

Laura Mehl Sugarman

New York
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Overview

Laura is a trusted advisor on complex real estate development matters, guiding transformative projects across New York and nationwide. She represents developers, owners, lenders, investors, and nonprofit organizations in acquisitions, financings, leasing, and large-scale developments. Known for her practical, hands-on approach, Laura also helps clients maximize tax incentives and exemptions while advancing their broader business objectives.

With a focus on condominium and cooperative development and management, Laura represents numerous national and international clients. She is highly regarded as one of New York's go-to resources for the structuring and formation of leasehold condominiums and is deeply experienced in navigating the intersection of not-for-profit law and real estate.

Beyond the deal, Laura is passionate about community-building. She actively contributes to organizations that uplift women and promote inclusion in the legal and real estate industries. She serves on the Real Estate Advisory Board of Yeshiva University, is a longtime participant in Cardozo Law School's Women in Law Institute and is actively engaged in Benesch's Women's Initiative Network. She also serves as co-chair of the firm's Hiring Committee, helping to shape the next generation of legal talent.

Before joining Benesch, Laura worked for the New York State Comptroller, the United States Attorneys' Office, and the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation. Her public-sector experience has given her a clear understanding of the regulatory landscape and how regulators think and work. That, combined with her dealmaking wisdom, makes her exceptionally adept at getting deals done, especially when careful government coordination is required for complex real estate matters with law, tax and public impact implications.

Representative Matters

- Advised Currier Plastics in its investment partnership with Sheridan Capital Partners.
- Represented a client in the sale of a hotel in Long Island City, New York.
- Represented American Equipment Solutions, a portfolio company of Rotunda Capital Partners, in its divestiture of Kanawha Scales & Systems and related industrial weighing business to Investcorp.
- Represented Honeywell in the spin-off of its Advanced Materials business, now operating as Solstice Advanced Materials, including leading the separation workstream and contract analysis to establish Solstice as an independent, publicly traded company and supporting Honeywell's strategic transformation into three distinct industry-leading businesses.
- Represented Blackstone in connection with its acquisition of a portfolio of 228 mortgage loans from Atlantic Union Bank for approximately $2 billion.
- Represented the developer of a mixed-use building in the formation of a hotel-branded residential condominium with a luxury commercial tenant at ground level.
- Represented a family office in the acquisition and financing of a multifamily portfolio in Texas, including the assumption of over $100M in loans from Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.
- Structured a series of leasehold condominium deals that enabled New York not-for-profit tenants, including various corporate headquarters, charter schools, community health organizations, and hospitals, to secure vital tax exemptions while maintaining compliance and community focus.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, 2009, J.D.
  - Executive Editor, *Cardozo Journal of Public Law, Policy, and Ethics*
  - Housing Court Litigator, Bet Tzedek Legal Serves
  - Executive Board Member and President, Cardozo Youth Advocates
- New York University, 2005, B.A., *magna cum laude*, Journalism and History

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- New York
- Illinois

Memberships

- Member, New York State Bar Association
- Member, New York City Bar Association
- Member, Cardozo Real Estate Advisory Board

Awards & Recognition

- Named, Connect Media's Women in Real Estate Awards, 2026
- Listed, Lawdragon 500 Leading Real Estate Lawyers, 2026
- Named, Crain's New York Notable Women in Law, 2026
- Listed, New York Real Estate Journal, Ones to Watch – Industry Leaders, 2025
- Listed, New York Super Lawyers, Rising Star, 2017-2024

News & Insights

- Benesch Partner Laura Sugarman Named Among Connect CRE's 2026 Women in Real Estate Award Winners
  October 30, 2026 | Press Releases
- Benesch Partner Laura Sugarman Named to 2026 Lawdragon 500 Leading Real Estate Lawyers List
  September 29, 2026 | Press Releases
- Partner Laura Sugarman Named Among New York Real Estate Journal's 2026 Women in Commercial Real Estate
  September 2, 2026 | Press Releases
- The New York Times Features Benesch Partner Laura Mehl Sugarman on the Reliability of Zillow "Zestimate" Valuations
  June 8, 2026 | Media Mentions
- The New York Times Features Benesch Partner Laura Mehl Sugarman on Co-Op Identification Policies
  April 18, 2026 | Media Mentions
- Benesch Partner Laura Sugarman Selected as 2026 Notable Woman in Law by Crain's New York
  February 26, 2026 | Press Releases
- Benesch Advises American Equipment Holdings LLC and Kanawha Scales & Systems in Sale to Investcorp
  November 17, 2025 | Press Releases

- Benesch Advises Honeywell on Successful Spin-Off of Solstice Advanced Materials
  November 13, 2025 | Press Releases
- Laura Sugarman Featured in Crain's Thought Leadership Report on Real Estate | "Understanding NY's All-Electric Buildings Act"
  November 10, 2025 | Contributed Content & Presentations
- Benesch Advises Currier Plastics in Investment by Sheridan Capital Partners, Accelerating Growth in Healthcare Manufacturing
  October 3, 2025 | Press Releases

Speaking & Events

PAST EVENTS

- Her Voice, Her Power: Persuasion, Presence & Influence in Legal Practice | Erica Youngerman, Laura Sugarman, Kate Hodges Harmon
  November 12, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- Commercial Leasing | Laura Mehl Sugarman
  December 13, 2023 | Speaking Engagement