

# WILSON SONSINI

## Nicholas E. Hakun

ASSOCIATE

Litigation

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### FOCUS AREAS

Export Control and  
Sanctions  
FCPA and Anti-Corruption  
Government Investigations  
Litigation  
National Security and Trade  
Strategic Risk and Crisis  
Management  
White Collar Crime

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **Experienced Litigator**  
Nick has experience in all phases of litigation, from conducting witness interviews and depositions to appearing as lead counsel in federal and state court and examining witnesses.
- **Industry Expert**  
Nick is an adjunct assistant professor at his alma mater, Temple University, where he teaches a course on white collar crime and government investigations.
- **Thought Leadership**  
Nick has published several law review articles in the areas of antitrust policy, tax law, and the attorney-client privilege.

### EXPERIENCE

Nicholas (Nick) E. Hakun is an associate at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where he is a member of the firm's litigation department. His practice focuses on white collar litigation, government and internal investigations, and sanctions compliance. Nick represents individuals and companies at various stages of litigation, from investigations through indictment to sentencing, and has handled investigations with DOJ's Criminal and Civil Divisions as well as the SEC, OFAC, and FDIC. He also advises companies on their compliance programs, with a focus on anti-corruption, sanctions, and national security issues.

Outside of his main practice, Nick represents pro bono clients, including indigent criminal defendants and prisoners accused of civil rights violations. He is also an assistant professor at Temple University's Fox School of Business and Management. There, he teaches courses on white collar crime, corporate compliance, and business ethics to undergraduate and graduate students.

Prior to joining the firm, Nick served as a law clerk to the Honorable Timothy J. Savage, U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. His career began as a litigation associate at Morgan, Lewis and Bockius LLP in Philadelphia, where his practice focused on complex litigation, government investigations, and antitrust. In that role he also served, pro bono, as a Special Assistant District Attorney for Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, where he conducted preliminary hearings and examined witnesses in Magisterial District Court.

During law school, Nick interned with the Fraud Section of the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security. He was also an active leader of the trial advocacy team, where he won Georgetown's annual William H. Greenhalgh trial advocacy competition and traveled across the country to participate in prestigious competitions.

Before law school, Nick worked as a high school mathematics teacher in Cleveland, Mississippi, as a member of Teach for America.

Nick is practicing virtually from Pennsylvania, where he is licensed.

## CREDENTIALS

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### Education

- J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, 2018  
*Cum Laude; Researcher, Annual Review of Criminal Procedure; Senior Staff Member, The Tax Lawyer; Barristers' Council, Trial Advocacy Division, Executive Board; CALI Award Winner – Hot Topics in Antitrust; Champion, William W. Greenhalgh Trial Advocacy Tournament; Finalist, American Association of Justice Regional Trial Advocacy Competition*
- B.B.A., Economics, Temple University, 2014  
*Summa Cum Laude; Dean's List, Recipient, Diamond Award; Alter Research Scholar*

### Associations and Memberships

- Member, Pennsylvania Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- Member, Philadelphia Bar Association

### Admissions

- Bar of the District of Columbia
- State Bar of Pennsylvania
- U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania

## INSIGHTS

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### Select Publications

- Co-author, "Corporate Compliance Lessons From FirstEnergy Scandal," *Law360*, September 15, 2023
- "Clarifying the Kovel Conundrum," 15 *Drexel L. Rev.* 1, 2023
- Co-author, "Banks Fined \$2 Billion for Employees' 'Off-Channel' Communications—Is Your Industry at Risk?" 40(3) *The Computer & Internet Lawyer* 6-7, 2023
- "Strategic Litigation and Antitrust Petitioning Immunity," 12 *U.C. Irvine L. Rev.* 867, 2022
- "Should My Lawyer Do My Taxes? Income Tax Preparation, Accounting Services, and the Scope of the Attorney-Client Privilege," 72 *Tax Law.* 639, 2019