

## Robert C. MacDonald

### MacDonald Weiss PLLC

276 Fifth Avenue, Suite 708, New York, NY 10001  
Phone: US +1 (646) 513-3280 | Depuis la France (0)9 75 18 16 46  
Fax: +1 (646) 513-3283  
E-Mail: [rcm@macdonaldweiss.com](mailto:rcm@macdonaldweiss.com)



## Capabilities

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Rob MacDonald has over 25 years of experience practicing law in the areas of transactions, commercial, tax, and “outside general counsel” activity, at the highest levels of sophistication. He has had a particular focus on international work, both “in-bound” and “out-bound.” In the transactional context, Rob has deep experience with, inter alia, investment funds, joint ventures, partnerships, other companies, and all aspects of debt and equity finance, from the straightforward to the exotic. On the commercial side, he has handled projects ranging from distribution to co-production agreements. He began his career as a tax lawyer, achieving prominence in that area in his first decade of practice, and he has maintained a substantial percentage of his activity in tax. Rob also has extensive experience acting in an outside general counsel role for US companies and for foreign companies with US investments or other business interests, and in that context has accumulated a broad range of experience ranging from litigation strategy to securities law.

In MacDonald Weiss and before, as the former managing partner of the NY office of Gide Loyrette Nouel, one of France’s most prominent law firms, Rob has represented a primarily European clientele for many years. He has a sensitivity to the different business, legal, and social contexts from which French and other European clients operate, which enables him to shape more understandable, more effective advice to those clients. Il parle français aussi, bien que d’une manière quelque peu pittoresque.

## Representative Experience

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- Serving as counsel on bond issuances, commercial paper, and other note programs with a total value well in excess of \$20 billion.
- Designing tax-advantaged ownership and financing structures for major infrastructure projects around the world, from Mexico to Thailand.
- Negotiating syndicated credit agreements as both borrower's and lender's counsel.
- Advising a European fund on investment into US distressed real estate assets.
- Counselling a prominent French wine négociant on the development of a US import operation.
- Developing a co-production arrangement between French and US food product companies.
- Successfully managing an IRS audit of a prominent European food company, culminating in a large tax refund to the company.
- Serving as transactional and tax counsel on numerous derivative transactions.
- Structuring the establishment of a major asset management group with operations in the US and Europe.
- Structuring of a USD 1 billion cross-border receivables purchase program for a French bank.
- Designing a tax-efficient holding company structure for the French investments of a multi-national private equity group.
- Advising the lending syndicate in a multi-jurisdictional securitization program to finance a major international automobile rental company.

- Representing investors in private equity investments in early stage companies, and representing early stage companies in capital raising.
- Structuring domestic and cross-border real estate, venture capital, hedge, and other investment funds.
- Advising a multilateral lender on a diversified payment receipts financing of a developing country bank.
- Advising on the equity participation of US investors in a Qatar real estate development.

## **Prior Positions**

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**Gide Loyrette Nouel LLP, New York, Partner, 2005 – 2012**

Managing Partner of the NY Office 2008-2012

**Hunton & Williams, New York and Washington, DC, Partner, 1994 – 2005**

Co-Head of the Derivatives Group

**Hunton & Williams, Richmond and Washington, DC, Associate, 1986 – 1994**

## **Education**

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**J.D., College of William & Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, 1986**

Order of the Coif (highest academic honors)

**Graduate Studies, Department of Economics, McGill University, Montreal, Canada, 1983**

**B.A. with Great Distinction, McGill University, Montreal Canada, 1982**

Highest academic honors

## **Professional Associations**

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Member of the New York, District of Columbia, and Virginia Bars

Member of the American Bar Association and the New York State Bar Association

Former Chair of the Financial Transactions Committee of the ABA Tax Section and former Chair of its Asset Securitization Subcommittee

## **Recent Publications**

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“Ce Que Les Banques et Fonds d’Investissement Français Doivent Savoir sur FATCA” (co-author), *Revue Banque*, January 2012.

“FATCA: What Should Funds be Focused On Now?” (co-author), *AIMA Journal*, Q4 2011.

“Withdrawing from Pre-Contractual Negotiations under French Law: An Increased Risk” (co-author), *The M&A Lawyer*, May 2011.