



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, private equity transactions and business counseling.

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

Mike founded the firm's Add-On Acquisitions practice because he recognized that private equity firms were looking for a smarter, more efficient way to handle their add-on acquisitions. His practical approach combined with his deep experience leads to his ability to get deals closed, while mitigating risk for clients. Mike's work spans add-on acquisitions ranging from \$1 million to over \$100 million. See a [sampling of recent add-on acquisitions](https://www.muchlaw.com/sites/default/files/add_on_acquisitions_dealsheet.pdf) [https://www.muchlaw.com/sites/default/files/add_on_acquisitions_dealsheet.pdf] closed by Mike and the firm's Add-On Acquisitions team.

For a broader view, see 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.

In addition to his transactional practice, 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 co-chair of the firm's Summer Associate Program. He previously served for eight years as chair of the Business & Finance group and previously served as the attorney advisor to the firm's Marketing Department.

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 a member of Much Community, the firm's social responsibility initiative, which drives Much's involvement 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, 2013-2021

Leading Lawyers

Services

Business & Finance

Areas of Focus

Add-On Acquisitions

Corporate Governance & Compliance

Mergers & Acquisitions

Private Equity

Securities & Corporate Finance