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*OUR FIRM IS A FOREIGN LAW JOINT ENTERPRISE (GAIKOKUHOU KYOUDOU JIGYOU) BETWEEN WITHERS GAIKOKUHOU JIMU BENGOSHI HOUJIN (WHOSE PARTNERS ARE ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW ADMITTED IN CALIFORNIA, CONNECTICUT, FLORIDA, HAWAII AND NEW YORK, ALL OF WHOM ARE FOREIGN REGISTERED ATTORNEYS (GAIKOKUHOU JIMU BENGOSHI) IN JAPAN) AND WITHERS BENGOSHI HOUJIN (WHOSE PARTNERS, ASSOCIATES AND COUNSEL ARE QUALIFIED JAPANESE BENGOSHI), AS DEFINED UNDER ARTICLE 2, ITEM 15 OF THE SPECIAL MEASURES LAW CONCERNING THE HANDLING OF LEGAL BUSINESS BY FOREIGN LAWYERS (GAIKOKU BENGOSHI NI YORU HOURITSU JIMU NO TORIATSUKAI NI KANSURU TOKUBETSUSOCHIHO) OF JAPAN.



Wataru Sasaki is an associate in the investment management team of the Tokyo office.

His practice focuses on investment funds and financial regulatory matters. Wataru advises and assists offshore fund managers and financial institutions to establish and register investment funds for offering in Japan. Prior to joining Withers, he has been a part of an investment management practice group that has been recognized as a top asset management practice in Japan by Chambers Asia Pacific.

Wataru also has significant experience in advising Japanese clients on issues related to eDiscovery in civil litigations in common law jurisdictions and document production in DOJ investigations as well as conducting internal investigations.

Track record

Notification filings

Assisted offshore fund managers to submit notification filings to the Financial Services Agency of Japan under the Investment Trusts and Investment Corporations Act.

Financial Services Agency of Japan

Assisted financial clients in establishing a branch office in Japan and registering as financial instruments business operator with the Financial Services Agency of Japan.

Financial instruments business in Japan

Assisted investment funds and managers in making filings regarding financial instruments business in Japan.

eDiscovery and DOJ investigations

Advised Japanese clients on eDiscovery and DOJ investigations and managed many eDiscovery projects.

External publications

'Overview of the new exemptions for fund managers operating in Japan', Oct 2021, co-author

Admissions

New York State Bar, 2006

California State Bar, 2004

Education

Pacific Union College, B.S.

McGeorge School of Law, J.D. and LL.M.

Languages

English

Japanese

Key dates

Year joined: 2018

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