



Jonathan I. Epstein Partner

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Commercial Real Estate & Land Use | Mediation of Business Disputes | Commercial Transactions

BIOGRAPHY

Jonathan Epstein draws on more than 35 years as a transactional lawyer, commercial litigator and adviser to real estate developers to deliver insight, counsel and courtroom advocacy tailored to his clients' priorities and needs. While he maintains an active litigation practice and advises various type of businesses, Jon is especially well-known for handling complex transactions and financing for real-estate-developer clients. Jon joined the firm after a successful career at Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath, LLP where he served as managing partner of that firm's Princeton office for 25 years. Jon is a past president of the Mercer County Bar Association and a highly regarded member of the New Jersey legal community.

Real Estate Development

Jon helps developers and lenders navigate regulatory and business challenges in all facets of real-estate-related matters, from the formation of a development entity and the negotiation of joint ventures, site acquisition and financing through the sale, syndication, workout or restructuring of any type of real estate project. He also represents clients on redevelopment projects and land-use matters in municipalities throughout New Jersey, including many contested land-use cases. During his career, Jon has represented local, regional and national developers – large and small – as well as several national multifamily residential developers, financial institutions, title companies, brokers, hotel operators and property managers.

Jon has been lead counsel on numerous significant real estate projects throughout New Jersey and New York, including the acquisition, related joint ventures and financing of Astoria West, a \$400 million luxury apartment complex in Astoria Queens, several luxury multifamily developments in lower Manhattan, the acquisition and restoration of the grand historic beachfront Congress Hall Hotel in Cape May, the acquisition and financing of the Chelsea Hotel in Atlantic City, the 544-unit Alexan CityView luxury apartment complex at Bayonne Harbor, and the zoning approvals for an 800,000-square-foot expansion of the Quaker Bridge Mall.

Jonathan I. Epstein

Partner

Commercial and Real Estate Litigation

Jon's multi-discipline practice distinguishes him from many of his fellow business lawyers. While maintaining an active and sophisticated transactional practice, Jon also represents developers, lenders and corporate and individual clients in commercial litigation, with an emphasis on real estate matters, including prerogative writ actions and real estate disputes. Jon also handles general corporate litigation, including oppressed shareholder cases, and has represented many clients in contentious partnership disputes and business breakups of all types of privately held businesses. Jon has argued multiple complex cases before the New Jersey Appellate Division and the New Jersey Supreme Court.

Outside General Counsel – Commercial Transactions

Clients rely on Jon to handle various types of transactions as their outside general counsel, recognizing that his broad range of experience in commercial matters enables him to advise business clients on myriad issues that they routinely confront in their ventures.

Mediation

After decades of closing complex transactions while simultaneously litigating commercial disputes and representing litigation clients in numerous mediations with a variety of mediators, Jon is now offering his services as a mediator of commercial disputes. Jon's depth of experience as both a transaction lawyer and litigator gives him an understating of the issues and the dynamics involved in almost every business dispute that will undoubtedly be invaluable in helping the litigants and their counsel resolve difficult cases.

BAR ADMISSIONS

New Jersey

HONORS AND AWARDS

Best Lawyers® – Commercial Litigation, 2020-23; Litigation – Real Estate, 2021-23; Real Estate Law, 2021-23

Best Lawyers ® of the Year, Tri State Area (New York, New Jersey, Connecticut) – Real Estate, 2015

American Jewish Committee – Judge Learned Hand Award, 2011

New Jersey Commission on Professionalism – Professional Lawyer of the Year for Mercer County , 2005

Super Lawyers – Real Estate and Business Litigation

EDUCATION

B.A. Hobart College

J.D. Rutgers School of Law – Camden (with honors)

Jonathan I. Epstein

Partner

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

Mercer County Bar Association
District VII Ethics Committee (Former Member)
New Jersey State Bar Association

Court Admissions
New Jersey
United States District Court for District of New Jersey
United States Court of Appeals Third Circuit
U.S. Tax Court

Civic Activities
Mercer County Bar Association, Past President
Mercer County Bar Association, Past Trustee
Mercer County Bar Foundation, Past Trustee
Legal Aid Society of Mercer County, Past Trustee