

# Luci Hague



Lucille Hague of Kirkland & Ellis LLP has helped clients secure approvals in international transactions, such as a transaction to take public the space industry startup Momentus Inc. and the sale of cybersecurity company Venafi to Israel-based CyberArk, earning her a spot among the international trade law practitioners under age 40 honored by Law360 as Rising Stars.

---

*“Getting to collaborate with other practice groups is frankly one of the most exciting things I do.”*

---

## Her biggest deal:

Hague said that of the many clients she has counseled on getting approvals from the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, which reviews the national security implications of such investments, the one she considers the biggest of her career was the transaction to take space transportation company Momentus Inc. public via the special purpose acquisition company Stable Road Acquisition

Corp., which involved scrutiny by both the foreign investment committee and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

The deal, which closed in 2021, was only able to go forward after Hague negotiated a national security agreement with the U.S. Department of Defense, according to the firm.

The transaction was a chance to work with several other practice groups at the firm, Hague said. “Getting to collaborate with other practice groups is frankly one of the most exciting things I do,” she said,

noting that although her field is most often associated with mergers and acquisitions, she also works with the investment funds practice and, in this case, the government, regulatory and internal investigation practice.

The deal was also a demonstration of the nuances of work with the foreign investment committee and the many contexts in which it becomes relevant, Hague added.

“It was interesting because the tools of corporate governance are in some cases not enough to solve the national security concerns a

---

*“I enjoy being able to translate how the U.S. government thinks about... transactions to folks encountering CFIUS for the first time.”*

---

company might raise,” she said. “Bringing the share of ownership [by a foreign entity] down to a minority stake doesn’t always get you all the way. The government can still have a problem with the way a company’s ownership profile looks.”

### **Her most notable recent deal:**

Hague said that her biggest matter in the past year was the sale of cybersecurity company Venafi, which was founded in Salt Lake City in 2000, to the Israeli information security company CyberArk. Deals involving cybersecurity companies often receive additional scrutiny, she said, making them tricky to navigate.

“CFIUS is often very interested in cybersecurity companies and the types of information they can collect

and the access to systems that they might have. I think the technical issues there were really interesting,” Hague said. “[It shows] how you often have to be very knowledgeable about a client’s business when talking to CFIUS. When talking to CFIUS about a case we need to make sure we’re presenting all the details in the right way so that CFIUS understands what a target does do — and also what it doesn’t do.”

The Venafi transaction closed in October 2024.

### **Her proudest moment as an attorney:**

Hague said there are many moments in her career she’s particularly proud of, including helping to successfully steer the Momentum transaction in 2021 while pregnant with her third child. But overall, the thing she takes the most pride in as part of her work is being able to explain to clients the often counterintuitive ways that the government might think about their business.

For instance, when the government first started paying more attention to companies’ access to Americans’ personal data around 2018, she said, she was able to help clients understand the government’s concerns about how that information could be exploited.

---

*“I see myself as a problem solver.”*

---

“I enjoy being able to translate how the U.S. government thinks about those transactions to folks encountering CFIUS for the first time,” she said.

### **Why she’s an international trade attorney:**

“I studied political philosophy and Russian as an undergraduate,” she said, “and I wanted something that would allow me to focus on big ideas but was still fast-paced and internationally focused. International trade was exactly that.”

Hague said she believes that what she does is valuable because she is able to act as a translator for both clients and government entities, explaining to regulators what her clients and making the government’s concerns clear for her clients.

“I see myself as a problem solver,” she said.

REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION FROM THE AUGUST 11, 2025 EDITION OF LAW360 © 2025 PORTFOLIO MEDIA INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. FURTHER DUPLICATION WITHOUT PERMISSION IS PROHIBITED.

WWW.LAW360.COM

---

*“I wanted [to study] something that would allow me to focus on big ideas but was still fast-paced and internationally focused. International trade was exactly that.”*

---