



international trade

customs & international trade

Our Trade specialists regularly advise all manner of companies involved in international commerce, including importers, exporters, customs brokers, sureties, insurance companies, freight forwarders and transportation companies. By working closely with governmental agencies such as the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Departments of Commerce and State, Food & Drug Administration, International Trade Commission and U.S. Trade Representative, we are able to assist clients to develop cost-effective compliance programs, identify and solve problems, and mitigate or avoid duties and taxes. Some of the many issues with which we have particular experience include:

- Antidumping and countervailing duty cases, including representation before the International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce and the International Trade Commission
- Retaliatory trade actions, such as those taken under Sections 201 and 301
- Representations to the U.S. Trade Representative in WTO and bilateral trade negotiations and special trade programs, such as NAFTA, the Generalized System of Preferences, and the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act Application and Interpretation of Treaties, Statutes, and Executive Orders
- Export and import of commercial and military technology, including serving as advocate for our client's trade interests before the United States Trade Representative
- Shipper's Export Declaration and export licensing
- Compliance with U.S. economic sanctions
- Formulation of robust compliance programs for free trade agreement claims
- Customs classification, valuation, audits, seizures, penalties and liquidated damages
- Copyright, trademark, and patent issues
- Manufacturer quantity supply, warranty and epidemic failure agreements

attorneys

Susan Kohn Ross

related practices areas

corporate & business transactions

cybersecurity and privacy

homeland security & regulation

regulatory



- Uniform Commercial Code and International Convention of the Sale of Goods
- Structure of international sales transactions

international transportation & maritime law

With a focus on domestic and international air, land (rail and truck) and ocean transportation matters, we assist clients resolve disputes, meet state and federal compliance regulations for shippers, forwarders and carriers, and provide representation before the Federal Maritime Commission, the Surface Transportation Board, the United States Department of Transportation, the United States Federal District Courts and Courts of Appeals, state courts, and other governmental agencies with jurisdiction over international and domestic transportation-related activities. Our attorneys regularly counsel clients regarding the preparation of shipping documentation, the transportation of hazardous materials, the negotiation of transportation service contracts, and the favorable resolution of cargo loss and damage claims, surety bond claims, cargo release and delivery disputes, and governmental investigations. In addition, we have transit liability defense experience, having represented surety bond providers, insurance carriers, freight forwarders, ocean carriers and other transportation intermediaries in litigation concerning lost and damaged cargo, improper release, conversion, misdelivery, delay, missing cargo and errors and omissions.

food & drug law

The importation and exportation of products regulated by the Food & Drug Administration (FDA), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (Customs) requires a nuanced understanding of a multitude of regulations, as well as applicable trade and tax issues. Attorneys specializing in Food & Drug Law regularly develop compliance strategies designed to assist our clients move products efficiently into or out of the U.S. and across state lines. In that regard, we often represent clients before administrative and regulatory agencies, and provide them with proactive counsel concerning new and changing regulatory requirements. Among the numerous matters handled by this practice are:

- Bioterrorism Act compliance
- Defending FDA enforcement actions
- Product labeling and electronic product certification requirements
- Good Manufacturing Practices and Quality System Regulations
- Environmental Protection Agency and FDA tolerances for pesticides in foods
- Products identified by the FDA as Detained Without Physical Examination
- Import delays, detentions and rescissions
- Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act



- Generally Recognized as Safe ingredient assessments
- FDA product recalls

headlines

Su Ross is awarded the 2021 Stanley T. Olafson Bronze Plaque by the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
May 6, 2021

MSK Practices and Attorneys Recognized in *Chambers USA* 2019 Guide
April 25, 2019

MSK Practices and Attorneys Recognized in *Chambers USA* 2018 Guide
May 3, 2018

The Los Angeles Business Journal Names Susan Kohn Ross Among the 2017 Leaders in Law Nominees
October 2017

MSK Practices and Attorneys Recognized in *Chambers USA* 2017 Guide
May 26, 2017

Susan Kohn Ross Elected to the Position of Vice Chair of the National District Export Council (NDEC)
September 26, 2016

