

Biography



James Smith

Partner | Funds & Regulatory | Cayman Islands

📞 +1 345 815 8704

✉️ james.smith@harneys.com

Expertise

Investment Funds , Banking & Finance , Corporate , Fund Formation , Fund Services

James Smith is a Partner in our Cayman Islands office and a member of the specialist investment funds team.

James regularly advises on all aspects of the set-up, operation and closure of investment funds including matters related to corporate governance, regulatory compliance and the automatic exchange of tax information. He also has a particular focus on LatAm projects and is specifically experienced in helping Brazil-based managers with their offshore fund structures.

James joined us as a senior associate in 2019 having previously worked as an investment funds specialist at another Cayman Islands law firm. Prior to moving to Cayman, he worked in the Corporate department of Eversheds Sutherland LLP where he focused primarily on private equity work and high value and complex corporate and M&A transactions.

Recommendations

James is recognised as a "next generation partner" in the Cayman Islands Investment Funds rankings. Clients note that he is a "fantastic partner whom we had great experience with. He's knowledgeable, responsive and has a deep understanding of the firm's capabilities so he can refer to others in their area of specialities."

- Legal 500, 2024-2025

Philip is recognised for his expertise in Cayman Islands Investment Funds.

Recent testimonials include:

- "James Smith is extremely responsive, with a deep knowledge of everything we need. He is helpful in navigating the balance between meeting the legal requirements and the business needs."

- "James Smith is very good. He provides quick turnaround, is very technical and he comes up with various innovative options."
- "James never fails to provide the best support. With all the patience in the world, he is a breath of fresh air to work with."

- Chambers and Partners, 2024

James is ranked as "highly regarded".

- IFLR1000, 2023

James is ranked as a "rising star".

- IFLR1000, 2020 - 2022

Bar Admissions

Cayman Islands
2014

England and Wales (not practising)
2009

Education

Cardiff University (LPC)
2007

Cardiff University (LLB)
2006

"James is ranked as a "rising star"."

IFLR1000, 2020 - 2022