

Samuel G. Kramer, Founding Member

Samuel G. ("Sam") Kramer is the founding member of Transaction Advisors Group, LLC, based in Chicago. His practice focuses on managed services and sourcing, IT development and complex licensing, and supply chain commercial agreements at the pre- and post-deal stages. Mr. Kramer brings more than 30 years of Big Law experience working with multinational hi-tech and branded enterprises to his client engagements. He also brings decades' worth of relationships with lawyers around the world to help handle matters wherever client issues arise.

Mr. Kramer provides services to clients in the Tech, CPG, Energy, Finance and Health sectors, with a concentration on emerging technologies, including blockchain and artificial intelligence.

Previously, he was with Baker & McKenzie in their Chicago and Hong Kong offices where he worked for three decades to help establish and grow that firm's first industry-facing practice group in Information Technology and chaired the North American Fintech Group. He began his legal career as a litigation associate at Defrees & Fiske in Chicago, Illinois, United States. Mr. Kramer is an adjunct faculty member at the John Marshall Law School where he has taught in the Information Technology LLM Program.



Admissions

State of Illinois (1991)

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois-United States (1991)

U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit-United States (1992)

Education

Sam has a BA in Philosophy from Oberlin College, an MPhil in Philosophy from University College London, and a JD from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law.

Recognition

Sam is recognized in Chambers USA, Chambers Global, and the Legal 500 where he is a member of The Legal 500 Hall of Fame for his work in Outsourcing. He is also recognized in Who's Who Legal and is an Acritas Star Lawyer.

Publications and Articles

"Taking an Interest in Carbon Revisited: Secured Financing and the Legal Nature of Carbon Credits," Energy and Environmental Project Finance Law and Taxation: New Investment Techniques, Matthew Bender (2025) with Richard Saines.

"Unlocking At-Scale Decarbonization Finance for Nature," Energy and Environmental Project Finance Law and Taxation: New Investment Techniques, Matthew Bender (2025) with Nicola von Schroeter.

"United States: Fintech," The Legal 500 Country Comparative Guides (2025).

"United States: TMT," The Legal 500 Country Comparative Guides (2024).

"Recent Developments in Artificial Intelligence and Blockchain Cases," (Newman and Aft eds.) American Bar Association (2023).

"United States: TMT," The Legal 500 Country Comparative Guides (2023).

"United States: TMT," The Legal 500 Country Comparative Guides (2022).

"Technology U.S.," In-House Lawyer, The Legal 500 (2020).

"CFTC's 'Actual Delivery' Test For Digital Assets Misses Mark," Law360 (May 7, 2020) with Matthew Kluchenek.

"SEC's Safe Harbor for Tokens Is an Incomplete Solution," Bloomberg Law (Feb. 28, 2020).

"SEC Cautions Investors and Sponsors about Using Unregistered Initial Exchange Offerings," Baker McKenzie Client Alert (Jan. 16, 2020) with Kristen Rice-Gonzalez.

"FinTech United States," in Getting the Deal Through Lexology (2020).

"FinTech United States," in Getting the Deal Through Law Business Research (2019) with Matthew Kluchenek.

"FinTech U.S.," in Country Comparative Guide The Legal 500 (2019) with Matthew Kluchenek.

"Technology U.S.," in In-House Lawyer The Legal 500 (2019).

"The Challenge of Authenticity: Blockchain in the Supply Chain," Journal of Supply Chain Management, Logistics and Procurement, Vol. 1, No. 3, 1–7 (Winter 2018–19).

"Collateral Damage: Cryptocurrency and Security Interests" Best Lawyers (Oct. 1, 2018).

"Cryptocurrency Regulation in the Crosshairs," Bloomberg Law: Tech & Telecom News (Jun. 22, 2018) with Matthew Kluchenek and Patrick Dennien.

"Blockchains and Data Protection," Bloomberg Law: Big Law Business Report (May 21, 2018).

"Emerging Regulatory Framework Of FinTech In The U.S.," B:Inform Magazine (May 2016).

"Outsourcing to the Cloud for Financial Institutions," B:Inform Magazine (Feb. 2016).

"Going Global Online: Basic E-Commerce and Data Privacy Considerations," Baker & McKenzie's Going Global Field Guide (2016).

"Take That Back: Drivers and Considerations for Insourcing," Inside Sourcing (Jan. 2013)

"Crowdsourcing: Will On-Demand Labor Shake Up The Outsourcing Business?" LegalBytes (Dec. 2012).

"Communications Outsourcing," Practical Law Company (2010) with Ross McKean.

"Taking an Interest in Carbon: Secured Financing and the Legal Nature of Carbon Credits" Energy and Environmental Project Finance Law and Taxation (Kramer and Fusaro eds.), The Oxford University Press (2010) with Richard Saines.

