



Max Gu

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OVERVIEW

Max Gu's practice includes cross-border business transactions, overseas public offerings, general corporate matters, food regulations, corporate compliance matters, complex regulatory advice, employment matters, and overseas litigations.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Max combines his hands-on practice experience in the United States and China and has seen business operations in China under the microscope as an in-house counsel in his legal career and received academic training in earlier years on business management. Those business experiences give him the capability of appreciating the financial and business impact of legal issues as businesses appreciate them and offering insightful and practical advice regardless of whether clients are seeking to invest in China through capital movement or operate a business in China.

Max has also been a legal advisor for Chinese companies seeking to invest overseas or to tap into the overseas stock markets.

He has been selected and recognized since the inaugural edition of *The Best Lawyers*® in China for Corporate Law Practice (International Firms).

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *The Legal 500 Asia Pacific* as a Recommended Lawyer in China
 - Corporate and M&A: Foreign Firms, 2024-2026
 - Corporate (Including M&A), 2026
 - Regulatory/Compliance: Foreign Firms, 2025

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Seminar on New HKSE Listing Rules (Shanghai, China, May 2018)
- Bentleys and Bank of China Seminar on Investing in Australia (Shanghai, China, September 2016)
- Investment in China and Food Regulations in China (Park City, Utah, March 2015)
- Wuxi Cleantech Seminar (Wuxi, China, March 2010)
- Jilin Financial Group – Capital Market in US Seminar, Chicago (Chicago, Illinois, November 2009)
- AON Food Safety Seminar (Shanghai and Beijing, China, August 2009)
- Grant Thornton China Seminar (Chicago, Illinois, November 2005, November 2006 and November 2007)
- International Housewares Association–Legal Forum (Chicago, Illinois, March 2006)

EDUCATION

- J.D., Chicago-Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology
- LL.B., East China University of Politics and Law
- M.B.A., University of Illinois

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Illinois
- Bar of People's Rep. of China

LANGUAGES

- Chinese (Mandarin)
- English
- Shanghainese

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 2026, Global Employer Guide
- 6 January 2022, Be Ready When the Dragon Awakens—Breathing Fire Back Into Business: What You Need to Know if You Are Coming to China in 2023
- 21 March 2017, China Releases Consultation Draft on Cyber Security Review of Online Services and Products

NEWS & EVENTS

- 22 May 2025, K&L Gates Advises US Investment Firm A.G.P. in Lakeshore Acquisition III's IPO
- 29 May 2024, K&L Gates Represents Tyfon Culture in US\$434 Million Business Combination With GTAC

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Capital Markets
- Public Companies

INDUSTRIES

- Apparel and Footwear
- Consumer Goods and Services
- Food and Beverage

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

Cross-Border M&A / FDI

- Advised a China-based franchisee of a well-known coffee brand on its acquisition in the United States.
- Advised one of the largest China-headquartered automobile parts companies on its U.S. restructuring and the CFIUS.
- Advised a U.S.-based beauty education institution on its acquisition in China.
- Advised a leading on-demand cloud computing platforms and APIs provider on its data center construction and land use right/real estate transaction in China.
- Advises a U.S.-based gasification research institute on the construction of a demonstrative plant and joint venture project in China.
- Advised a publicly traded China-based electric group in their CFIUS and HSR filings in the United States.
- Advised a publicly traded China-based port machinery company in its real estate and construction projects in Australia.
- Advises a U.S. publicly listed company in the petro-chemical industry in its regulatory compliance, restructuring, divestment, acquisition, employment and commercial matters in China.
- Represented a U.S. aviation consulting company in their negotiation with airport authorities in China.

- Advised a U.S.-based company on their joint venture negotiation with SOEs in China in the industry to automobile.
- Advised a U.S.-based ocean cruise company on its business establishment, licensing/permitting and regulatory compliance issues in China.
- Advised a U.S.-based company on their due diligence in relation to the acquisition of a hydropower plant in China.
- Advised a number of U.S., UK and Australia-based food business operators in their business establishment and licensing issues in China.
- Represented a US sport brand in its merger and acquisition in China.
- Represented a Hong Kong investment group in the establishment of their car dealerships of imported cars in China.
- Represented a U.S. manufacturer of point-of-sales materials for brewery industry in their establishment of manufacturing facilities, litigation matters in China and offshore restructuring for financing purposes.
- Represented a U.S. data mining software developer to set up a wholly-owned subsidiary in China.
- Served as senior in-house position in China for a world-leading diversified healthcare and nutrition foods company with primary responsibilities over all aspects of the company's business operations in China.
- Currently represents multinational corporations in the food industry in their labeling/packaging compliance projects in China as well as adversarial proceedings before the several regulatory agencies in China.
- Provided due diligence for a medical device company regarding acquiring a Beijing medical device company.

Capital Markets

- Acted as underwriter counsel to A.G.P./Alliance Global Partners in connection with the initial public offering by Lakeshore Acquisition III Corp. (a SPAC).
- Represented a China-based new construction materials company which seeks to go public in Hong Kong.
- Represent a China-based real estate company which seeks to go public in Hong Kong.
- Represented a China-based cement equipment manufacturer which seeks to go public in Hong Kong.
- Represented a China-based aesthetical medicine company which seeks to go public in Hong Kong.
- Represented a China-based e-commerce provider which seeks to go public in the United States.
- Represent a China-based canned fruit manufacturer which seeks to go public in the United States.
- Represented a China-based marketing solution company and a China-based automobile equipment manufacturer which sought to go public in Hong Kong.
- Represented a China-based fine chemicals manufacturer which sought to go public in U.S.

Others

- Represent a number of MNCs in their labor force reduction projects in China.
- Represented a US-based public company in the specialty chemicals industry in its FCPA and environment violation (involving criminal liability) investigation in Jiangsu Province, China.
- Represented a U.S.-based public company in the painting and coating industry in its FCPA and employee misappropriation investigation in Guangxi Province, China.
- Represented a number of U.S./Europe/Australia-based companies in their adversarial employment-related proceedings in China, which had an official or commercial bribery element as the cause for termination.
- Represent a publicly traded China-based port machinery company in litigations and regulatory compliance matters in the United States.
- Represented a publicly traded Chinese construction equipment company to set up assembly facilities in the United States.
- Represented a U.S. supplier of Wal-Mart in sourcing products and intellectual property litigation matters in China.