

Sidley's eDiscovery and Data Analytics group strategically counsels companies about their data in order to save money, lessen risk, and avoid the unexpected. Our *Chambers*-ranked eDiscovery practice, which includes multiple individual *Chambers*-recognized practice leaders, is well-regarded for our successful track record and routinely advises clients in a wide array of industries on issues ranging from investigation and prelitigation readiness through trial.

Our accomplished eDiscovery and data analytics lawyers have guided clients through the gamut of modern information challenges, including defensible disposition of terabytes of data, millions of emails, and tens of thousands of off-site storage boxes; coordination of global records retention revision projects; transitioning enterprise applications to the Cloud; reducing over-preservation across a portfolio of legal holds; and navigating data identification, mapping, migration, and separation issues arising from major acquisitions and divestitures.

We bring value to our clients in the following ways:

- Global Reach: Global companies face global data challenges. With offices around the world, our lawyers can provide seamless legal advice based on where the company's data is located in whatever format it takes. Whether coordinating a global records retention project or troubleshooting a narrow overseas data question, our lawyers have it covered. When appropriate, we also work with a trusted network of local information governance counsel.
- Comprehensive Legal Knowledge: Sidley is a top-tier global law firm with vast experience across multidisciplinary teams. When needed, we can and do supplement our experience in information governance and data issues with guidance from colleagues in areas including regulatory compliance, laws related to competition, financial reporting, and industry-specific data use restrictions.
- Policies and Procedures: The most effective way to address a problem is to prevent it from occurring in the first place. We help clients put effective records retention, acceptable-use, bring-your-own-device, and other information policies and procedures in place to proactively address known risk areas
- Legal Holds Management: The rules of preservation have changed—literally. Modern Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 37(e) and its state law analogues make clear that only "reasonable steps" are required at the preservation stage. Yet many companies have preserved—and continue to preserve—far more data than necessary, only a fraction of which is likely to be relevant, much less material. We help companies analyze their legal hold portfolios to streamline existing holds and put measures in place to ensure a proportional approach to preservation going forward.

RANKED IN E-DISCOVERY & INFORMATION GOVERNANCE

— CHAMBERS USA 2024: NATIONWIDE

"The team at Sidley Austin truly understands how data and fact analysis leads to finding a path to resolution. Their ability to use advanced analytics to uncover details and facts in a case sets them apart."

— CHAMBERS USA 2024: NATIONWIDE – E-DISCOVERY & INFORMATION GOVERNANCE

Our eDiscovery and data analytics lawyers are leaders in their field, regularly publishing in academic and technical journals, speaking at numerous conferences, serving on committees of The Sedona Conference® and the Electronic Discovery Reference Model (EDRM), and teaching courses at the nation's top law schools.

- Defensible Disposition: In the event of litigation, companies may find themselves spending vast sums to sort through massive accumulations of irrelevant data—so-called "digital debris." Our lawyers help clients implement data disposition in a structured, defensible, cost-effective, and documented manner that can withstand later scrutiny, if necessary.
- M&A Data Identification, Migration, and Separation: Today's mergers and acquisitions are often as much about people and their data as they are about facilities and equipment. Parties to corporate transactions face a host of challenges they often have little experience in managing. This includes conducting a defensible search for relevant information to transfer, avoiding transfer of out-of-scope data, protecting privileged and commercially sensitive materials, and ensuring continuity of legal holds. We offer a flexible, pragmatic approach to help companies meet their obligations while avoiding unnecessary missteps.
- Understanding Technology: Effective guidance on information governance issues requires an understanding of each client's unique business and record-keeping practices. We often find that balancing the concerns of legal and technical stakeholders requires a "translator." We have the technical experience to serve clients in this capacity, whether discussing email systems, backup architecture, data warehousing processes, cloud-based solutions, proprietary applications, or other systems.

About the Firm

Sidley is an elite global law firm. With 2,300 lawyers, annual revenue of US\$3.2 billion, and experience that spans 158 years, we have established a reputation using Built to WinSM legal strategies in successfully representing clients in more than 70 countries on complex transactional, restructuring, investigation, regulatory, and litigation matters.

With 21 offices strategically situated in key commercial and financial hubs across the world, our perspective and our reach are truly global. Our lawyers and business professionals, fluent in more than 80 languages, possess the cultural awareness and cross-border legal acumen needed to bring clarity to a dynamic business landscape.

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