

Samantha J. Barbara

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Overview

Samantha Barbara represents public and privately held companies, private equity funds, and founders in complex business transactions across a wide range of industries. Her work spans the full spectrum of M&A, capital markets and corporate governance matters, with a focus on delivering practical, business-aligned legal guidance that helps clients navigate high-stakes transactions and strategic growth opportunities.

Sam has helped guide clients through headline-making deals, including the successful completion of a $354 million initial public offering and related follow-on offerings, the sale of a technology company to a private equity platform with rollover and tax-optimized structuring, and the carve-out of a business unit by a publicly traded company with significant post-closing transition complexities. She frequently advises private equity funds in both platform and add-on acquisitions, and she has experience on both the buy and sell side of transactions involving strategic buyers and financial sponsors.

In addition to her M&A and capital markets work, Sam advises companies at every stage of development on corporate formation, board governance, regulatory compliance, employment arrangements and equity ownership structures. Her client base spans industries such as technology, healthcare, manufacturing, financial services and advertising.

Known for her ability to synthesize complex issues, anticipate business impacts and collaborate seamlessly with deal teams, Samantha is a trusted partner to clients executing transformative transactions or building long-term strategic value.

Representative Matters

- 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 the ownership team of Premier Produce One, Inc. in its sale to an affiliate of Shore Capital Partners, the purchase price of which was paid in a combination of cash and rollover equity. Benesch served as co-counsel on the transaction and advised certain owners on employment matters. Representation and warranty insurance was secured for the benefit of both parties.
- Represented a private equity fund buyer in its acquisition of a provider of sports facilities management and advisory services.
- Represented Stein Holdings, Inc. in its sale of Stein, LLC and Stein Mill Services, LLC to TMS International, a leading provider of outsourced industrial services to steel mills globally.
- Represented Stellex Capital Management, a middle market private equity firm with offices in New York and London, in its acquisition of Custom Glass Solutions from Guardian Industries.
- Represented the buyer in its acquisition of a leading contract manufacturer of Class II and Class III medical devices.
- Represented sellers in the sale of their industrial and commercial plumbing and HVAC service businesses.
- Represented Marcus Thomas, a full-service marketing and advertising agency, in its recapitalization transaction with Svoboda Capital Partners, a Chicago-based private equity firm that invests in leading middle market growth companies.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- Case Western Reserve University School of Law, 2017, J.D.
  - President, Women's Law Association
  - CMBA Young Lawyers Section, Student Representative to the Executive Council, 2014-2016
  - Dean's Honor List
- Case Western Reserve University Weatherhead School of Management, 2017, MBA
  - Dean's Honor List
- DePauw University, 2013, B.A. Political Science, Minor in Business Administration
  - Management Fellows Business Honors Program

- Hathaway Brown School, 2009

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

- Ohio

Awards & Recognition

- Listed, Smart Business Dealmakers – Rising Stars, 2025
- Listed, Ohio Super Lawyers – Rising Stars, Corporate & Securities Finance, 2024-2026

News & Insights

- 48 Benesch Attorneys Selected to 2026 Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
  January 27, 2026 | Press Releases
- Benesch Announces 16 New Partners for 2026
  December 31, 2025 | Press Releases
- Benesch Advises Honeywell on Successful Spin-Off of Solstice Advanced Materials
  November 13, 2025 | Press Releases
- Brian Mielcusny and Samantha Barbara Named 2025 Smart Business Dealmakers Rising Stars
  October 6, 2025 | Press Releases
- Benesch Advises Loar Holdings on $860 Million Secondary Public Offering
  May 27, 2025 | Media Mentions
- 49 Benesch Attorneys Selected to 2025 Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars
  December 17, 2024 | Press Releases
- Benesch Successfully Completes $354 Million IPO, Taking Client Loar Holdings Public
  May 6, 2024 | Press Releases
- Benesch Client Loar Holdings Announces Launch of IPO, Expects to Raise Up to $286 Million
  April 18, 2024 | Press Releases
- 41 Benesch Attorneys Selected to 2024 Ohio Super Lawyers and Rising Stars Lists
  December 31, 2023 | Press Releases
- Benesch client, Becker Logistics, Acquires Savage's Third-Party Logistics Business
  October 30, 2023 | Announcements

Speaking & Events

PAST EVENTS

- Corporate Governance 2020: Practices and Trends at Mid-Market Public and Private Companies
  March 5, 2020 | Firm Events