

SHINJI KUSAKABE

Partner

Tokyo

LEGAL AWARDS

The Nikkei " Top-performing Lawyer " in 2024

The Best Lawyers in Japan™ · Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in Japan™
(2025 Edition), "Lawyer of the Year"



Key Practice Areas

Corporate

Government Investigations and Crisis Management

Dispute Resolution

Product Liability Disputes

International Arbitration and International Mediation

TEL: 81-3-6775-1042 / FAX: 81-3-6775-2042

Shinji Kusakabe specializes in advising on legal issues in manufacturing, such as commercial transactions and product liabilities. Mr. Kusakabe has a wealth of practical experience in litigation and arbitration, both international and domestic. Mr. Kusakabe's particular specialties lie in providing targeted advice to clients on corporate matters, taking into consideration potential future disputes, and in resolving current disputes in light of actual business practices and circumstances.

Cases which Mr. Kusakabe has recently handled include lawsuits related to termination of commercial relationships, illegal transactions conducted by employees, product liability, bid-rigging conspiracies and inventions by employees. Mr. Kusakabe is also actively engaged in international arbitration, including matters arbitrated outside Japan.

In addition to his professional experience at Anderson Mori & Tomotsune, Mr. Kusakabe's prior experience includes working as a Foreign Associate at Kelley Drye & Warren's New York office (September 1999 to August 2000) and a full-time secondment to Swiss Bank Corporation's (now UBS AG) Tokyo Legal & Compliance department (February to July 1998).

Mr. Kusakabe also served as:

Special Assistant to the President, the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (from April 2025)

President of the Daini Tokyo Bar Association (from April 2024 to March 2025);

Vice President of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (from April 2024 to March 2025);

Expert Member of the Nuclear Damage Compensation Dispute Review Board (from June 2022 to June 2023);

Member of the Code of Civil Procedure (for Introduction of IT) Subcommittee of the Legislative Council of the Ministry of Justice (from June 2020 to February 2022);

Governor of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (from April 2020 to March 2021; Executive Governor from June 2020 to March 2021)

Chair of the Committee on Civil Procedure of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (from June 2019 to May 2021);
Examiner for the National Bar Examination and the National Preliminary Bar Examination (in Charge of the Code of Civil Procedure) (from November 2018 to November 2021);
Vice President of the Daini Tokyo Bar Association (from April 2017 to March 2018); and
Practicing-Attorney-Professor for Civil Advocacy at the Legal Training and Research Institute of the Supreme Court of Japan (from April 2010 to March 2013) (for details of this position, please visit http://www.courts.go.jp/english/institute_01/institute/index.html#Intro).

