



Peter K. Shelton

Cleveland

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Overview

Peter Shelton focuses his practice on transactional and corporate work, representing investors, private equity funds, independent sponsors, portfolio companies and other closely held businesses in complex business transactions.

He has extensive experience in mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, as well as private debt and equity financings, recapitalizations and joint ventures across a wide range of industries, including transportation and logistics, manufacturing, technology and healthcare.

Peter's work spans the full spectrum of the business life cycle, from formation and early-stage investments to strategic growth and exit transactions. He routinely advises clients on corporate governance and day-to-day operational matters, including the drafting and negotiation of partnership, shareholder and other commercial agreements.

Clients turn to Peter for his practical, business-minded approach and ability to structure and execute transactions efficiently, whether guiding a founder through a sale to a private equity fund, helping a multinational expand through cross-border acquisitions, or advising on financing strategies to support long-term growth. His experience representing both buyers and sellers, as well as investors and lenders, gives him a well-rounded perspective that helps clients anticipate challenges and achieve their strategic objectives.

Representative Matters

- Represented the seller in its sale of a provider of digital forensics and investigation, electronic data processing and hosting, and cybersecurity services to a private-equity-backed buyer.

- Lender's counsel to both senior and mezzanine lenders.
- Represented Plasticolors, Inc. in its acquisition by Arsenal Capital.
- Represented a U.S.-based manufacturer in establishing a joint venture in China with a Hong Kong business partner.
- Represented a Canadian buyer in a stock acquisition of an Ohio-based manufacturing company.
- Extensive representation of both purchasers and issuers in a variety of private placements.
- Represented Cleveland Unlimited acquisition of Cricket Communications.
- Underwriter's counsel in connection with the IPO of a financial institution.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- University of Colorado, 1984, B.A.
- Cleveland State University College of Law, 1993, J.D.

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Ohio

Memberships

- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association
- Member, Association for Corporate Growth (ACG Cleveland)

Beyond the office

Did you know?

Prior to attending law school, Mr. Shelton spent five years in commercial banking. He is also an avid tennis player.

News & Insights

- [Benesch Advises Allstates WorldCargo on Acquisition of Promptus, LLC](#)
February 11, 2026 | Press Releases

- [Thought Leader Wrap-Up | Fifth Annual Investing in the Transportation & Logistics Industry Conference](#)
January 5, 2026 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Selling Your Transportation Company? Here's the road map.](#)
October 16, 2025 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [Benesch Investing in the Transportation & Logistics Industry Conference - Thought Leader Wrap-Up 2024](#)
January 24, 2025 | Client Alerts & Insights
- [FreightWaves Highlights Benesch's Annual Private Equity in Transportation Conference as Key Event for 2025 M&A Trends](#)
December 24, 2024 | Media Mentions
- [Benesch Transportation & Logistics Conference Featured in FreightWaves](#)
December 5, 2024 | Media Mentions
- [Shelton Named to ACG Cleveland Board of Directors](#)
October 30, 2023 | Announcements
- [Benesch client, Becker Logistics, Acquires Savage's Third-Party Logistics Business](#)
October 30, 2023 | Announcements
- [Kidd & Company, LLC Recapitalizes Colerain RV in Partnership With Management and Acquires Northside RV's](#)
October 30, 2023 | Press Releases
- [The Boom is Back: M&A and the Middle Market - Moderator](#)
October 30, 2023 | Contributed Content & Presentations

Speaking & Events

PAST EVENTS

- [Doing the Deal: Cleveland 2026 | Peter K. Shelton](#)
April 21, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- [Packaging Deals for Independent Sponsors & Capital Providers: What Actually Gets to LOI Fast | Peter K. Shelton](#)
March 13, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- [Building a National CDL Training Platform: How FCL Capital, Clarendon Capital, and Benesch Aligned to Scale Driving Academy | William E. Doran, Peter K. Shelton](#)
January 9, 2026 | Speaking Engagement
- [Thinking About Selling Your Company? How to Prepare and What to Expect | Peter K. Shelton, Jonathan R. Todd](#)
March 11, 2025 | Speaking Engagement
- [Fourth Annual Investing in the Transportation & Logistics Industry Conference](#)
December 5, 2024 | Firm Events