

BLOCKCHAIN & CRYPTOCURRENCY

Blockchain and other distributed ledger technology is one of the most disruptive technologies of the past decade, which raises legal and business challenges for our clients. Interest and investment in digital currencies has grown rapidly, which has increased the attention from tax and regulatory authorities around the world. Distributed ledger technology is also being explored in other applications to improve transaction performance and data security, such as for financial transactions, supply chains, smart contracts, energy storage and exchange, municipal records, and countless others. Each of these applications presents unique opportunities and legal concerns. The attorneys on Hodgson Russ's multidisciplinary blockchain and cryptocurrency team regularly advise individuals, startups, and high-growth companies in both the U.S. and abroad across an array of legal issues. We apply our experiences from the financial services sector, technology sector, and governmental regulatory areas to this emergent technology.

Some of our projects related to distributed ledger technology include:

- Securities advice related to initial coin offerings (ICOs)
- Tax advice on Bitcoin and other cryptocurrency payments
- Helping clients monitor the changing state and federal regulatory landscape for blockchain and cryptocurrencies
- Patent and other intellectual property advice for new blockchain applications
- Business entity planning and employment advice for emerging companies working with blockchain technology
- Evaluating data security and data privacy issues for new blockchain applications
- Equipment lease and facility rental advice for cryptocurrency mining operations

In the event of commercial disputes or criminal prosecution, our litigation team works with the blockchain and cryptocurrency team to advance our client's interests.

In the News

Gary Schober Gives Insight to Wegmans' Discontinuation of SCAN App
WGRZ, September 15, 2022

N.Y. Crypto Owners to Get Tax Guidance on Digital Investments
Bloomberg Tax, July 6, 2022

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Buffalo Business First - Thought Leaders: Building blockchain: Industry leaders discuss cryptocurrency technology
Buffalo Business First, October 19, 2018

Publications

Here's how blockchain could help the mortgage industry
American Banker, March 26, 2018

Use of Blockchain Technology in the Oil & Gas Industry
Independent Oil & Gas Association of New York Winter 2017 Newsletter, December 19, 2017

Will we hash out blockchain patents for the next decade?
Buffalo Law Journal, December 6, 2017

Blockchain and Real Property
The Bulletin, November 29, 2017

Blockchain Legal Issues
The Bulletin, November 1, 2017

Blockchain
The Bulletin, October 1, 2017

Presentations & Events

ISM Buffalo Spring Meeting - Use of Blockchain in Manufacturing and Supply Chain
Buffalo, New York, May 3, 2019

Spring 2019 Cornell Blockchain Conference
April 12, 2019

Exploring Blockchain's Global Reach Webinar Series: World Food Programme
November 7, 2018

Blockchain Blocktable
IBM Buffalo, 40 Fountain Plaza, October 25, 2018

Exploring Blockchain's Global Reach Webinar Series: Belgium
October 23, 2018

Exploring Blockchain's Global Reach Webinar Series: Lithuania
March 15, 2018

Public Company Update 2018
Hodgson Russ LLP, January 24, 2018