EPA's Actions Put US Commitment to Rule of Law Under Scrutiny
The Hill, April 20, 2016

Su Ross Elected to National District Export Council Steering Committee
November 2015

Special Advocate at FISA Court Would Pass Constitutional Muster
The Hill, September 17, 2014

Lauren J. Wachtler elected to the New York City Bar Association's Fashion Law Committee
September 15, 2014

Su Ross Appointed Chair of District Export Council of Southern California
January 2014

Susan Kohn Ross Named District Export Council of Southern California Chair
December 10, 2013

Two More Of Counsels Join MSK in LA
November 14, 2012



news

Su Ross quoted in *Quartz* article
February 8, 2023

Su Ross quoted in Western Overseas Corporation in an update on Port Congestion
October 8, 2021

Su Ross Quoted in *Law360* on CBP Proposal
August 13, 2019

Su Ross Quoted in *Journal of Commerce* on Hanjin Bankruptcy
September 13, 2016

Su Ross Quoted in *The New York Times*
June 23, 2016

Mark Bravin Featured in *Today's General Counsel* and *The Litigation Daily*
June 2, 2016

Mark Bravin Mentioned in *The National Law Journal*
May 30, 2016

Mark Bravin Featured in *GAR*, *Washington Business Journal*, *The American Lawyer*, *Thomson Reuters Westlaw*
and more
May 19, 2016

Su Ross Featured in *Compliance Week* Interview
February 4, 2016

Chambers USA 2015 Recognizes Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp
May 2015

Su Ross Mentioned on JOC.com
October 2014

Su Ross Quoted in *Law360*
September 18, 2014

Su Ross Quoted in *Bloomberg Business*
June 18, 2014

Su Ross Quoted in *Law360*
February 25, 2014



Su Ross Quoted in *Law360*
January 30, 2014

Su Ross Recognized by Women in International Trade-LA as the "Outstanding Woman in International Trade of 2013"
September 2013

MSK Attorneys and Practice Groups Recognized by *Chambers USA* 2013
May 2013

MSK Attorneys and Practice Groups Recognized by *Chambers USA* 2012
June 25, 2012

Christine Lepera and Su Ross Named to *Law360* Editorial Advisory Boards
March 5, 2012

International Who's Who of Trade & Customs Lawyers 2009
November 9, 2009

publications

International Trade Today
May 21, 2021

Telethermography Devices: Current FDA Considerations
SIA Online, May 13, 2020

The KORUS FTA and the Creative Industries
The Peninsula, May 7, 2018

Presidential Campaign Needs Straight-Talking on Trade
Journal of Commerce, October 11, 2016

Importer Recordkeeping Obligations: What Do I Need to Keep?
U.S. Customs: A Practitioner's Guide to Principles, Processes, and Procedures, April 2016

Regulatory Watch List Raises Threat Level
MSK Client Alert, January 2010

Customs Update: 10+2 = Part Deux
Journal of Commerce, January 2008

Customs Update: Import Safety
Journal of Commerce, October 18, 2007



Customs Update: Compliance? What Compliance?

Journal of Commerce, May 21, 2007

Customs Update: H.R. 1 and More Data Requirements

Journal of Commerce, February 6, 2007

Final Rule: Record Keeping under the Public Health Security

MSK Client Alert, November 2006

FDA's Version of C-TPAT

MSK Client Alert, November 2006

Customs Update: SAFE Act Details

Journal of Commerce, October 25, 2006

Customs Update: Anti-Terror Measures Trumping Trade

MSK Client Alert, June 2006

Customs Update: How Will the 9/11 Report Affect Traders?

Journal of Commerce, September 29, 2004

Customs Update: Why Sarbanes-Oxley is Important

Journal of Commerce, June 14, 2004

Customs Update: Security Tops AAEI Agenda

Journal of Commerce, June 23, 2003

Customs Update: Homeland Security a Reality

Journal of Commerce, February 5, 2003

Customs Update: Security Everywhere

Journal of Commerce, October 2002

alerts

IEEPA Duties Ordered Refunded (But Not All of Them!)

