

Masachika SAWANO

Masachika Sawano's practice is focused on corporate and commercial transaction (including Japan market entry). As an in-house lawyer in the past, he acted as lead counsel for Japan and Korea at Twitter, and also engaged in e-commerce, transportation, real estate, employment and general corporate matters at Amazon. And at Skadden, he mainly engaged in real estate structured finance and other real estate transaction.



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Work History

- **Kusunoki, Iwasaki & Sawano** (November 2018 – Present)
 - ✓ Lead counsel for Japan and Korea;
 - ✓ Advising on law enforcement, compliance and other issues;
 - ✓ Advising on intellectual property, privacy, content regulation, consumer protection, antitrust/competition laws, litigation, and advertising laws and regulations;
 - ✓ Negotiating and drafting commercial agreements;
 - ✓ Advising on employment law matters for Twitter's offices; and
 - ✓ Helping to define and enforce advertising, user safety, legal and other policies.
- **Twitter Japan K.K.** (April 2017 – November 2018)
 - ✓ Operations including transportation and supply chain management;
 - ✓ Serving as the primary lawyer responsible for counseling the business on a broad range of commercial and regulatory matters and structuring, drafting and negotiating commercial transactions;
 - ✓ Serving as lead counsel on strategic deals, providing day-to-day advice, resolving issues that arise in existing commercial relationships and handling pre-litigation legal disputes and inquiries;
 - ✓ Real estate (i.e., corporate office and Fulfillment Center leases); and
 - ✓ Advising on employment law matters.
- **Amazon Japan G.K.** (October 2011 – March 2017)
 - ✓ Engaged in finance transactions and investments, including real estate structured finance and stock acquisition finance;
 - ✓ Representation of domestic and foreign associated banks and other financial institutions in making non-recourse securitizable loans secured by real properties, underwriting specified bonds issued by TMKS; and
 - ✓ Representation of foreign and domestic entities in lease transactions.
- **Skadden Arps Law Office** (December 2009 – September 2011)
 - ✓ Engaged in finance transactions and investments, including real estate structured finance and stock acquisition finance;
 - ✓ Representation of domestic and foreign associated banks and other financial institutions in making non-recourse securitizable loans secured by real properties, underwriting specified bonds issued by TMKS; and
 - ✓ Representation of foreign and domestic entities in lease transactions.
- **Skadden Arps Law Office** (February 2004 – March 2007)
- **Alcatel Japan Ltd.** (October 2001 – January 2004)
- **Lucent Technologies Japan Ltd.** (January 1999 – September 2001)
- **Okura & Co., Ltd.** (April 1996 – September 1998)

Education

LL.M., Waseda University (2008)

LL.B., Tokyo University (1996)

Bar Admission

Japan (2009)

Professional Affiliations

International Business Adviser

Organization for Small & Medium Enterprises and Regional Innovation, Japan

Professional Adviser

Aoyama Startup Acceleration Center

Certified Agent for Players

Japan Professional Baseball Players Association

Languages

Japanese

English