



George J. Cahill

Partner

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Related Services

Financial Services & Products ■ Investment Funds ■ Investment Products ■ Corporate & Finance ■ Finance ■ Capital Markets & Securities ■ Financial Restructuring & Reorganization ■ Private Equity ■ Derivatives & Structured Products

George Cahill is a partner in Alston & Bird's Investment Funds Group. He focuses his practice on derivatives, structured finance, leveraged finance, and restructuring.

George advises dealers and end-users on derivatives documentation and regulations. He has significant transactional experience across asset classes, including credit, equities, energy, commodities, interest rates and currencies, and he regularly counsels clients on the regulatory frameworks that have developed in the wake of the Dodd-Frank Act.

George has substantial experience with structured products and has represented arrangers, trustees, and collateral managers with collateralized loan obligation, residential mortgage-backed security, and esoteric asset-backed securitization transactions and litigations. George navigated LIBOR transition issues on portfolios of derivatives, CLOs, and loans for some of the world's largest banks and private equity and credit fund managers.

George has advised financial institutions on nearly every notable refinancing or restructuring impacting the U.S. and European credit default swap markets over the past five years, and he assists banks with regulatory investigations into those markets.

George spent more than a decade as in-house counsel at financial institutions, recently serving as a managing director of the Lehman Brothers Holdings bankruptcy estate, spearheading dozens of litigations and hundreds of mediations and helping settle thousands of disputes arising from ISDA close-outs as part of the largest bankruptcy in history. He is also a chartered financial analyst (CFA) charterholder.

Representative Experience

Derivatives

- Providing banks and credit funds with strategic advice on credit default swap (CDS) and bond positions in refinancings, restructurings, defaults, litigations, and regulatory investigations.
- Advising financial institutions in margin lending and equity derivative transactions, including total return swaps, collars, and accelerated share repurchases.
- Representing energy companies, corporations, and banks in wind and solar virtual power purchase agreements and proxy revenue swaps and physical and financial oil, gas and power supply, and hedging contracts.
- Helping lenders and agents navigate swap-related intercreditor issues in refinancings and restructurings, and helps corporations negotiate deal-contingent hedges.

- Negotiating ISDA master agreements, credit support annexes, master repurchase agreements, and master securities lending agreements.
- Counseling dealers and end-users on regulatory issues arising from the implementation of the Dodd-Frank Act, including cross-border issues and inquiries regarding clearing, uncleared margin, business conduct standards, and qualified financial contract (QFC) stay rules.

Structured Finance

- Advising arrangers, collateral managers, and investors on issuances of collateralized loan obligations (CLOs), and arrangers and collateral managers in litigations relating to collateralized debt obligations (CDOs).
- Representing sponsors and trustees on residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS) issuances and clean-up calls, and trustees in litigations.
- Counseling insurance companies on securitization-based investments in non-traditional assets.
- Advised some of the world's largest banks and private equity and credit fund managers in transitioning derivative, structured product, and loan portfolios from LIBOR to risk-free rates (RFRs).

Professional & Community Engagement

- CFA Institute Charterholder
- New York City Bar Association, Structured Finance Committee
- International Swaps and Derivatives Association, Inc.

Education

- George Washington University (J.D., 2004)
- Boston College (B.A., 1999)

Admitted to Practice

- Connecticut
- New York