

Dennis J. Burnett

Mr. Burnett is an attorney and business advisor with experience in commercial transactions and regulatory matters in the aerospace industry. During his career, he has served as an attorney advisor to an independent United States regulatory commission and as corporate in-house counsel and outside counsel to aerospace companies.

Mr. Burnett has participated in numerous space-related new business development efforts requiring compliance with domestic or foreign regulatory requirements. He has recognized subject matter expertise in all aspects of commercial space activities, including obtaining operating licenses, licensing exports of high-technology goods and services, and complying with US foreign ownership control or influence (“FOCI”) requirements for U.S. companies holding U.S. facility security clearances.

Some highlights from Mr. Burnett’s career include:

- Drafting proposed and testified before this Subcommittee on changes to U.S. patent law that enabled patenting in the U.S. of inventions made in outer space.
- Preparing and obtaining one of the first NOAA-issued licenses for a U.S. commercial remote sensing satellite system and obtaining FCC radio frequency licenses for a that remote sensing system.
- Representing the Russian Space Agency in the negotiation of the first multi-million-dollar Space Station contract with NASA, which formed the foundation for a successful twenty-year space station cooperation between Russia and the United States.
- Drafting and negotiating satellite purchase contracts.
- Drafting the model launch services agreement for an international launch service provider.
- Obtaining national security waivers from the President of the United States to allow export and launch of U.S. satellites or U.S. satellite components from China.
- Creating and implementing an export compliance and national security compliance program to qualify a foreign-owned U.S. company as a prime contractor for major U.S. Department of Defense programs.

Mr. Burnett is a member of the D.C. Bar, American Bar Association, American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics and is a member and Treasurer of the International Institute of Space Law. He has served three terms on the Defense Trade Advisory Group for the U.S. Department of State.

Mr. Burnett is an Adjunct Professor teaching export control and commercial space law at the University of Nebraska College of Law and is the Chairman of the Advisory Board for the UNL LL.M. Space, Cyber and Telecom Program. Mr. Burnett also is Chief Counsel, Government and Regulatory Affairs, Kymeta Corporation.

Mr. Burnett holds a B.S. in Political Science and German from Nebraska Wesleyan University, a J.D. from the University of Nebraska College of Law and an LL.M. from Georgetown University.