



James R. Hardman

Associate

jhardman@fbtgibbons.com | 513.651.6790

Great American Tower
301 East Fourth Street, Suite 3300
Cincinnati, OH 45202

Practice Areas

Corporate Law
Antitrust & Trade
Regulation
Health Care
International Services

Bar Memberships

Ohio

Languages

English
French
German (basic)
Russian
Spanish

James focuses his practice on the needs of privately held businesses in relation to business combinations and corporate governance matters, as well as advising startups, venture capital, and private equity funds. He also has a keen interest in cross-border commercial transactions and is a member of FBT Gibbons's International Services Group.

James earned his law degree from the University of Cincinnati College of Law, where he served as the business manager & outreach director on the journal's executive board and secretary of the Student Bar Association. Prior to attending law school, James worked in London, England, as an investigative consultant where he spearheaded complex cross-border due diligence, political risk, and asset recovery investigations across a range of industries and markets. He earned his undergraduate degree in French and Russian from the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom in 2013.

Other Info About James

Education

University of Cincinnati College of Law, J.D. 2024, *magna cum laude*
University of Cambridge, United Kingdom, B.A., 2013

Recognition

Order of the Coif
College of Law Dean's Honors List
The Lawrence Maxwell Memorial Prize for Advocacy

The Ernest Karam Book Award for Academic Excellence

Cincinnati Center for the Global Practice of Law Community Leadership Award

CALI Award for highest grade in Advocacy (2022) and Mergers & Acquisitions (2024)

Professional Affiliations

Cincinnati Bar Association

Ohio State Bar Association

Major Publications

"Tariff Pricing Under Pressure: Avoiding Antitrust Liability,"

Contributor, *Chief Executive*, July 2025,

<https://chiefexecutive.net/tariff-pricing-under-pressure-avoiding-antitrust-liability/>

Co-Editor, "Lexis Guide to Ohio Entities," 2024

"(Not) Right on Time: Interpretation of 'Pertinent Time' for Bancec Alter Ego Analysis and Its Effect on Attaching Foreign Sovereign Assets," *University of Cincinnati Law Review*, May 2023

Contributor, "Contemporary Practice of the United States Relating to International Law," 117 *American Society of International Law*, 330–363, April 2023

Contributor, "Contemporary Practice of the United States Relating to International Law," 117 *American Society of International Law*, 128–150, January 2023

Featured Articles

[Border Crossings: Toward Mutual Recognition and Enforcement of U.S. and Chinese Civil Court Judgments](#)

© 2026 FBT Gibbons LLP. May be considered attorney advertising in some jurisdictions.