

John M. Lewis

Counsel

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John concentrates his practice on aviation law and aviation litigation, drawing on more than 1,700 hours of flight time as a helicopter pilot and his experience as a Marine Corps judge advocate to bring a rare operational perspective to every engagement.

John counsels airlines, aviation service providers, maintenance organizations, fixed-base operators and government contractors on the full spectrum of aviation-related matters, including FAA enforcement actions, NTSB investigations, accident and incident defense, regulatory compliance, insurance coverage disputes and commercial aviation agreements. He also advises clients on internal investigations, crisis response and sensitive personnel matters arising from aviation operations.

As a judge advocate in the U.S. Marine Corps, John managed large-scale investigations, handled complex litigation and advised senior military officials on matters intersecting aviation safety, federal regulatory requirements and legislative oversight. His firsthand understanding of cockpit decision-making, crew resource management, aircraft maintenance protocols and military flight operations allows him to bridge the gap between complex technical evidence and persuasive legal advocacy.

Services

- Aviation

Military Experience

- Provided legal counsel to senior military officials during investigations following fatal aviation mishaps, including coordinating with families, legislative affairs and public affairs on sensitive disclosures.
- Served on a multi-attorney investigation team evaluating the investigative practices of a federal law enforcement agency and drafted a congressionally mandated report on findings and recommendations.
- Managed review of more than 300 personnel misconduct investigations for compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements.
- Managed 17 internal investigations in response to formal inquiries and inspector general matters for a large government educational institution.
- Drafted more than 40 written advisory opinions for a federal records correction board on matters involving military personnel actions.

- Served as lead counsel in more than 70 proceedings involving serious criminal offenses, managing all phases of litigation from investigation through trial.
- Participated in two combat deployments as well as a shipboard deployment as a helicopter pilot.

Before Fox Rothschild

Prior to joining us, John served as a military attorney for nearly a decade in Washington, DC and other duty stations, holding progressively senior advisory and litigation positions. He served as an appellate attorney, deputy branch head for military personnel law, staff judge advocate for a large educational command, supervisory victims' counsel, and trial counsel. Before law school, John served as a CH-46E helicopter pilot, completing three overseas deployments and earning advanced instructor and flight leadership qualifications.

Beyond Fox Rothschild

John is an aviation enthusiast. He holds a commercial pilot certificate and instrument rating for airplane and helicopter.

Bar Admissions

- District of Columbia
- Massachusetts

Education

- Boston College Law School (J.D.)
- Western Michigan University (B.A.)