

Cryptocurrency, Blockchain & FinTech

Our Cryptocurrency, Blockchain and FinTech group helps clients to navigate all aspects of legal and regulatory compliance in the fintech space. Our experienced attorneys guide emerging and blockchain-enabled technology companies, broker-dealers, investors and financial institutions through the many legal issues related to cryptocurrency and blockchain technology. Our interdisciplinary team, drawn from our corporate, data privacy, litigation and intellectual property groups, provides strategic advice in the following areas:

Product Developmental Counsel

- Consumer Protection
- Tokenization / ICO Solutions
- Initial Liquidity Offerings (ILOs)
- Regulatory Compliance
- “Bitlicensing” / Crypto currency exchange license
- Digital Asset Custody
- Crypto Mining Guidance
- Digital Asset Trading Platforms (Exchanges)
- Advisory Opinions on Legal Status of Specific Tokens
- Anti-Money Laundering (AML) and Know-Your-Customer (KYC) Best Practices
- The Bank Secrecy Act (BSA)
- Know-Your-Customer (KYC) Best Practices
- Howey test and Securities Regulation

Litigation

- Securities Litigation
- Governmental Investigations
- Trademark Enforcement and IP Litigation
- Contractual Disputes
- Digital Asset “Fork” Litigation
- Business and Investment Fraud
- Cryptocurrency Exchange Disputes
- Digital Asset Custody Disputes

PROFESSIONALS

Eric M. Fogel
Partner

Joe Carlasare
Partner

Brandt N. Hardy
Partner

Daniel S. Peters
Partner

John T. Pienkos
Partner

Thomas J. Pienkos
Partner

Michael Schlechtweg
Partner

John W. Tanselle
Partner

Larry Tomlin
Partner

Mark R. Wenzel
Partner

- SEC / DOJ Comptroller of Currency investigations
- SEC Enforcement

Transactional

- Corporate Formation, Governance, and Structuring
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Tax Issues and Services
- Consumer-related Agreements
- Asset Purchase and Sale Agreements
- Intellectual Property Licensing
- Software Licensing
- Trademark Licensing
- Joint Ventures
- Cross Border

Experience

Defended a Company in the Cryptocurrency Industry that was Sued by its Former Business Advisors

Firm News

Subscribe to Amundsen Davis's Litigation Nation Podcast for the latest legal updates!

Firm News, February 10, 2023

Amundsen Davis Attorneys Included in the 2023 Illinois Super Lawyers and Rising Stars List

Firm News, *Amundsen Davis*, January 23, 2023

45 SmithAmundsen Attorneys Recognized by *Best Lawyers in America*© 2023

Firm News, August 18, 2022

In the Media

Joe Carlasare Discusses Binance's Recent Lawsuit With the Commodity Futures Trading Commission

Media Mention, *The Bitcoin Layer*, March 31, 2023

The Café Bitcoin Podcast: Joe Carlasare Appears on Podcast

Media Mention, *The Café Bitcoin Podcast*

Cryptocurr-
ency,
Blockchain
& FinTech

BTC Sessions: Joe Carlasare Appears on Podcast
Media Mention, *BTC Sessions*

We Study Billionaires: Joe Carlasare Appears on Podcast
Media Mention, *The Investor's Podcast Network*

Fed Watch - Bitcoin and Macro: Joe Carlasare Appears on Podcast
Media Mention, *Fed Watch*

Bitcoin Magazine Podcast: Joe Carlasare Appears on Podcast
Media Mention, *Bitcoin Magazine Podcast*

Blue Collar Bitcoin Podcast: Joe Carlasare Appears on Podcast
Media Mention, *Blue Collar Bitcoin Podcast*

BitcoinTina on Bitcoin: Joe Carlasare Appears on Podcast
Media Mention, *Bitcoin Magazine*

The Pomp Podcast: Joe Carlasare Appears on Podcast
Media Mention, *The Pomp Podcast*

Joe Carlasare Quoted in *Bloomberg*
Media Mention, *Bloomberg*, March 12, 2022

The Bitcoin Effect: Joe Carlasare Appears on Podcast
Media Mention, *The Bitcoin Effect*

Joe Carlasare Featured in "Bitcion FUD" Documentary
Media Mention, *Taylor Golonka Productions*, November 15, 2021

Joe Carlasare Quoted in *Wired Magazine*
Media Mention, *Wired Magazine*, August 17, 2021

"Sec. V. Ripple: Explained"- Brad Mills Interviews Joe Carlasare for *Real Vision*
Media Mention, *Real Vision*, July 20, 2021

No, the Government Can't Shut Down Cryptocurrency -- *King5 News* cites Joe Carlasare and Eric Fogel
Media Mention, *King5 News*, May 24, 2021

Alerts

BlockFi Settlement: A New Era in Crypto Regulation?
SmithAmundsen Financial Services and Corporate Alert, February 24, 2022

The Bank Secrecy Act and Crypto Compliance: Lessons Learned from Recent FinCEN and CFTC Settlement
SmithAmundsen Cryptocurrency Blockchain and FinTech Alert, August 31, 2021

Cryptocurr-
ency,
Blockchain
& FinTech

Cryptocurrency and the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill: Two Competing Amendments and their Implications for the Crypto Industry
SmithAmundsen Cryptocurrency Alert, August 10, 2021

The Impact of El Salvador Recognizing Bitcoin as “Legal Tender” on U.S. Law
SmithAmundsen Cryptocurrency, Blockchain and FinTech Alert, June 7, 2021

Ripple Effect: SEC Lawsuit against Cryptocurrency Company May Provide Guidance for Crypto Industry
SmithAmundsen Corporate and Cryptocurrency, Blockchain and FinTech Alert, March 11, 2021

IRS News on the 2020 Form 1040 Check Box on Virtual Currency
SmithAmundsen Cryptocurrency, Blockchain and FinTech Alert, March 5, 2021

Published Works

The importance of client service and relationships
Publication, *The Indiana Lawyer*, June 8, 2022

Congress Has Kicked the Cyber Hornet's Nest
Bitcoin Magazine, August 12, 2021

To Fix Dangerous Infrastructure Bill, Bitcoiners Must Engage
Bitcoin Magazine, August 3, 2021

Ripple Effect: SEC Lawsuit Against Cryptocurrency Company May Provide Guidance For Crypto Industry
USLAW Magazine, June 21, 2021

El Salvador's Use Of Bitcoin Complicates US Commercial Law
Law360, June 11, 2021

Blog Posts

Cryptocurrency Companies Should Expect More SEC Enforcement in the Near Future
Corporate News: A Legal Update, March 28, 2023

Cryptocurr-
ency,
Blockchain
& FinTech