

Christopher C. Razek

Cleveland
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Overview

Chris provides strategic legal counsel to businesses across the entire supply chain, including carriers, freight forwarders, shippers, depositors, warehouse logistics and fulfillment providers, and other stakeholders. He has extensive experience helping clients obtain, maintain, and comply with all manner of required registrations, operating authorities, licenses, and permits across all modes of transportation and logistics at the federal, state, and local level.

As a regulatory advisor, Chris stays ahead of emerging regulatory developments on behalf of his clients. Chris takes pride in assisting both providers and commercial users of transportation and logistics services navigate the complex regulatory and commercial landscape of the transportation industry.

Chris has built a niche within the practice assisting depositors, warehousemen, fulfillment providers, and vendors in the warehousing and fulfillment space. He drafts and negotiates warehousing and fulfillment contracts in various sectors, including retail, pharmaceutical, alcohol, and utilities. He remains committed to industry perspective through his deep involvement with the International Warehouse Logistics Association and other trade organizations.

Chris regularly advises clients on their compliance with alcohol regulatory obligations, including assisting clients obtain retail permits and comply with regulatory requirements across the three-tier system. He also regularly assists in due diligence of government contractors and subcontractors in transactions.

Representative Matters

- Represented Clarendon Capital in its acquisition of O'Donnell Metal Deck & Bar Joist (OMD), a leading value-added distributor of metal decking, steel bar joists, and related structural products serving the commercial construction industry.
- Provided expedited regulatory due diligence for a private equity firm's acquisition of a freight brokerage having nearly $2 billion in annual revenue.
- Represented Astō Consumer Partners, a consumer-focused investment firm, in its $105 million strategic investment in Starface World, Inc.
- Advised Currier Plastics in its investment partnership with Sheridan Capital Partners.
- Represented Yusen Logistics in its acquisition of Taylored Services, a multichannel third-party logistics fulfillment organization, from private equity firm Saybrook.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- The Ohio State University, Moritz College of Law, 2018, J.D.
  - Managing Editor, *The Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law*
- John Carroll University, 2015, B.A., *magna cum laude*

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio

Memberships

- Member, Regulatory Compliance Committee, Airforwarders Association
- Director of Professional Development, Institute for Supply Management (ISM) - Cleveland Chapter
- Member, Transportation Lawyers Association (TLA)
- Member, Ohio State Bar Association
- Member, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association

Awards & Recognition

- Listed, *The Best Lawyers in America®*, Transportation Law, 2026-2027
- Listed, Ohio Super Lawyers – Rising Stars, 2024-2025

News & Insights

- Owner-Operators and Federal Leasing Regulation Compliance: Legal Q&A
  October 22, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- Managing Risk When Terminating Vendor Relationships
  September 22, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- USPS Highway Contract Route Carrier Legal Issues for Closing Out 2026
  September 15, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- 126 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2027 Best Lawyers® Rankings
  August 20, 2026 | Press Releases
- TSA Authorized Representatives-Emerging Practice of Engaging Freight Brokers and Its Practical Implications
  June 17, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- Benesch Advises Astō Consumer Partners in Strategic Investment in Starface World, Inc.
  March 6, 2026 | Press Releases
- Benesch Advises Revelar Capital on Acquisition of Lettermen's Energy, Building National Propane Platform
  February 2, 2026 | Press Releases
- 48 Benesch Attorneys Selected to 2026 Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
  January 27, 2026 | Press Releases
- Warehousing Update: The Issues Hiding in Plain Sight
  October 16, 2025 | Client Alerts & Insights
- Benesch Advises Currier Plastics in Investment by Sheridan Capital Partners, Accelerating Growth in Healthcare Manufacturing
  October 3, 2025 | Press Releases

Speaking & Events

PAST EVENTS

- Legal Updates to Close Out 2026 | Jonathan Todd, Christopher Razek, Robert Pleines
  November 5, 2026 | Speaking Engagement

- Legal Q&A to the Small Scale Facilities Council of the IWLA | Christopher C. Razek
  March 30, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- Ohio Liquor Licensing: Updates You Need to Know Now | Christopher C. Razek
  November 20, 2025 | Speaking Engagement
- Chicago Vice - Navigating Risk in Transit: Legal Insights on the Storage and Transport of Cannabis, Hemp, Alcohol, Hazmats and Munitions (Including Tariff Implications)
  July 15, 2025 | Firm Events
- Tariff Mitigation Toolbox: Understanding Customs Bonded Warehousing | Jonathan R. Todd, Christopher C. Razek and Ashley C. Rice
  June 12, 2025 | Speaking Engagement