MSK Client Alert, March 4, 2026

Where Are Those Refunds?

MSK Client Alert, March 2, 2026

IEEPA Tariffs Overturned

MSK Client Alert, February 23, 2026



Update on Reciprocal Tariffs: Deadline Extended, New Rates Announced

MSK Client Alert, July 8, 2025

Update on Automobile Tariffs

MSK Client Alert, April 3, 2025

Update on Reciprocal Tariffs

MSK Client Alert, April 3, 2025

Steel and Aluminum Tariffs Now - What Comes Next?

MSK Client Alert, March 24, 2025

More Trump Tariffs – What Is Happening?

Client Alert, February 17, 2025

More Trump Tariffs?

Client Alert, February 4, 2025

Dang, That Aluminum Extrusion Case Just Won't Die!

MSK Client Alert, December 10, 2024

U.S. Trade Rep. Actions re Existing 301 Exclusions

MSK Client Alert, June 3, 2024

Is Your Cargo Congested? Try This!

MSK Client Alert, February 26, 2021

Customs Broker Regulations Update

MSK Client Alert, July 13, 2020

PPE Exports: Ready to Go?

MSK Client Alert, April 28, 2020

CBP Authorizes Duty Payment Deferral

Cybersecurity Concerns with Remote Work

MSK Client Alert, April 20, 2020

Furthering the Fight Against COVID-19

MSK Client Alert, April 2, 2020

Coronavirus Business Interruption

MSK Client Alert, March 17, 2020

COVID-19 and the Trade Community

MSK Client Alert, March 16, 2020



New Executive Order Addresses E-Commerce and Counterfeit Goods

MSK Client Alert, February 11, 2020

China - U.S. Phase 1 Deal: Is It Enough?

MSK Client Alert, January 21, 2020

Yikes to the Year End!

MSK Client Alert, December 16, 2019

Have Independent Contractors in California? You May Need to Rethink That.

MSK Client Alert, September 18, 2019

Tariff Turmoil Gets Hotter!

MSK Client Alert, August 27, 2019

China Tariff Update: List 4, Next Steps

MSK Client Alert, August 13, 2019

The Trade War Wages On

MSK Client Alert, August 5, 2019

China 301 List 3 Exclusion Process Announced

MSK Client Alert, June 21, 2019

Tariff Turbulence Continues to Fly!

MSK Client Alert, June 13, 2019

Trade Trouble – East, West and South, but North is Settled for Now!

MSK Client Alert, June 5, 2019

Tariff Turmoil

MSK Client Alert, May 14, 2019

The Roller Coaster Ride Continues

MSK Client Alert, May 10, 2019

Warning to Employers When Staffing Special Projects

April 8, 2019

OFAC Brings the Hammer

MSK Client Alert, April 1, 2019

CA Consumer Privacy Act Gets a Rewrite

MSK Client Alert, March 27, 2019



CA IoT Law: Devices at Risk?

MSK Client Alert, March 26, 2019

No Further Shutdown; List 3 Exclusion Process Coming

MSK Client Alert, February 19, 2019

Website Accessibility - Americans with Disabilities Act Impact

MSK Client Alert, February 8, 2019

Customers Now Jointly Liable with Port Trucking Companies for Certain Labor Violations

MSK Client Alert, November 27, 2018

China Tariffs – List 3 Finalized and Taking Effect

MSK Client Alert, September 18, 2018

China 301 List 2 – Effective August 23, 2018

MSK Client Alert, August 8, 2018

U.S. - China Trade War Heats Up Even More!

MSK Client Alert, August 3, 2018

China 301: List 3 Now a Reality

MSK Client Alert, July 11, 2018

China 301 Tariffs Took Effect - What Happens Next?

MSK Client Alert, July 9, 2018

Talking Trade: Su Ross Covers 232 & 301

MSK Video Blog, July 9, 2018

California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018 – GDPR LITE?

MSK Client Alert, July 3, 2018

To Tariff or Not to Tariff – That Is The Question!

