

Lanier Saperstein

Partner

saperstein.lanier@dorsey.com

New York – 212.415.9385



Lanier is a financial institutions attorney with more than 25 years of experience representing banks and financial services clients in complex litigation, regulatory matters, and cross-border disputes.

He is recognized by leading legal publications for his work in international banking law and is widely regarded for his ability to handle highly contentious, high-profile litigations – a distinction echoed by his global banking clients.

Lanier made precedent-setting history as the first lawyer in the United States to argue that a litigant should use the Hague Evidence Convention when seeking confidential bank records from China.

His practice spans a wide array of banking matters, including the Bank Secrecy Act, anti-money laundering (AML), Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) sanctions programs, the Anti-Terrorism Act, the Foreign Sovereign Immunities Act (FSIA), the bank examination privilege, suspicious activity reports, the Uniform Commercial Code, and international wire transfers.

Lanier routinely handles cross-border subpoenas, asset restraints, and judgment and arbitral enforcement actions. He has litigated key subjects relating to personal and subject matter jurisdiction, international comity, and the separate entity rule.

Lanier Co-Leads Dorsey's award-winning U.S.-China Practice Group, recognized by the *Legal 500 Greater China*, *China Business Law Journal*, and *Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific* for its expertise in cross-border litigation. *Legal 500 Greater China* recently highlighted the group's "wealth of practical experience" in "complex China-related ... cross-border litigation matters," where its "meticulousness" and "a strong degree of collaboration" across the firm's U.S. and China offices "allows it to handle a spectrum of

Education

- Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law (J.D., 1997)
 - Finalist, The Adlai E. Stevenson II Award for Best Brief
 - First Place, Lowden-Wigmore Prize for Legal Scholarship
 - Note & Comment Editor, *Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology*
- London School of Economics (M.Sc., 1994)
- College of William & Mary (B.A., 1992)

Bar Admissions

- New York

China-related U.S. litigation."

Lanier is a member of the NYCBA's Compliance Committee and the Council on Judicial Administration. He sits on the China General Chamber of Commerce–USA's Legal Counsel Committee and is a member of the National Committee on US-China Relations. He writes on matters relating to cross-border disputes and impacting financial institutions, and his writings have been cited in dozens of law journals.

Select Experience

Lanier has experience in a wide array of matters impacting foreign financial institutions and large companies:

- Currently represents a G-SIB in multiple litigations arising out of the Vesttoo fraud.
- Currently represents a Chinese SOE seeking to recover stolen funds.
- Currently represents financial institutions responding to cross-border subpoenas that implicate principles of comity.
- *Aybar v. Ford Motor Company*: Represented the New York City Bar Association as amicus in an appeal on a jurisdictional issue of first-impression before New York's highest court, where the Court adopted the NYCBA's argument, overturning a century of the lower courts' mistaken application of Bagdon.

Court Admissions

- U.S. Supreme Court
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma

Professional Affiliations

- Adjunct Professor, Fordham University School of Law
- Member, National Committee on U.S.-China Relations
- Compliance Committee, New York City Bar Association
- Council for Judicial Administration, New York City Bar Association
- Legal Counsel Committee, China General Chamber of Commerce - USA (CGCC)

Charitable & Civic Involvement

- Member of the Board of Trustees, Congregation Emanu-El of Westchester
- Volunteer sea kayak instructor, ACA certified

Accolades

- *New York Metro Super Lawyers®*, 2023-2026

Insights

March 13, 2025

Pleading Rules At Stake In High Court Hamas Banking Case

May 5, 2023

Dorsey Partner Lanier Saperstein Discusses US Business with Chinese Companies

January 4, 2023

Using Risk To Evaluate Industry-Specific ESG Issues In 2023

June 2022

Banks, Climate Risks, and the Emerging Regulatory Framework

October 21, 2021

Court of Appeals Rules on Jurisdiction over Foreign Corporations Doing Business in New York

August 3, 2021

"The DOJ's Expanded Subpoena Powers Are Not Without Limits," New York Law Journal

June 9, 2020

"The Anti-Terrorism Act: Recent Developments Lead to Greater Clarity," New York Law Journal