

Melinda “Mel” R. Lewis

Associate

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Practice Areas

Government Contracts

Audits & Investigations

Bid Protests

Cybersecurity & Data Privacy

False Claims Act

GSA Federal Supply Schedules

REAs, Claims, and Appeals

Education

Georgetown University Law Center,
J.D., 2014

Roanoke College, B.A., 2008, Political
Science & English

Bar/Court Admissions

District of Columbia

Mel is a government contracts and technology attorney who helps contractors position themselves to win, perform, and defend their most critical work. She brings a rare combination of frontline operational experience, top-tier law firm training, and in-house leadership at a multi-billion-dollar contractor to advise on high-stakes disputes, compliance requirements, and strategic transactions.

Mel's practice spans the full lifecycle of government contracting—from capture and teaming through performance, investigations, and claims—with a particular focus on cybersecurity, data privacy, and artificial intelligence. As a former in-house counsel and Data Protection Officer for a multi-billion-dollar global contractor, she led enterprise cybersecurity, privacy, and AI governance, advising on FAR/DFARS and a broad spectrum of U.S. and international data protection laws, including but not limited to GDPR, CCPA, PIPEDA, HIPAA, and GLBA, and breach notification regimes worldwide, while architecting enterprise-wide compliance programs.

Clients turn to Mel to manage risk where legal, technical, and operational issues intersect. She has deep experience handling cyber incidents, internal investigations, regulatory scrutiny, and False Claims Act exposure, including matters involving subcontractor breaches and complex disclosure decisions. She is equally adept at structuring deals and relationships—negotiating teaming agreements, joint ventures, and mentor-protégé arrangements—and guiding contractors through disputes, REAs, and claims.

Known as a pragmatic business partner, Mel helps contractors identify and mitigate risk early, protect revenue, and position themselves for growth in an increasingly regulated environment.

In addition to Mel's broad practice supporting clients, she is a frequent speaker and instructor on government contracts, cybersecurity, and AI governance, and has taught at

Georgetown University Law Center and leading industry forums.