

Ryan J. Williams

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Overview

Ryan has experience in mergers and acquisitions, securities compliance, equity financings and debt transactions. Most of Ryan's work focuses on private equity firms and their portfolio companies, and has included funds targeting the automotive, chemical, and logistics industries.

He also advises clients on general business law matters.

Representative Matters

- Represented a sponsor-backed portfolio company in a multimillion-dollar senior secured credit facility financing the leveraged acquisition of a freight logistics business and its affiliates. The transaction required structuring financing across multiple borrower entities and jurisdictions while negotiating acquisition-related credit support, contingent payment arrangements, and ongoing covenant provisions to support the combined business.
- Advised Alia Software Inc., an AI-powered pop-up and email/SMS list-growth platform for e-commerce merchants, such as Shopify, in its acquisition by Dotdigital Group plc (AIM: DOTD), a global provider of AI-driven customer experience and data platforms.
- Advised Currier Plastics in its investment partnership with Sheridan Capital Partners.
- Represented Altus Capital Partners II, L.P. in the acquisition of Nichols Portland, a division of Parker Hannifin Corporation. Team handled all aspects of the acquisition - the acquisition itself and the equity and debt financing of the acquisition.

- Represented Altus Capital Partners II, L.P. in the acquisition of MAX Environmental Technologies, a fully integrated environmental treatment and disposal company.
- Represented Altus Capital Partners II, LP in its sale of Rocla Concrete Tie, Inc. to German-based Vossloh Group.
- Represented HighTower, one of the nation's largest Registered Investment Advisors, in a recapitalization agreement under which private equity firm Thomas H. Lee Partners, L.P. (THL) acquired a significant stake in HighTower, and certain existing institutional investors sold their equity interests in HighTower. THL also committed to investing an additional $100 million of new growth equity capital after the closing.
- Representing HighTower Holding in its acquisition of Wealth Trust, a Houston-based RIA aggregator, with over $6 billion in client assets.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- Case Western Reserve University School of Law, 2015, J.D.
  - *Senior Editor,* Case Western Law Review
- University of Cincinnati, College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning, 2012, B.S., Urban Planning

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

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

Memberships

- Member, Ohio State Bar Association
- Member, American Bar Association
- Member, Blessing House (Friends Committee)
- Volunteer, Friendship Animal Protective League

Awards & Recognition

- Listed, *The Best Lawyers in America®* Ones to Watch, Mergers and Acquisitions Law, 2026

- Listed, *The Best Lawyers in America®* Ones to Watch, Banking and Finance Law; Securities Regulation; 2021-2027
- Listed, Ohio Super Lawyers – Rising Star, 2023-2025
- Member, Leadership Cleveland Class, 2010

News & Insights

- Benesch Represents Alia Software Inc. in Acquisition by Dotdigital Group plc
  March 17, 2026 | Press Releases
- Benesch Advises Currier Plastics in Investment by Sheridan Capital Partners, Accelerating Growth in Healthcare Manufacturing
  October 3, 2025 | Press Releases
- 129 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2026 Best Lawyers® Rankings
  August 21, 2025 | Press Releases
- 49 Benesch Attorneys Selected to 2025 Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
  December 17, 2024 | Press Releases
- 132 Benesch Attorneys Recognized in 2025 Best Lawyers® Rankings
  August 14, 2024 | Press Releases
- Benesch Names Nine New Partners for 2024
  January 2, 2024 | Press Releases
- 41 Benesch Attorneys Selected to 2024 Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists
  December 31, 2023 | Press Releases
- Benesch client HighTower completes its largest transaction | "HighTower in Talks to Buy RIAs with $6.4 Billion in Assets"
  October 30, 2023 | Announcements
- Benesch Client Altus Capital Partners II, L.P. Acquires MAX Environmental Technologies
  October 30, 2023 | Announcements
- Benesch Team Helps Client HighTower Enter Recapitalization Agreement with Thomas H. Lee Partners
  October 30, 2023 | Press Releases