



Tim Stratford is a partner in the Covington & Burling Beijing office and a member of the International Trade, Corporate and Public Policy and Government Affairs Practice Groups. Stratford's practice is focused on advising international clients doing business in China, as well as on assisting Chinese companies seeking to expand their businesses globally. As a former Assistant U.S. Trade Representative, Stratford is the most senior former U.S. trade official to join the U.S. business community in China. He is fluent in Mandarin and Cantonese.

During his tenure at USTR, Stratford was responsible for developing and implementing U.S. trade policy toward Mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Macao and Mongolia. He worked closely with other senior U.S. and Chinese officials from numerous government departments and agencies to address problems encountered by companies engaged in bilateral trade and investment, and co-chaired a number of important bilateral working groups and dialogues established under the U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade and the U.S.-China Strategic & Economic Dialogue.

Prior to his work at USTR, Stratford worked professionally in China for more than 25 years, including as General Counsel for General Motors' China operations, where he was a member of its senior management team in China and oversaw the company's legal and trade policy work in the region. Stratford also served previously as Minister-Counselor for Commercial Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, and as Chairman of the American Chamber of Commerce in China.