MSK Client Alert, June 25, 2018

25% Tariff Imposed on Chinese Goods

MSK Client Alert, June 15, 2018

232 Auto Investigation Timeline Published

MSK Client Alert, June 1, 2018

Which Way Is Up?

MSK Client Alert, May 30, 2018



The GDPR is Coming - Are You Ready?

MSK Client Alert, April 5, 2018

USTR Publishes 301 Product List

MSK Client Alert, April 4, 2018

Steel/Aluminum Tariffs Exemptions Clarified

MSK Client Alert, March 29, 2018

Consumer Products Sellers Beware: New Prop 65 Warnings Coming in California

MSK Client Alert, March 28, 2018

Trade Trifecta!

MSK Client Alert, March 23, 2018

New Tariffs: Definition & Exclusion

MSK Client Alert, March 19, 2018

Clanging: Here Come Those New Steel and Aluminum Tariffs!

MSK Client Alert, March 8, 2018

Steel & Aluminum: Tough Tariffs, Tough Road Ahead?

MSK Client Alert, March 1, 2018

New Tariffs: Trade War Washing Ashore?

MSK Client Alert, January 23, 2018

Border Searches of Electronic Devices

MSK Client Alert, January 18, 2018

Tips for Traveling with Electronic Devices

MSK Client Alert, October 3, 2017

Walking the North Korean Tightrope

MSK Client Alert, September 27, 2017

Solar Flare-up with China

MSK Client Alert, September 25, 2017

Trading with China - New Reasons to Be Wary!

MSK Client Alert, August 2, 2017

Trump's Cuba Course Clarified

MSK Client Alert, June 19, 2017



Romaine Calm: FSVP is Approaching
MSK Client Alert, May 18, 2017

Due Your Duty
MSK Client Alert, April 27, 2017

Protecting Your Brand Overseas
MSK Client Alert, March 27, 2017

DOJ Defines Compliance
MSK Client Alert, March 15, 2017

Is the Border Tax Crossing the Line?
MSK Client Alert, February 23, 2017

Appraising Produce
MSK Client Alert, November 15, 2016

It's All About Compliance – Part 2
MSK Client Alert, October 25, 2016

Make Your Hanjin Bankruptcy Claims Now!
MSK Client Alert, October 11, 2016

It's All About Compliance – Part 1
MSK Client Alert, September 26, 2016

Hanjin Shipping Sinks in Korea
MSK Client Alert, September 2, 2016

ACE Allows for Stricter Customs Enforcement
MSK Client Alert, August 16, 2016

TFTEA - Export Fee Refunds, Show Me The Money?
MSK Client Alert, June 7, 2016

SOLAS: Saves Lives? Causes Ulcers?
MSK Client Alert, May 31, 2016

Privacy Shield Takes More Hits
MSK Client Alert, May 31, 2016

Everyone Deserves To Have Secrets
MSK Client Alert, May 23, 2016



The Art of Self Defense

MSK Client Alert, April 18, 2016

Shielded but Not Covered – Privacy Demands Better Protection

MSK Client Alert, April 14, 2016

TFTEA – Export Focus

MSK Client Alert, April 4, 2016

TFTEA – CBP Organizational Structure

MSK Client Alert, March 21, 2016

New Customs Law and Intellectual Property Rights

MSK Client Alert, March 15, 2016

New Customs Bill Becomes Law

MSK Client Alert, March 9, 2016

ACE Deadline Reminder for Imports and Exports

MSK International Trade Client Alert, February 2, 2016

DOJ Sets Its Sights on Directors and Officers

MSK Client Alert, September 2015

GSP Refunds Clarified

MSK Client Alert, July 2015

The Times Are Changing, But Very Slowly

MSK Client Alert, July 21, 2015

Trade Preference Programs Get New Life

MSK Client Alert, July 2015

Be Careful What You Wish For!

