



Graeme A. Hamilton

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[White Collar Criminal Defence and Corporate Investigations](#)

[Public Law Litigation](#)

[Securities Disputes](#)

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Graeme leads BLG's [White Collar Criminal Defence and Corporate Investigations](#) and [International Trade and Investment](#) groups. He is a very experienced trial and appellate advocate in the areas of white collar criminal defence, international trade and investment law, complex commercial disputes and public law.

Graeme is widely recognized as one of Canada's leading white collar criminal defence practitioners. He has been counsel in several of the most notable white collar and regulatory investigations and prosecutions in recent Canadian history, including the successful defence of one of the accused in the landmark bribery prosecution [R. v. Barra](#), a precedent-setting FINTRAC enforcement action against a cryptocurrency exchange for alleged violations of the *Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act*, and multiple high-profile securities regulatory proceedings. In addition, Graeme is frequently retained by companies to conduct internal investigations and instructed in related civil litigation.

Graeme additionally specializes in international trade law, where his practice encompasses litigation, investigations, transactional advice and compliance advice in regard to economic sanctions; import, export and technology transfer controls; defence trade controls; customs laws; anti-dumping, countervail and safeguard measures; and anti-corruption laws. Graeme regularly acts for Canadian and multinational companies in litigation before the Federal Court and the Canadian International Trade Tribunal; in audits, inspections and administrative

proceedings conducted by the Canada Border Services Agency; and with respect to trade law issues implicated in domestic and cross-border transactions.

Graeme taught Trial Advocacy at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law for several years. He also previously taught Evidence at Osgoode Hall Law School as an adjunct professor. In addition, Graeme has testified as an expert witness on criminal and constitutional law issues before the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs on multiple occasions.

Experience

- **White Collar Criminal Defence**
 - Counsel to leading cryptocurrency exchange in Ontario Securities Commission investigation.
 - Counsel to leading cryptocurrency exchange in court application concerning seizure of alleged proceeds of crime.
 - Acted in several Competition Bureau investigations regarding alleged price-fixing and misleading advertising.
 - Successful defence of multinational aerospace company facing charges in relation to a workplace critical injury.
 - Counsel to audit committee of a public company in internal investigation into certain related-party transactions.
 - [*R. v. Barra*](#) – successful defence of an individual prosecuted under the *Corruption of Foreign Public Officials Act* in landmark bribery prosecution.
 - Counsel to an individual in a high profile investigation for alleged tax evasion arising out of the *Panama Papers*.
- **International Trade and Investment Law**
 - Counsel to multinational corporation in enforcement action under the *Customs Act*.
 - Successful defence of wholesale food distributor in prosecution under the *Wild Animal and Plant Protection and Regulation of International and Interprovincial Trade Act*.
 - Represented individual founders of a technology company in internal investigation into alleged economic sanctions violations.
 - Advised numerous companies with respect to compliance with economic sanctions imposed by Canada pursuant to the *Special Economic Measures Act* and the *Justice for Victims of Corrupt Foreign Officials Act*.
 - Advised numerous companies on blocking measures in relation to Cuba.
- **Public Law**
 - Counsel to a multinational company in an investigation by the Office of the Integrity Commissioner of Ontario into alleged violations of the *Lobbyists Registration Act*.
 - [*Ontario \(Attorney General\) v. Bogaerts*](#) - counsel to the Canadian Civil Liberties Association as intervener in a section 7 challenge to animal welfare legislation.

Insights & Events

- Author, "A big win for Ontario: Court of Appeal decision allows international "pooled liquidity" in online gaming", BLG Article, November 2025
- Tariffs and Trade Resource Centre, BLG Perspective, August 2025
- Author, "Reprieve or escalation? "Reciprocal" and automobile-specific tariffs", BLG Article, April 2025
- Author, "Canada-U.S. tariff war resumes", BLG Article, March 2025