"Outsourcing under the Obama Administration," Global Services Magazine (Dec. 2, 2008)

"Online Privacy in the United States: The Digital Millennium Copyright Act Reviewed," BNA International World Data Protection Report (Jun. 2006).

Speaking Engagements

"Blockchain Technology and the Energy Industry," ABA Business Law Section Blockchain Technology Subcommittee Spring Meeting, New Orleans, LA (Apr. 26, 2025).

"Electronic Contracting" Baker McKenzie's Field Guide to Going Global (Jun. 26, 2024).

"Post-Pandemic Outsourcing: How Changes to Delivery Models Have Impacted Master Services Agreements" International Association of Outsourcing Professionals OWS23 Conference, Chicago, IL (May 17, 2023).

"The Future: Overview of the Metaverse, Cryptocurrency and Non-Fungible Tokens," 17th Annual Global Tax Planning & Transactions Workshop, New York, NY (Jun. 8, 2022).

"Post-Pandemic Supply Chain Shifts: Latest Trends on Restructuring and Legal Implications," 2022 Annual Supply Chain Risks & Rewards in Emerging Markets Conference, Washington, DC (Jun. 1, 2022).

"A Primer on INCOTERMS" Key Terms in Cross-Border Transactions: NDAs, LOIs, Exclusivity, and Incoterms," Chicago, IL (Apr. 5, 2022).

"Ransomware and Cryptocurrency" Virtual Global Trade Conference (Jul. 15, 2021).

"Strategic Supply Chain Restructuring in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic," WBCSD Global Supply Chain Disruptions and How to Navigate the New Normal, with Peter George and Amy Barber (Jul. 9, 2020)

"What is Blockchain? Supply Chain Risks & Rewards in Emerging Markets," Washington D.C. (Apr. 3, 2020) with Amanda Brino.

"Can Blockchain Fix What Ails the Supply Chain?" IACCM Americas Conference, Phoenix, AZ (Nov. 5, 2019).

"Decrypting Cryptocurrency," J.P. Morgan. New York, NY (Sep. 23, 2019).

"Blockchain and Cryptocurrency 101," ACC of Wisconsin. Elkhart Lake, WI (May 19, 2019).

Panel, "The Future of Food & Beverage Product Traceability: Is Your Enterprise Blockchain Ready?" Chicago Executives Club Chicago, IL (May 8, 2019).

Panel, "The New Frontier of KYC/AML: Journal of International Law and Business Symposium 2019," Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, Chicago, IL (Feb. 15, 2019).

"The International Challenges of ICO: Global Experts Discuss," Barnea Jaffa Lande & Co Law Offices Tel-Aviv, Israel (Jan. 30, 2019).

"Security and Asset-Based Tokens: Where Crypto is Today," Herzog, Fox & Neeman, Tel-Aviv, Israel (Jan. 29, 2019).

"Up On Blocks: Getting Under The Hood Of The Blockchain," Presentation to Rafael Advanced Defense Systems, Ltd. Haifa, Israel (Jan. 27, 2019).

Panel, "Practicing Blockchain Law. Braun Symposium on Blockchain and the Law," The John Marshall Law School Chicago, IL (Nov. 9, 2018).

"Blockchain Fundamentals: Business Applications and Legal Considerations," ACC of Colorado Denver, CO (Sep. 4, 2018).

"Initial Coin Offerings," Rossdale CLE Webinar (Aug. 15, 2018).

"Blockchain In The Supply Chain," Presentation to Jones Lang LaSalle, Chicago IL (May 9, 2018).

Panel, "The Future of Virtual and Crypto Currencies, Tokenization and the ICO Phenomenon," ACI FinTech and Emerging Payment Systems, New York, NY (Apr. 30, 2018).

Panel, "Digital Currency and Technology Transformation in Financial Services," Doing Business Globally, Mexico City, Mexico (Apr. 25, 2018).

"Blockchain: A Legal Perspective on an Emerging Technology," Toronto Law Society 8th Annual In-House Counsel Summit, Toronto, Canada (Feb. 14, 2018).

"Blockchain In The Supply Chain," CNH Industrial Blockchain Day, Burr Ridge, IL (Jan. 10, 2018).

"Cloud and Digital Disruptions," Moderator with UBS and Quintiles IMS Health, Practising Law Institute, New York, NY (Nov. 2, 2017).

"Blockchain: A Legal Perspective on Current Regulations," Panelist, Fintank's Global Blockchain Summit, Chicago, IL (Oct. 10, 2017).

