

Profile of Speakers:



Madhulika Gupta
Regional President, IACC-WIC &
Founder, CEO, REPUTE Public Affairs & CSR Solutions

Madhulika Gupta founded her firm REPUTE, in 2009. Prior to REPUTE, she served as the Head of Corporate Affairs and Corporate Citizenship for Citigroup South Asia. Her focus covered the company's corporate and business communications strategy and corporate social responsibility. She is credited with a number of initiatives that won accolades for Citigroup and became benchmarks for the corporate sector in the country. These include the CSR strategy for Citi that introduced capacity building grants to NGOs in India who were providing micro-credit to women, establishing Indian School of Microfinance in Ahmedabad, Citi Scholars programme at ISB and Citi Micro- Entrepreneurship Awards among others. Madhulika first introduced in Citi and helped institutionalize large-scale employee volunteerism & community service programs across India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. She was a member of Citi India and Citi South Asia's Management Committees and Operating Committees and headed its Diversity Council.

She specializes in reputation management strategy, policy advocacy, public relations, strategic communications, corporate social responsibility solutions, crisis management. REPUTE is an Advisor to public and private Corporations, not for profits and Academic institutions in these areas and in training managements for media interface including crisis communications. REPUTE is an Advisor to industry chambers and is the Knowledge partner on CSR of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce.

Madhulika served as the Asian representative on the International Advisory Board for the Dutch Government funded not-for-profit, ICCO, and continues as its ambassador. She currently serves on the National Executive Board of Indo- American Chamber of Commerce and as its Regional President for Western Region. She chaired the CSR committee for Bombay Chamber of Commerce and is a founder member of Fem Power, the women's division of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. In 2015 She was inducted as a lifelong Aspire Circle Fellow for social leadership.

Passionate about social development, she contributes personal time towards community service, especially women's empowerment, Health Care and Animal Welfare.



Poorvi Chothani
Regional VP, IACC-WIC
& Founder & Managing Partner, LawQuest

Poorvi is the Founder and Managing Partner of LawQuest, an employment and immigration law firm with offices in Florida, Mumbai and Bengaluru. She is a lawful permanent resident (Green Card holder) of the U.S. and is admitted to the New York State Bar with an LL.M from the University of Pennsylvania, USA. She has been admitted to the Indian Bar since 1984 and is a registered, practicing Solicitor, England and Wales.

Poorvi is also the Regional Vice President of the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce's Western India Council.

Poorvi has been consistently nominated amongst the world's leading immigration private practice lawyers in "Who's Who Legal" each year since 2009. In November 2017 Poorvi was awarded the WE Inspiration Award presented at the ThinkBig 2017 Event, organized by WEConnect India International Association. The 'We Inspiration' category is awarded to women entrepreneurs who have successfully overcome challenges and stereotypes and have excelled in their field of work. She was also listed amongst one of the top 100 women lawyers in India.



James R. Hays
Partner, Labor & Employment Practice Group
SheppardMullin, New York

James Hays is a partner in the Labor & Employment Practice Group in the firm's New York office and is a co-team leader of the firm's Traditional Labor Law Team.

Areas of Practice

Mr. Hays' practice focuses on management labor and employment law. He represents clients in collective bargaining negotiations, labor arbitrations, and all stages of the labor election process, including election campaigns and hearings before the National Labor Relations Board. He also represents clients in employment litigation in federal and state courts, as well as various arbitration forums, and in proceedings before various administrative agencies, including the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the United States Department of Labor, and state agencies throughout the United States.

Mr. Hays advises and has represented clients in litigation concerning breach of non-compete agreements and theft of trade secrets. He advises employers on strategies for handling workplace harassment, internal investigations, reductions in staff, discipline and termination actions, and wage and hour issues. Mr. Hays devotes significant time to the defense of complex wage and hour class action litigation. He regularly counsels clients on preparation and administration of personnel policies and employment strategies and compliance with WARN, FMLA, ADA, COBRA and other federal and state labor statutes.



J. Scott Maberry

**Partner, International Trade & Head of DC International Trade
SheppardMullin, Washington, D.C.**

Scott Maberry is an International Trade partner in the Government Contracts, Investigations & International Trade Practice Group in the firm's Washington, D.C. office.

Areas of Practice

Mr. Maberry counsels clients and litigates disputes in the areas of export controls, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), anti-terrorism, economic sanctions, anti-boycott controls, anti-money laundering (AML), the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA), trade remedies including antidumping and countervailing duty (AD/CVD) matters, and Customs. He also represents clients in negotiations and dispute resolution under the World Trade Organization (WTO), North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and other multilateral and bilateral agreements.

His practice includes representing clients before the U.S. Department of Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry & Security (BIS), Department of Commerce Import Administration; Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Department of State Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC), the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), the International Trade Commission (ITC), the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), federal courts and grand jury proceedings, and WTO and NAFTA dispute resolution panels.



Robert S. Friedman
Partner, Business Trial and White Collar
Practice Groups, SheppardMullin, New York

Mr. Friedman is a partner in the Business Trial and White Collar Practice Groups in the firm's New York office. He heads the Business Trial Practice Group in New York and is the leader of the firm's South Asia team.

Areas of Practice

Mr. Friedman focuses his practice on business and corporate litigation matters. He has particular experience in the areas of securities litigation, internal investigations, corporate trust litigation, real estate litigation, director and officer liability, bankruptcy litigation, restrictive covenants and intellectual property. He has tried cases involving and counseled clients concerning the protection of trade secrets, computer software theft allegations, false advertising and alleged securities law violations. He has achieved successful outcomes in the major international arbitral forums. He has also handled maritime disputes on behalf of shipping companies and creditor's committees. He advises banks and financial institutions in regulatory matters and has led numerous internal investigations for clients in all industries.

Mr. Friedman has tried over seventy cases and regularly represents financial institutions, technology companies, media companies and litigation trustees in significant business disputes. He speaks and writes extensively on various litigation topics and is widely quoted in the legal and mainstream press.

Prior to entering private practice, Mr. Friedman was a Senior Trial Attorney in the Homicide Bureau of the Kings County District Attorney's Office.



Valérie Demont
Partner, Corporate Practice Group
SheppardMullin, New York

Valérie Demont is a partner in the Corporate Practice Group in the firm's New York Office

Areas of Practice

Ms. Demont focuses her practice primarily on U.S. and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, capital markets and securities offerings and corporate governance matters.

She has been involved in numerous mergers, acquisitions, joint ventures and dispositions for corporations and private equity funds in the U.S., Europe and Asia (including India). In particular, she routinely advises foreign companies with the establishment and growth of their operations in the United States.

Ms. Demont also represents U.S. and non-U.S. issuers and underwriters in a wide range of primary and secondary capital markets and securities offering financing transactions involving equity, debt, convertible and hybrid securities. These transactions include IPOs, private placements and offshore securities offerings and the establishment of American Depositary Receipt (ADR) programs.

She handles complex securities and financing transactions, including debt restructurings, exchange offers, debt tender offers and consent solicitations.

In addition, Ms. Demont regularly advises companies on their reporting obligations under U.S. securities laws as well as corporate governance and other compliance obligations under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and stock exchange regulations.

Ms. Demont is a frequent speaker at events focused on cross-border trade and has written or contributed to several publications.