



## Michael B. Shaw

Principal

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Mike draws on more than 20 years of business law experience to represent clients in a variety of corporate matters. He focuses his practice on mergers and acquisitions and private equity transactions, as well as corporate counseling, business succession planning, strategic alliances and joint ventures.

As the head of the firm's Private Equity practice, Mike represents private equity funds, independent sponsors and institutional investors with respect to platform acquisitions and portfolio company matters, such as add-on acquisitions, day-to-day legal issues and exit strategies. Mike also frequently represents entrepreneurial business owners who are selling their companies or raising capital.

[View a sampling of recent M&A and private equity deals](#)

[[https://www.muchshelist.com/sites/default/files/ma\\_dealsheet\\_gen.pdf](https://www.muchshelist.com/sites/default/files/ma_dealsheet_gen.pdf)] closed by Mike and other members of the firm's Business & Finance group.

Additionally, Mike acts as outside general counsel to many privately held businesses. He has extensive experience counseling business owners regarding general corporate and business law issues, while also acting as a strategic advisor. He routinely handles contract drafting and review, startup and formation issues, and corporate structuring and governance matters.

Mike regularly writes articles on legal issues in the corporate and private equity areas, including a chapter in the ebook *Corporate Law Lessons for CEOs: Top Professional Corporate Lawyers Share What They Know Best*. His industry commentary is often featured in publications such as *Axial*, *Business News Daily* and *Law360*. Mike also gives presentations covering a wide range of topics, including mergers and acquisitions, private equity business succession planning, conducting due diligence, drafting purchase agreements and structuring earnouts.

Mike is a member of the firm's Management Committee and also serves as the attorney advisor to the firm's Marketing Department. He previously served for eight years as chair of the Business & Finance group.

## Education

University of Chicago Booth School of Business  
M.B.A., 2002, Finance, Accounting and Entrepreneurship

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law  
J.D., 1998, cum laude

Northwestern University

B.A., 1995, With Honors in Economics, Phi Beta Kappa

## Bar Admissions

Illinois

## Professional Organizations

- American Bar Association
- Illinois State Bar Association
- Chicago Bar Association, former Co-Chair of the Corporate Law Committee of the Young Lawyers Section
- Association for Corporate Growth

## Community

Mike is a former President and member of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Council for Youth Services. He is also actively involved in the Jewish United Fund's Lawyers Division. Mike is also a member of the firm's Social Responsibility Committee, which focuses on ways the firm can become more involved in charitable and community organizations.

## Accolades

- Forty Under 40, Law Bulletin Media, 2009
- Illinois Super Lawyers–Rising Stars, 2012-2013
- Leading Lawyers Network, Closely & Privately Held Business Law, Corporate Finance Law, Mergers & Acquisitions Law and Securities & Venture Finance Law, 2013-2019

Leading Lawyers

## Services

Business & Finance

## Areas of Focus

Corporate Governance & Compliance  
Mergers & Acquisitions  
Private Equity  
Securities & Corporate Finance