

Bret S. Cohen

Partner

Washington, D.C.

Biography

Bret Cohen helps technology and brick-and-mortar businesses comply with privacy, cybersecurity, Internet, and consumer protection laws. He also represents companies in litigation and government investigations in these areas. As a lawyer and technologist, Bret has a knack for translating legal standards into practical technical requirements that are easy for clients to use.

With a particular focus on the Internet and e-commerce, Bret has advised extensively on legal issues related to cloud computing, social media, mobile applications, online tracking and analytics, and software development. He counsels and is a frequent speaker on strategic compliance with global privacy laws, including cross-border transfer restrictions, data localization requirements, and the impact of government surveillance on the digital economy. Bret also spearheads efforts on cybersecurity incident preparedness and response, student privacy, marketing privacy, and workplace privacy.

With the global privacy landscape rapidly changing, Bret stays plugged into policymaking developments worldwide to help companies focus on both the legal requirements of today and the likely obligations of the future. He writes regularly on these developments, including for the Hogan Lovells *Chronicle of Data Protection* blog, for which he serves as the Managing Editor. Bret also strongly believes that privacy is not a zero-sum proposition and advises companies on how



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Practices

Privacy and Cybersecurity

IT Law

Marketing and Advertising

Industries

Consumer

Technology and Telecoms

Education

Sports, Media and Entertainment

Areas of focus

Risk Management, Governance, and Compliance

Breach Preparedness, Response, Investigation, and Communications

adopting privacy-enhancing policies and technologies can benefit business and enhance customer engagement in the long run.

During law school, Bret was an articles editor for *The George Washington Law Review*, and was awarded the Laurence E. Seibel Memorial Award for Excellence in Labor and Employment Law. He graduated with honors from the University of Maryland with dual degrees in computer science and business information systems.

Representative experience

Helped establish a comprehensive privacy program for Bloomberg L.P. consisting of governance infrastructure, policies, and procedures.

Performed and published a detailed review of Uber's privacy program.

Helped a global company comply with privacy laws in over 50 countries, focusing on privacy notices, cross-border transfers, and data use restrictions.

Represented numerous companies in privacy and cybersecurity investigations by the FTC and state regulators that resulted in no enforcement action.

Awards and rankings

- Media, Technology, and Telecoms: Cyber Law (Including Data Privacy and Protection), Recommended, *Legal 500 US*, 2020-2021

Latest thinking and events

- News
 - Legislators Announce Compromise U.S. Federal Privacy Bill with Support in both the House and Senate
- News
 - EU and US on course to adopt Schrems II-compliant transfers framework
- News
 - Financial Institutions Horizons 2022
- News

Workplace Privacy

Privacy and Cybersecurity Public Policy Counseling and Advocacy

E-discovery and Information Management

Corporate and Commercial Transactions

Broadband, Internet, and E-commerce

Technology Contracts

Consumer Protection and Privacy AdTech

Advertising and Copy Clearance

California Consumer Privacy Act

Education and admissions

Education

J.D., The George Washington University Law School, with high honors, Order of the Coif, 2008

B.S., University of Maryland, cum laude, with honors, 2005

Memberships

American Bar Association

International Association of Privacy Professionals

Maryland State Bar Association

Bar admissions and qualifications

District of Columbia

Maryland

- How European and U.S. governments are looking to regulate AI technologies
- Published Works
 - USA: The collection of diversity data by organisations *OneTrust DataGuidance*
- Webinar
 - Data Protection Update