



World Affairs Council of Charlotte Underwriting and Table Purchase

WACC Global Economic Speaker Series

Steven Hill, Lead Trade Attorney Partner at K&L Gates | Michael Cornett, Managing Director for the National Tax Office at Forvis Mazars | Jon Morton, Partner at Forvis Mazars

Thursday, April 10th, 2025

Charlotte City Club

VIP Reception: 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. | **Lunch:** 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.



Steven Hill - Lead Trade Attorney Partner at K&L Gates

Steven Hill is a partner at the firm. He has more than 20 years of experience in a broad array of international trade regulation compliance and enforcement matters, particularly export controls, including the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) and International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), sanctions laws enforced by the US Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), customs and other importation laws, anti-boycott laws, and anti-corruption laws, such as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA).

Steven regularly advises multinational businesses in every context in which compliance with international trade laws may arise, including responding to governmental enforcement actions, preparation of voluntary disclosures and other submissions to governmental authorities, conducting internal investigations of potential violations of international trade laws, as well as ongoing day-to-day compliance matters, such as classification of goods, software, and technology, assessment of the impact of sanctions programs on proposed transactions, and obtaining licenses from relevant government

agencies. Steven also assists clients in conducting internal risk assessments and development and implementation of compliance programs and has conducted targeted training on international trade laws for clients located in a number of countries. As part of his experience, Steven regularly assists clients in conducting international trade-related diligence on mergers and acquisitions, joint venture partners, and other business partners and intermediaries.

Steven routinely works with the firm's public policy, corporate, securities, government contracts, and white collar and criminal defense areas to provide coordinated services to clients on international trade compliance matters. He also has substantial experience working with attorneys and experts in foreign countries to formulate effective advice in matters covering multiple national jurisdictions.

As part of his services to clients on substantive international trade matters, Steven regularly advises on national security reviews of foreign acquisitions and investments in the United States conducted by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS). This includes analysis of proposed transactions for potential national security risk factors, development of effective strategies in approaching CFIUS and other relevant actors within the US government, and submission of voluntary notifications to CFIUS.



Michael Cornett - Managing Director for the National Tax Office at Forvis Mazars

Mike is a managing director in the Forvis Mazars St. Louis national tax office. He has more than 40 years of experience in federal taxation, including 37 years in international taxation. During this time, Mike has worked with several major law firms and the national offices of two international accounting firms. He was a special counsel to the associate chief counsel (international), where he advised on regulations, revenue rulings, and PLRs.

He has served public, private, and venture-backed companies in various industries throughout his career. He has worked on cross-border restructuring and cross-border



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planning for a variety of issues including supply chain, foreign tax credit, and IP. He managed negotiations with the IRS on various issues including APAs and competent authority matters.

Mike has been a speaker on international tax issues and has spoken for organizations such as IFA, ABA, AICPA, TEI, and St. Louis International Tax Group. He has published several articles for national tax journals. He is a member of the American Institute of CPAs and American Bar Association.

Mike is a graduate of University of Notre Dame, Indiana, with a B.S. degree in accounting; a graduate of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, with a J.D. degree; and a graduate of Georgetown Law, Washington, D.C., with an LL.M. degree.



Jon Morton - Partner at Forvis Mazars

In March 2023, Jon joined Forvis Mazars as a managing director in their International Tax Transfer Pricing practice.

Prior to joining Forvis Mazars, he spent more than 15 years as part of a British accounting firm's international tax and transaction services practice, specializing in transfer pricing. Jon joined that firm in London, UK, in 2007, before spending six years in New York, New York, and five years in Charlotte, North Carolina. At the British accounting firm, Jon primarily served financial services clients, including many Fortune 500 multinationals, but also spent time serving large public and private clients in many other industry sectors, including manufacturing, retail, technology, payments, healthcare, and metals and mining. Since moving to Charlotte, his client responsibilities and focus have been more regional, as

opposed to industry sector specific, and this will continue at Forvis Mazars. Jon's transfer pricing experience has covered a range of compliance, advisory, controversy, and other issues for clients with varying domestic and global footprints.

At the British accounting firm, Jon was the lead transfer pricing advisor for many large multinational financial services clients and helped lead transfer pricing business development in the South/Central region. Jon also helped lead their operational and managed services transfer pricing initiatives. Many of the engagements that he has managed have entailed the preparation of global transfer pricing documentation or planning studies for compliance with national and international regulations and guidelines, e.g., U.S., U.K., European legislation, and the OECD Guidelines, etc. However, Jon also has extensive experience on transfer pricing audits, controversy enquiries, advanced pricing agreements, operational/implementation engagements, and start-up/restructuring assignments. Jon has also assisted clients with various complex technical matters, including captives, permanent establishments, intangible property valuation, debt/equity and thin capitalization analyses, cash pooling, blocker financing, and internal financing transactions. More recently, Jon has been advising clients on recent developments regarding the OECD's BEPS 2.0 initiative, including Pillar 2 assessments and modeling.

Prior to joining the British accounting firm, Jon worked for the investment banking arm of a Dutch bank before its takeover by a Scottish retail and commercial bank in early 2007. He has passed all three levels of the Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA®) qualification and has completed the Enrolled Agent (EA) program. Jon has represented many clients before the IRS. Jon is a graduate of The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), U.K., with a B.Sc. degree in economics and economic history.



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ABOUT WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL OF CHARLOTTE: The [World Affairs Council of Charlotte](#) is a non-profit, non-partisan organization supported by funding from individual and corporate member dues, foundations and contributions. By serving as a regional center for education and discussion of world affairs, WACC seeks to provide leadership for global thinking, believing that a broad perspective is necessary for effective competition in the global economy and for responsible citizenship in an increasingly interdependent political world.