

A professional portrait of Jennifer L. Katzakis, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a black blazer over a blue top. She is standing in a modern office hallway with warm lighting and blurred background.

## Jennifer L. Katzakis

Cleveland

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## Overview

**Jennifer represents clients in real estate acquisitions, financings, development, leasing and dispositions, as well as advises on managing complex real estate-related issues.**

Experienced in all types of commercial properties, with a focus on retail, Jennifer has successfully negotiated deals involving offices, shopping center and store leases, industrial properties, multifamily housing, mixed-use facilities and raw land. She also has advised on and negotiated deals for the development and redevelopment of properties and property parcelizations, including the impact of preexisting agreements, easements and other rights and restrictions on property use or development.

A former in-house counsel at a publicly traded real estate investment trust, Jennifer has an insider's perspective and firsthand experience dealing with the day-to-day challenges and managing the business and legal risks and concerns that arise regarding real estate interests. Representing both buyers and sellers, she understands the issues on both sides of deals and knows how to limit discord, achieve consensus and get deals done.

## Representative Matters

- Represented a publicly traded REIT in its acquisition of a Tires Plus auto repair property in Peoria, Illinois.
- Represented a publicly traded REIT in a \$150+ million acquisition of 23 strip shopping centers
- Represented a privately owned REIT in the disposition of a 1.1 million-square-foot mall for \$57.5 million.

- Represented Blackstone in connection with its acquisition of a portfolio of 228 mortgage loans from Atlantic Union Bank for approximately \$2 billion.
- Represented a large privately owned REIT in connection with its sale of a shopping center in Ann Arbor, Michigan for over \$53 million.
- Represented a publicly traded real estate investment trust specializing in convenience real estate in the acquisition of a 5-property convenience portfolio in Pennsylvania for nearly \$15 million.
- Represented a publicly traded real estate investment trust specializing in grocery anchored shopping centers in its nearly \$37 million acquisition of the Westgate North Shopping Center in Washington.
- Represented a real estate agency in the acquisition of a medical center in Ames, Iowa for \$2.75 million.

## Credentials

### EDUCATION

- Cleveland State University College of Law, 2013, J.D., summa cum laude
  - Cleveland State Law Review
- The Ohio State University, 2010, B.S., Business Administration, summa cum laude

### BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Ohio

## Memberships

- Member, Ohio State Bar Association
- Member, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association
- Member, International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC)
- Associate Board Member, Recovery Resource

## News & Insights

- [Benesch Names Nine New Partners for 2024](#)  
January 2, 2024 | Press Releases