

Jonathan V. Cohen

Partner

Jonathan V. Cohen helps guide companies in the telecommunications, broadband and media sectors as they evaluate and cultivate business opportunities in a constantly shifting legal, regulatory and political landscape, leveraging his over 30 years of private practice and government experience in policy and transactional matters. He regularly advocates on behalf of clients before the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and other executive branch agencies whose policy decisions affect their interests. In addition, Mr. Cohen is a recognized expert in spectrum and media transactions, and particularly in the rules and processes governing spectrum auctions (including incentive auctions). He has assisted numerous broadcast and wireless industry clients in formulating, negotiating and consummating major transactions, and in gaining required regulatory approvals for them.

Mr. Cohen holds the Martindale Hubbell AV® Preeminent Peer Review Rating, has been selected multiple times as a Washington DC Super Lawyer, and has been singled out for nationwide recognition by his clients for “outstanding service” on corporate and commercial transactions. He joined the firm in 1998 after serving five-and-a-half years in senior staff positions at The White House and the FCC, where his work earned awards and recognition from a national legal publication. At the FCC, he was responsible for crafting rules to govern spectrum auctions, directed the FCC's first broadband PCS auction, formulated wireless competition and media policies, and spearheaded the FCC's effort to ensure that wireline telecommunications carriers adequately addressed the Year 2000 computer problem. He also was counsel to the President's Advisory Committee on Public Interest Obligations of Digital Television Broadcasters. Before entering government service, Mr. Cohen practiced law in Washington, D.C., and prior to law school, was a news reporter at a major market radio station.

Mr. Cohen speaks often at industry conferences and client seminars, and periodically writes columns for telecom publications. He serves on the board of a local non-profit organization.

ACTIVITIES AND RECOGNITION

Washington, DC Super Lawyer (2013 - 2019)

Recommended by Legal 500 US 2017

Recipient, Martindale Hubbell AV® Preeminent Peer Review Rating

One of 86 Attorneys Nationwide Named to the BTI Transactions All-Star Team (2008)

Member, Tech, Media and Telecom Policy Group, 2008 Presidential Campaign of Barack Obama

Private Sector Advisor – U.S. Department of State delegation to the World Telecommunications Development Conference, Istanbul, Turkey (2002)

Recipient of the “Hammer Award” from Vice President Al Gore’s National Performance Review for Reinventing Government (1995)

Dealmaker of the Month, The American Lawyer magazine (May 1995)

Member, Federal Communications Bar Association (Former Co-Chair, Committee on Global Telecommunications Development)



CONTACT

WASHINGTON DC
E joncohen@wbkllaw.com
P 202.383.3416
F 202.783.5851
[Outlook vCard](#)

BAR ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia, 1983

EDUCATION

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, 1982
B.S. (Economics), The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, 1978

PRACTICE AREAS

Administrative & Court Litigation
Broadband & IP-Enabled Services
Corporate & Commercial Transactions
Internet of Things
Media Content & Distribution
Privacy, Data Protection & Cybersecurity
Tower Siting & Infrastructure
Wireless Communications

PUBLICATIONS AND EVENTS