MSK Client Alert, June 2, 2015

California Transparency in Supply Chain Act Update

MSK Client Alert, April 21, 2015

President Obama Issues Executive Order Promoting Private Sector Cybersecurity Information Sharing

MSK Client Alert, February 17, 2015

Cuba Regulations Change – Round 1

MSK Client Alert, January 16, 2015



Customs Is Again Getting Overly Creative

MSK Client Alert, January 2015

Obama's Reboot of U.S.-Cuba Relations: What Does It Mean?

MSK Client Alert, December 2014

Court of Appeals for Federal Circuit (CAFC) Issues Decision In U.S. v. Trek Leather – Corporate Officer Held Liable

MSK Client Alert, September 2014

Corporate Officers Becoming Liable for Negligent Acts Is Reconsidered

MSK Client Alert, March 26, 2014

Did You Do Enough to Protect Your Trade Secrets?

MSK Client Alert, January 29, 2014

What Compliance Program?

MSK Client Alert, January 14, 2014

Food Safety Challenges for Small and Medium Size Importers

MSK Client Alert, September 21, 2013

FDA's Accreditation of Third-Party Auditors Proposal

MSK Client Alert, August 28, 2013

FDA Publishes Proposal re Foreign Supplier Verification Programs

FDA Publishes Proposal re Foreign Supplier Verification Programs, August 6, 2013

CPSC and Lead Limits

MSK Client Alert, July 31, 2013

Do Your Employees Have the Proper Legal Training When It Comes to Government Investigations or Inquiries?

MSK Client Alert, July 2013

MAP-21 – The Next New Trap?

MSK Client Alert, May 20, 2013

DOJ/SEC Guide to Foreign Corrupt Practice Act – Part 2

MSK Client Alert, December 11, 2012

DOJ/SEC Guide to Foreign Corrupt Practice Act – Part 1

MSK Client Alert, December 6, 2012



events & speaking engagements

Securing the Future of Trade: Cyber + AI Insights
March 11, 2026

Talking Tariffs (Again!)
March 3, 2026

AI & Reasonable Care: Meeting Importer & Broker Obligations with Confidence
October 23, 2025

The State of U.S. Trade Policy
Global Trade Educational Conference
July 28, 2025

Tomató or Tomáto: However You Say It, How do You Value Fresh Produce?
National Customs Brokers & Forwarders Association of America, Inc. (NCBFAA)
July 25, 2025

Legal and Insurance Issues/Ship Building Tariffs
Global Intermodal Supply Chain Studies – Part 2: Supply Chain Threats
July 15, 2025

Trade Talks and Tariff Troubles: Navigating New Regulations Impacting Sports & Entertainment
July 15, 2025

Usual Suspects - Advocates
June 26, 2025

Strengthening and "Future Proofing" Your Customs Compliance Program and CBP Audit Readiness
June 16, 2025

Trade Talks and Tactical Tariff Pivots
May 22, 2025

Current Volatility of Tariffs for US Imports
April 16, 2025

Produce Imports Webinar
April 15, 2025

The Current State of Trade and Tariffs
March 18, 2025



You Know It's Time to Call an Attorney When...
October 17, 2024

Geopolitics Analysis
January 24, 2024

The Nitty Gritty of UFLPA Compliance: Due Diligence, Supply Chain Tracing and Compliance Programs from A to Z
November 6, 2023

You Know It's Time to Call an Attorney When...
October 28, 2023

FDA Regulatory and Enforcement Update
February 9, 2023

WESCCON 2022
October 2022

Foreign Trade Association of Southern California - UFLPA/FLETF: Forced Labor Part 2 The Private Sector View
July 1, 2022

7th Annual Global Trade Educational Conference (G-TEC)
July 27, 2021

Small Fleet & Owner-Operator Summit
June 9, 2021

American Copper Council Virtual Presentation Series
May 20, 2021

Foreign Trade Association's 95th World Trade Week
May 20, 2021

Getting the Crew Back Together: Navigating Frequent Return to Work COVID-19 Storms
April 28, 2021