/ SERVICES

Practice Areas

Key Practice Areas

/ Corporate

/ Government Investigations and Crisis Management

/ Dispute Resolution

Product Liability Disputes

International Arbitration and International Mediation

Related Practice Areas

- M&A

M&A/Business Restructuring / Joint Ventures / Public M&A

- Labor and Employment

Labor and Employment Disputes /

Workplace Harassment and Other Misconducts / Severance Matters /

Executives (Board Members and Auditors) /

Non-regular Employment, Temporary Staffing, Outsourcing, /
Freelancing

Drafting and Review of Work Rules and Employment Contracts /

Labor and Employment Law Compliance

- Intellectual Property

IP Dispute (litigation, arbitration, customs action) /

IP Transaction, M&A (License, IP Due Diligence) /

Tradeseecret/Know-how /

Health Care, Pharmaceutical and Life Science

- Tech/Data/IT/Telecom

Data Protection/Data Breach / IT system/PL & Recall /

Regulatory matters (chemical substances, AI, telecom) /

AI & Internet related Regulations/Disputes

- Life Sciences

IP-related Services /

Dealing with compliance issues and criminal investigations

- Competition/Antitrust

Dominance and other Unilateral Conduct /

Distribution and Other Competition Law Matters /

Competition-Related Litigation / Competition Compliance /

Competition law aspects of Business Alliances

- Corporate

Corporate and Commercial Transactions / Corporate Governance /

Shareholders' Meetings and Relationships with Shareholders /

Corporate Disputes / Establishing a Business Presence in Japan

- Government Investigations and Crisis Management

Government investigations /

Internal investigations and organizing third-party committees /

Anti-bribery regulations / Accounting fraud /

Quality control, product liability and product fraud /

Medical and healthcare regulations / Global compliance /

Media control and public relations

- Finance and Financial Institutions

Insurance / Financial and Securities Dispute Resolution

- Dispute Resolution

Civil and Commercial Disputes (General) /

International Litigation and Cross-Border Disputes /

ADR (Mediation and Others) / IP Disputes /

Labor and Employment Disputes /

Financial and Securities Dispute Resolution / Franchise Disputes /

Securities Disputes and Other Corporate Scandals /

Competition-Related Litigation / M&A and Corporate Disputes /

Industries

- Insurance
- Medical, Pharmaceutical, Healthcare, Life Science and Biotechnology
- Automotive, Ship and Machinery
- Chemical
- Food and Beverage
- Electronics and Equipment
- Consumer Product and Retail
- Trading
- Hospitality and Gaming

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Best Lawyers 2022

Best Lawyers 2021

RELATED INSIGHTS

SEMINARS Seminars

Introduction of IT into Civil
Litigation: Explanation of Phas...

2022.12.15

Amendment to the Code of Civil
Procedure in 2022

2022.11.25

Introduction of IT into Civil
Litigation: Key Issues at the...

2022.03.05

PUBLICATIONS Publications

Seminar on Theory and Practice
of the Introduction of IT into...



Other Types of Examination of
Evidence



Examination of Electronic or
Magnetic Records



CAREER

Mar 1993	The University of Tokyo (LL.B.)
Mar 1995	Legal Training and Research Institute
Feb 1998 - Jul 1998	Swiss Bank Corporation (now UBS AG), Legal Department
May 1999	New York University, School of Law (LL.M., International Legal Studies)
Sep 1999 - Aug 2000	Kelley Drye & Warren (New York, USA)
Jun 2003 - Mar 2004	Arbitration Law Follow-up Research Group (administered by the Office for Promotion of Justice System Reform, established by the Cabinet)
Apr 2010 - Mar 2013	Practicing-Attorney-Professor for Civil Advocacy at the Legal Training and Research Institute of the Supreme Court of Japan
Jul 2012 - Feb 2014	Japan Commercial Arbitration Association, Commercial Arbitration Rules Amendment Committee
Feb 2014 -	Japan Commercial Arbitration Association, Procedure Consultative Committee
Apr 2017 - Mar 2018	Vice President, Daini Tokyo Bar Association
Oct 2017 - Mar 2018	Investigative Commission for the Introduction of IT into Litigation Procedures, Etc. (Cabinet Secretariat, General Bureau for the Revitalization of the Japanese Economy)
Mar 2018 -	Director, Japan Association of Arbitrators (Executive Director from November 2020 to March 2023)
Jul 2018 - Dec 2019	Research Group for the Introduction of IT into Civil Litigation Procedures, Etc. (Japan Institute of Business Law)
Nov 2018 - Nov 2021	Examiner for the National Bar Examination and the National Preliminary Bar Examination (in Charge of the Code of Civil Procedure)
Jun 2019 - May 2021	Chair of the Committee on Civil Procedure of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations
Apr 2020 - Mar 2021	Governor of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations (Executive Governor from June 2020 to March 2021)
Jun 2020 - Feb 2022	Member of the Code of Civil Procedure (for Introduction of IT) Subcommittee of the Legislative Council of the Ministry of Justice
Jun 2022 - Jun 2023	Expert Member of the Nuclear Damage Compensation Dispute Review Board

Apr 2024 - Mar 2025	President of the Daini Tokyo Bar Association Executive Governor of the Kanto Federation of Bar Associations Vice President of the Japan Federation of Bar Associations
Apr 2025 -	Special Assistant to the President, the Japan Federation of Bar Associations

QUALIFICATIONS

PROFESSIONAL AND
ACADEMIC
ASSOCIATIONS

LANGUAGES

Japan (1995)

Daini Tokyo Bar Association

Japanese

New York (2000)

International Bar Association

English

Inter-Pacific Bar Association

Japan Association of Arbitrators

Japan Bar Association

Japan Association for Consumer
Law

Japan Association of Private Law

Japan Association of the Law of
Civil Procedure

Japan Association of the Law of
Arbitration and Alternative Dispute
Resolution