- Co-Author, 'Managing the intersection of export controls and economic sanctions: Implications for legal and compliance teams and best practises for strengthening cross-departmental coordination', Journal of Financial Compliance, March 2025
- Author, "Thriving amid tariff shifts", BLG Article, February 2025
- Author, "Canada tariffs on Chinese EVs, steel and aluminum: Feds introduce remissions request process to ease transition", BLG Article, October 2024
- Author, "No taxation without presentations: Canada to launch public consultations on possible tariff hikes on Chinese EVs", BLG Article, June 2024
- Author, "Punishing the crime, not the process: key considerations when investigating and reporting white-collar crime", BLG Article, November 2023
- Author, "Canada considers amendments to sanctions regime targeting Russia", BLG Article, February 2022
- Author, "Effective advocacy in investigations", BLG Article, July 2021
- Author, "Investigation and enforcement powers under Ontario's new "stay-at-home" order", BLG Article, January 2021
- Author, "Adapting U.S. compliance programs to incorporate Canada's foreign corruption law", BLG Article, December 2020
- Coffee Break with BLG: Session 2, BLG Video, October 2020
- Author, "Corporate communications with government in the pandemic: Maintaining compliance with lobbying laws", BLG Article, April 2020
- Author, "Coronavirus and criminal law: What you need to know ", BLG Article, March 2020
- Author, "Remediation agreement guideline for Canadian prosecutors", BLG Article, February 2020
- Co-Author, ["Multinational Companies Overlook Canada's Foreign Corruption Law at their Peril,"](#) Global Investigations Review, January 2020
- Speaker, "Extradition and Red Notices: The Long Arm of the Law is Getting Longer", American Bar Association Third Global White Collar Crime Institute, June 2019.
- Co-Author, "Civil Enforcement of Canada's Foreign Corruption Law?", FCPA Professor Blog, January 18, 2019.
- Author, "Anti-Money Laundering And Fraud In Canada", BLG Article, January 2019
- [Co-author, "Civil Enforcement of Canada's Foreign Corruption Law?" FCPA Professor, January 2019](#)
- Co-author, "Canada" chapter, The Practitioner's Guide to Global Investigations, Third Ed., Global Investigations Review, 2019
- Co-author, "Supreme Court Clarifies Process for Challenging Production Orders," BLG Bulletin, December 2018
- Author, "Deferred Prosecution Agreements are Coming to Canada", BLG Article, September 2018

Beyond Our Walls

Professional Involvement

- Member, Advocates' Society
- Member, Criminal Lawyers' Association
- Member, American Bar Association, Criminal Justice Section
- Member, International Bar Association
- Teaching Advisor, Trial Advocacy, University of Toronto Faculty of Law, 2018-2021

Awards & Recognition

- Recognized in the 2026 edition (and since 2020) of *Chambers Canada – Canada's Leading Lawyers for Business* (White-Collar Crime & Government Investigations (Nationwide - Canada)).
- Recognized in the 2025 edition of *The Canadian Legal Lexpert® Directory* (White Collar Defence & Investigations).
- Recognized in the 2025 edition (and since 2021) of *Benchmark Canada – The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys* as a Litigation Star.
- Recognized in the 2024 edition (and since 2022) of *Who's Who Legal: Canada* (Business Crime Defence)
- Recognized in the 2022 edition of *Who's Who Legal: Global* (Business Crime Defence)
- Recognized in the 2020 edition (and since 2018) of the *Benchmark Canada 40 and Under Hotlist*.
- Recognized in the 2020 edition (and since 2018) of *Benchmark Canada - The Definitive Guide to Canada's Leading Litigation Firms & Attorneys* as a Future Star.

Bar Admission & Education

- Ontario, 2009
- LLM, Harvard Law School, 2010
- JD, University of Toronto, 2008
- MA in Economics, University of Toronto, 2008
- BSc in Mathematics and Engineering, Queen's University, 2003

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As the largest, truly full-service Canadian law firm, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP (BLG) delivers practical legal advice for domestic and international clients across more practices and industries than any Canadian firm. With over 725 lawyers, intellectual property agents and other professionals, BLG serves the legal needs of businesses and institutions across Canada and beyond – from M&A and capital markets, to disputes, financing, and trademark & patent registration.

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