Powers of Attorney for Forwarders and Brokers
February 24, 2021

Cyber, Tech, China, and Your Company
October 15, 2020

Can You Get Your 301/China Duties Back?
October 13, 2020



Shared Liability on Section 201, 232, and 301 Entries
August 5, 2020

The COVID-19 Pandemic: Reopening Webinar
July 1, 2020

Returning to Work - Moving Forward: Best Practices for Companies to Consider
May 28, 2020

A Deep Dive into the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA)
February 19, 2020

Antidumping and Countervailing Duties
February 18, 2020

The China Phase 1 Trade Deal
February 12, 2020

2019 State of the Ports
August 15, 2019

China Tariffs and the 301 Exclusion Process
July 29, 2019

Complying with U.S. Export Regulations
June 20, 2019

The Mexico Tariffs, the USMCA and Their Impacts on the Trade Community
June 13, 2019

Preparing for and Responding to Rapid Changes in Regulations
May 29, 2019

Hacked! Cyberthreats to Intermodal
September 18, 2018

The Use of Trade Laws to Achieve Policy Objectives
September 5, 2018

The Business Advisor's Guide to Making Sense of Recent Trade Tariffs
August 2, 2018

Country of Origin Rules and Proper Marking Requirements
July 31, 2018



232 & 301 Trade Issues - Steel, Aluminum, & China Issues
July 26, 2018

Talking Tariffs: Making Sense of 232 and 301 Tariffs
July 19, 2018

Entrepreneurship in the New Era
May 11, 2018

Steel & Aluminum Tariffs - Key Compliance and Other Considerations
April 5, 2018

Steel / Aluminum Tariffs - Key Compliance and Other Considerations
March 28, 2018

Navigating the ADD/CVD Maze
February 21, 2018

Navigating the ADD/CVD Maze
January 10, 2018

Trading Tweets: Is Trade in Trump's Future?
December 7, 2017

What To Do When Things Go Wrong: When and How to File A Voluntary Disclosure
November 30, 2017

Getting Valuation Right
November 29, 2017

Best Practices for Damage Control
October 14, 2017

Global Economic Trends and Making the Case for Trade
October 3, 2017

How to Grow and Expand Your Import/Export Businesses
August 17, 2017

Self-Filing vs. Broker Filing, Challenges, Similarities, etc.
August 7, 2017

eCommerce Best Practices and Strategies
July 18, 2017



Export Compliance Considerations for Aerospace & Defense Manufacturers
May 11, 2017

Essential Facts To Understanding Export Controls and Compliance
April 12, 2017

Protecting Trademarks/Profiting from Trade
March 28, 2017

Transportation Under Trump
February 28, 2017

E-Commerce Basics
January 30, 2017

Tapping Federal and State Resources for Growth
October 27, 2016

Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (TFTEA)
October 26, 2016

Market Entry Legal: Playing a Defensive Game on Today's Legal Risks
October 20, 2016

Trade Agreements: Developing a Working Knowledge of FTAs and How Companies Are Using Them
October 20, 2016

Export Manifest Pilots and You
October 15, 2016

Rules of Origin Under Different Free Trade Agreements (FTAs)
August 9, 2016

Getting Value Right!
June 29, 2016

Weighty Matters - SOLAS: What are You Doing to Help Your Customers?
June 23, 2016

Who's Knocking on Your Computer Systems Door?
June 21, 2016

International Law in Practice
April 21, 2016



Going to Foreign Markets: Tips for Success You Must Know
October 29, 2015

Future of Exports: Automation, Regulation and Enforcement
October 16, 2015

CBP's FUTURE & VALUE, Drive Compliance, Avoid Penalties & Help Your Bottom Line!
September 24, 2015

When Is a Routine Shipment Not So Routine?
August 19, 2015

Commodity Jurisdiction, Classification and License Determination
August 3, 2015

Importing & Sourcing: A legal discussion of the obstacles and Challenges of Designing with Specialty, Rare or Exotic Materials
March 11, 2015

Latest Developments in Fashion Law: Brand and Logo Protection
October 9, 2014

Transportation Infrastructure Policy and Customs
March 3, 2013

Classification 101
November 5, 2008

Forwarding 101
September 9, 2008