

# Drinker Biddle

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## Drinker Biddle Customs & International Trade Practice Adds International Trade Remedies Team in Washington

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP today welcomes four new members to its Customs and International Trade Practice, including three lawyers and a senior trade analyst. The Washington, D.C.-based team adds further strength to Drinker Biddle’s capabilities in the customs and international trade arena, which also includes a Chicago-based team of six lawyers and two trade professionals and licensed customs brokers.

Joining Drinker Biddle’s Washington office are William A. Silverman as a partner, Douglas J. Heffner as a partner, Richard P. Ferrin as counsel and Eric L. Johnson as a senior international trade analyst. They were previously with Hunton & Williams LLP.

“The addition of this well-respected team in Washington allows us to offer our clients additional resources in an area that will only become more important to them as the economy improves and global competition continues to increase,” said Alfred W. Putnam, Jr., Drinker Biddle’s Chairman.

The team focuses its practice primarily on international trade remedies litigation, concentrating on antidumping and countervailing duty investigations and administrative review proceedings. In addition, the practice involves representing clients in “sunset” reviews of antidumping and countervailing duty orders, as well as Section 201 “safeguard” proceedings under the Trade Act of 1974. Clients include foreign manufacturing firms and international trading companies that are respondents in trade investigations and U.S. companies that are petitioners in trade investigations.

“We are thrilled that this very skilled and experienced team is joining us,” said Kathleen M. Murphy, who leads Drinker Biddle’s Customs & International Trade Practice. “They bring significant breadth and depth in several areas that will directly benefit our clients.”

## **Drinker Biddle Adds Trade Remedies Team to Washington Office**

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Silverman, who has practiced in the customs and trade area for more than three decades, has represented international companies before the U.S. International Trade Commission, the Department of Commerce, the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative and U.S. Customs and Border Protection. He has litigated cases before the Court of International Trade and the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. He earned his law degree from the University of Chicago and his bachelor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

Heffner, in addition to a broad-based international trade and customs practice that includes actively litigating antidumping and other cases for more than 20 years, works with foreign clients to establish preventive monitoring programs designed to avoid or minimize the impact of antidumping investigations. He advises foreign companies concerning bilateral and multilateral disputes arising from NAFTA, the Uruguay Round of GATT and WTO regulations and rulings. Heffner also regularly advises clients on Buy American issues. He earned his law degree from the University of Detroit Mercy, where he was Senior Staff Editor of the *Law Review*. He also has an LL.M. from Georgetown University and a bachelor's degree from Albion College.

In addition to representing clients in antidumping and countervailing duty cases at both the administrative and appellate levels for nearly 15 years, Ferrin also advises importers on how to minimize antidumping duty liability. He also handles customs matters involving classification issues and country-of-origin determinations. He earned his law degree from American University, where he was Federal Circuit Editor of the *American University Law Review*, and his bachelor's degree from Northwestern University.

Johnson served as Program Manager, Import Administration for the U.S. Department of Commerce, where he was charged with administering U.S. antidumping and countervailing duty laws. He has managed numerous high-profile antidumping investigations primarily involving steel products. Johnson earned a master's degree in international relations from Johns Hopkins University Nitze School of Advanced International Studies. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of California at Berkeley, where he was elected to *Phi Beta Kappa*.

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*Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP is a national law firm with 675 lawyers in 12 offices providing client service in areas such as customs and international trade, corporate and securities, corporate restructuring, investment management, health care, real estate, environment and energy, employee benefits and executive compensation, commercial litigation, life insurance and annuities, insurance coverage, labor and employment, intellectual property, government and regulatory affairs, communications litigation, products liability and mass tort litigation, and private client services.*