



## TOM MCDONALD

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### PRACTICE AREAS

Corporate and Business Organizations

Crisis Management

Government Relations

International

### EDUCATION

University of Minnesota Law School, J.D., 1979

George Washington University, B.A., 1976

### BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia

Ohio

New York

*Admitted to practice law only in the states listed above.*

Tom is a partner in the Vorys Washington, D.C. office and leads the firm's administrative and regulatory law, and governmental policy practice. He effectively mixes his high level legal and lobbying experiences on a daily basis for his clients. A former U.S. Ambassador to Zimbabwe, he provides strategic business and government relations counsel both in Washington, D.C. and internationally. Tom regularly advises corporate CEOs and chief legal officers on a variety of government relations issues in Washington, internationally, and in major U.S. state capitals. He has an active federal agency and Capitol Hill practice. Tom is a registered lobbyist before the U.S. Senate and House. Additionally, he is a registered lobbyist in several states including New York and California. The former ambassador's long honed lobbying experiences include financial services, insurance products, U.S. departments of labor and state, environmental, tax, health care and foreign affairs.

Moreover, Tom assists clients with regulatory matters involving the U.S. Treasury and Justice Departments, including Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) and Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) issues. In addition, he assists clients in regulatory compliance before the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Tom has a particular understanding of legal, political and economic issues of Africa, Asia (including South Asia), the Middle East, Latin America, Cuba and Eastern Europe and has significant experience in international law and arbitration. As a part of his international practice, Tom regularly negotiates the successful resolution of legal matters and other disputes for U.S. multinationals and major South African companies in various countries.

### His career highlights include:

- Serving as U.S. Ambassador to Zimbabwe from 1997 to 2001
- Representing U.S. multinational corporations and manufacturers, consumer products companies, and major South African, United Kingdom, and Japanese banks, mutual fund companies, insurance companies and trade associations for nearly 35 years
- Advising multinational clients on issues surrounding Iran sanctions and sanctions involving Venezuela, Syria, Sudan, and Myanmar
- Significant pro bono litigation work including, serving as lead counsel for all of the plaintiffs, in a national civil rights case to close a segregated public school, in *Coalition for Education Reform, et al v. Indian River School District*, in which the U.S. District Court for the District of Delaware approved a settlement agreement, consent order and appointment of a special master
- Regularly working as legal counsel between companies and governmental agencies to resolve or mitigate issues, such as drafting a Memorandum of Understanding between the Drug Enforcement Administration and a large consumer products company after they faced U.S. import issues involving the shipment of raw materials and representing a major pet food manufacturer facing state regulatory issues

VORYS

## TOM MCDONALD

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### His lobbying experience includes:

- Registered federal lobbyist with Congress since 1985
- Drafting bills, proposing amendments, and working with Bill drafters, resulting in a number of legislative successes, including
- Dodd-Frank Amendments
- Stopping numerous bills in various states that would have negatively impacted companies, such as a Proposition 65 issue in California and various state chemical laws and regulations

Helping promote legislation at the state level by working with a coalition of paint companies and the trial bar to effectuate a mutually acceptable resolution

Tom represents clients from a variety of industries including manufacturing, financial services, insurance, and trade associations.

Tom received his J.D. from the University of Minnesota Law School. Throughout his legal career, he has had continued involvement with the law school. He currently serves on its advisory board and regularly advises the law school regarding the admission of Somali American students. Tom received his B.A. from George Washington University.

## PRIOR POSITIONS

U.S. Ambassador to Zimbabwe, 1997 to 2001

Member of U.S. Presidential Delegations to South Africa, Ivory Coast, and Bosnia

## Insights

"The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Expected to Become Law," March 11, 2021

"President Signs \$900 Billion Economic Aid Package," December 27, 2020

"Congress Passes Bill Extending Small Business Loan Programs and Providing Emergency COVID-19 Response Funding," April 23, 2020

"Overview of State Relief Efforts in Response to COVID-19," April 1, 2020

"Ohio Governor Mike DeWine Signs COVID-19 Related Legislation," March 30, 2020

"Senate Passes Phase III of the Federal Coronavirus Relief Legislation," March 26, 2020

"Overview of Federal Coronavirus (COVID-19) Relief Bills," March 20, 2020

"Five Tips for Conducting Business in an Emerging Market," *Corporate Counsel*, June 18, 2019

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### Professional and Community Activities

Corporate Council on Africa, Board of Directors, Member

Council of American Ambassadors, Board of Directors, Member

Council on Foreign Relations, Member

International Foundation for Electoral Systems, Board of Directors, Member

University of Minnesota Law School, Advisory Board, Member

American Bar Foundation, Fellow

### Events

Council on Foreign Relations, The 2022 Olympics: Spotlight on China  
February 7, 2022

Vorys On Call: Coronavirus *Return to Work Preparedness*  
September 30, 2021

Counsel on Foreign Relations, Book Launch Series: "Awakening—#MeToo and the Global Fight for Women's Rights"  
July 14, 2021

Vorys On Call: Coronavirus - Return to Work Preparedness  
May 13, 2021

Vorys On Call: Coronavirus - Return to Work Preparedness  
March 18, 2021

Council on Foreign Relations, Virtual Corporate Meeting: "Vaccine Inequality and the Global Economic Recovery"  
March 8, 2021

Vorys On Call: Coronavirus - Return to Work Preparedness  
January 14, 2021

Vorys On Call: Coronavirus - Return to Work Preparedness  
December 10, 2020

Vorys On Call: Coronavirus - Return to Work Preparedness  
October 8, 2020

Corporate Council on Africa Program, "Partnering for Economic Recovery – Morocco"  
September 23, 2020

Vorys On Call: Coronavirus - Return to Work Preparedness  
August 13, 2020

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Vorys On Call: Coronavirus - Return to Work Preparedness  
July 9, 2020

Vorys On Call: Coronavirus - Return to Work Preparedness  
June 11, 2020

Vorys On Call: Coronavirus - Return to Work Preparedness  
May 14, 2020

Vorys on Call: Coronavirus - Return to Work Preparedness  
May 7, 2020

Vorys on Call: Coronavirus  
April 2, 2020

Council on Foreign Relations Seminar: "Turbulence in Energy Markets"  
March 17, 2020

2020 University of Minnesota Annual Capitol Hill Reception  
March 9, 2020

Council on Foreign Relations, Conference Call: "Prospects for Peace in Afghanistan"  
February 19, 2020

Council on Foreign Relations, "Foreign Affairs LIVE with George Packer"  
June 2019

University of Cincinnati College of Law, "Law and Business in Sub-Saharan Africa"  
April 9, 2019

Roundtable Hosted by California Assembly Speaker Rendon, "Diversifying California's State  
Affairs" – Moderator  
February 14, 2019