

Jake C. Wittman

Cleveland
T 216.363.4531
jwittman@beneschlaw.com

Overview

Jake focuses his practice on real estate, with a particular emphasis on real estate finance. He typically represents real estate developers, equity investors and lenders in transactions acquiring property, placing equity investments and securing loans. He also regularly counsels clients on commercial real estate transactions from leasing and sales to development and acquisitions.

Seeing the pieces of the puzzle come together on a deal is a significant and rewarding part of Jake's practice. An experienced negotiator, he has led deals on construction, permanent and syndicated loan financing in addition to counseling clients with complex capital stacks including tax-exempt financing, tax-credit bridge financing, Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing, and state and federal grants.

Jake regularly works with equity investor clients to successfully secure and protect their investments by structuring and negotiating joint venture agreements, negotiating financing sources for the development, and overseeing diligence of the investment. He also regularly counsels real estate lenders who need guidance navigating the process to originate and secure financing. Additionally, Jake has worked with real estate developers in acquiring properties to be developed, title/survey/zoning issues, negotiating development agreements, structuring and forming ownership of the development, and securing and negotiating financing.

Jake brings a practical, client-focused approach when counseling clients. His broad and dynamic real estate and real estate finance background gives him a unique perspective in real estate matters.

Representative Matters

- Represented a national bank in its negotiations for an approximately $60 million loan to a joint venture of two national industrial real estate investment firms, secured by an industrial property.
- Represented a large private credit lender on two loan facilities totaling $197.5 million, secured by 59 properties across more than 20 states. Benesch served as co-counsel, leading all diligence efforts and handling recordable loan documents and opinion workstreams.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- University of Cincinnati College of Law, 2020, J.D.
- The Ohio State University, 2016, B.S., Environment and Natural Resources

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Ohio