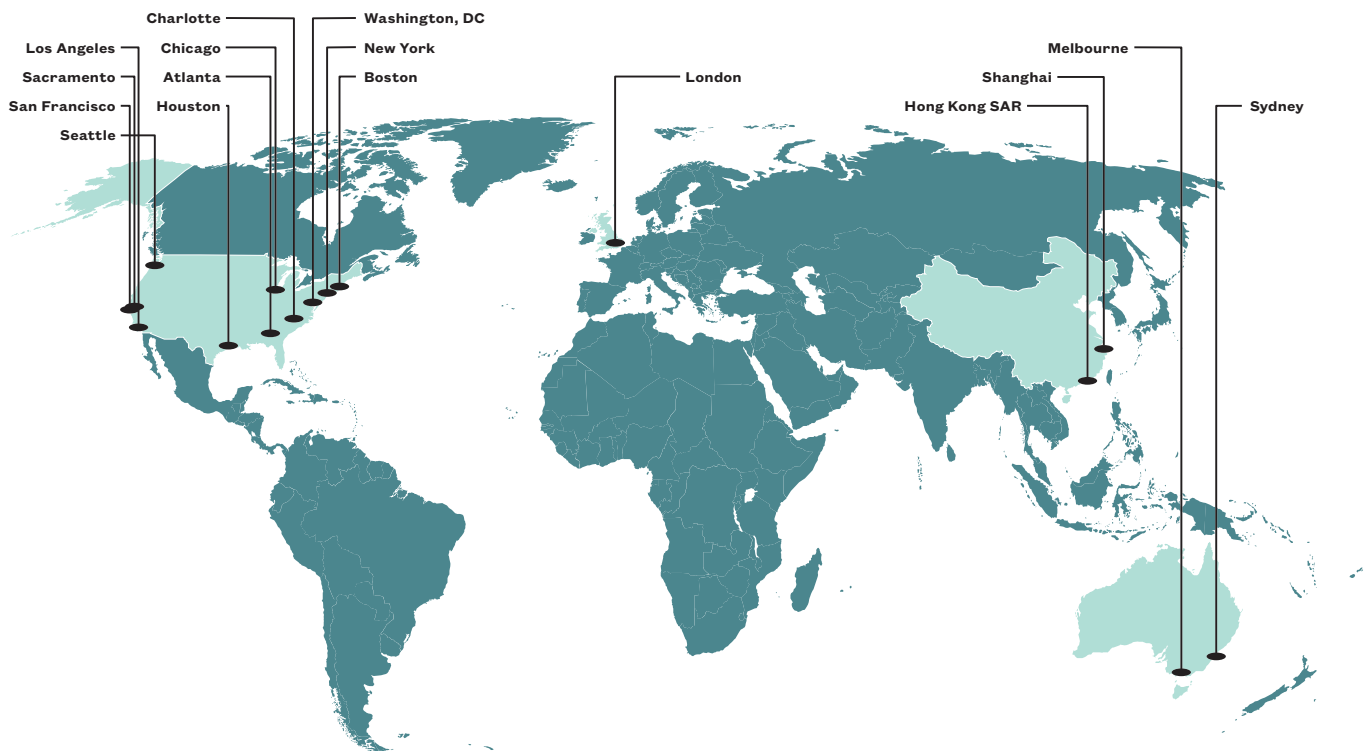
Named a Law360 top Transportation “Practice Group of the Year” in 2018. The distinction is given to those firms behind the litigation wins and major deals that resonated throughout the legal industry in the past year.

Industry Organization Involvement

Our attorneys have partnerships and are frequent speakers and thought leaders at the industry’s leading associations, including:

- ABA Forum on Franchising
- American Trucking Association
- National Association of Motor Vehicle Boards and Commissions
- Alliance for Automotive Innovation
- International Franchise Association
- RV Industry Association

Global Footprint



“Seyfarth” and “Seyfarth Shaw” refer to Seyfarth Shaw LLP, an Illinois limited liability partnership. Our London office operates as Seyfarth Shaw (UK) LLP, an affiliate of Seyfarth Shaw LLP. Seyfarth Shaw (UK) LLP is a limited liability partnership established under the laws of the State of Delaware, USA, and is authorized and regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority with registered number 556927. Legal services provided by our Australian practice are provided by the Australian legal practitioner partners and employees of Seyfarth Shaw Australia, an Australian partnership. Our Hong Kong SAR office, “Seyfarth,” is a registered foreign law firm operated by its sole registered foreign lawyer in association with Wong, Wan & Partners. #20-7586 M1