- “Keys to Building and Managing a Global Supply Chain,” Chicago ACC, Chicago and Oakbrook, IL (May 24–25, 2017).
- “Making the Digital Economy Work for Luxury and Fashion,” Luxury Law Summit, London, England (May 16, 2017).
- “Digitalization in the Oil & Gas Industry. 4th Global Oil & Gas Institute,” Houston, TX (May 10, 2017).
- “Fourth Industrial Revolution,” 18th Latin America Tax Conference, Orlando, FL (Mar. 22, 2017).
- “Data Centers and the Global Economy,” Bay Area ACC, San Francisco and Palo Alto, CA (Jan. 24–25, 2017).
- “Under the Hood of the Blockchain, pt. 2,” FinTech Update for Global Canadian Bank (Jan. 18, 2017).
- “Under the Hood of the Blockchain, pt. 1,” FinTech Update for Global Canadian Bank (Nov. 9, 2016).
- “Managing a Global Digital Economy,” Luxury and Fashion Companies Workshop, New York, NY (Nov. 1, 2016).
- “Regulating Innovation,” Fireside Chat with Kevin Greenstein of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, FinTech Americas, Miami, FL (Oct. 5, 2016).
- “Cloud Computing: Regulatory Realities of Cloud Computing for the Financial Services Industry in LatAm,” Moderator with Microsoft and IDC, FinTech Americas, Miami, FL (Oct. 5, 2016).
- “Understanding Blockchain – FinTech and the Future of E-Commerce,” B&M 2016 Tech Talk: Critical Legal Updates for the Global Tech Company, Santa Clara, CA (Sept. 29, 2016);
- “Outsourcing 2016: ITO, BPO and Cloud,” Practicing Law Institute, Chicago, IL (Sept. 27, 2016).
- “Understanding Blockchain – Developments in FinTech,” Breakfast Briefing, Miami, FL (Sept. 20, 2016)
- “Cloud Contracting – Global Terms & Trends,” ACC International Committee Meeting Dallas, TX (May 24, 2016).
- “Regulation of Cross-Border Outsourcing Arrangements for Financial Institutions,” Technology and Compliance Committee, New York, NY (Sept. 17, 2015).
- “Negotiation of Outsourcing Deals,” Clear Law Institute, Arlington, VA (Aug. 27, 2015).
- “Negotiating Outsourcing Deals,” Lawline.com, New York City, NY (Mar. 26, 2015).
- “The Risk of Taking Risk: Some Pitfalls for the Unwary When Operating Globally,” ACC Houston Chapter Ethics & Compliance Practice Group Series, Houston, TX (Nov. 20, 2014).
- “Going Global Online - E-Commerce and Privacy,” BNA Bloomberg Webinar Series (Nov. 12, 2014).

"A Lawyer's Guide to Corporate Social Responsibility - Laws and Norms for Global Sourcing and Environmental Sustainability," YLS International Corporate & Trade Law Committee Annual Seminar, Chicago, IL (Feb. 20, 2014).

"Big Data Complexity in the Sciences," Civic Consulting Alliance Big Data Week, Chicago, IL (Apr. 25, 2013).

"Technological Transformation of the Health Care Industry," Baker & McKenzie and Deloitte, Chicago, IL (Apr. 23, 2013).

"Ethical and Legislative Issues in Legal Outsourcing: ABA Commission on Ethics 20/20," Global LPO Conference and Exhibition, New York, NY (Oct. 12, 2012).

"Avoiding Missteps in Multi-Country Outsourcing," Practising Law Institute, Chicago, IL (Oct. 2, 2012).

"Disentangling Shared Services," B&M Corporate & Securities Training Session, Chicago, IL (Sept. 28, 2012).

"Moving Core IP to China: How to Protect Key Business Assets," China Roadshow 2012, Chicago, IL (Jun. 7, 2012).

"Legal Process Outsourcing," Legal Ethics in Corporate Law, Illinois State Bar Assn (Jun. 10, 2011).

"Focus on Dispute Resolution: Examining Product Liability, Force Majeure and UCC & CISG Issues," Focus on Japan: Coping with the Business and Legal Aftershocks, Chicago, IL (May 3, 2011).

"Core Issues In Global Outsourcing," Corporate & Securities Training Session, Chicago, IL (Apr. 29, 2011).

"On the Ground in Japan: Dealing with the New Business and Legal Realities for MNCs Operating In and Through Japan," Focus on Japan: Coping with the Business and Legal Aftershocks, Chicago, IL (Apr. 19, 2011).

Professional

Chicago Bar Association – Member

Illinois State Bar Association – Member

American Bar Association – Member

Civic and Community

J Street Chicago Chapter – Past Board Member

Windy City Habitat for Humanity – Past Board Member

Fulcrum Point New Music Project – Past Board Member

The Forward Association – Member