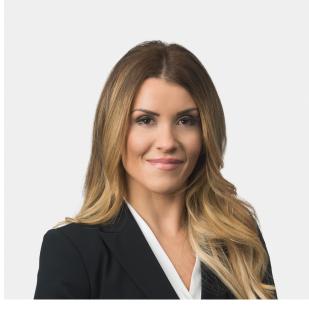
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People



Rachel L. Perez

Associate, Real Estate

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Connect With Me

Rachel Perez focuses her practice on commercial real estate transactions, including joint ventures and purchase and sale agreements for retailers, owners of office buildings, shopping centers, hotels, and industrial properties.

Rachel Perez represents clients in real estate joint venture transactions in the form of one-off joint ventures, programmatic relationships or strategic platforms, and handles the development and execution of their business strategies, including in connection with the negotiation of venture documentation and acquisition transactions involving multifamily, retail, office, hospitality, industrial, and other asset classes. Rachel has also represented fund sponsors and investors in connection with structuring, forming, investing in and offering private equity funds, and has experience with structuring and forming various entities in connection with corporate transactions.

Before transitioning her practice to real estate law, Rachel specialized in employment-based immigration law, representing multinational corporations and foreign clients in relocating, investing, and conducting business operations in the United States, giving her a well-developed sense of the specialized needs of high net-worth foreign national entrepreneurs and investors. Rachel has assisted clients in all aspects of corporate mobility and expansion, including advising international companies with respect to U.S. market entry strategy and ongoing operations in the United States and has experience preparing and filing a full range of immigrant and non-immigrant visa petitions before federal government agencies.

While attending law school, Rachel was a member of the Litigation Skills Fellowship Program and she earned the Gaebe, Mullen, Antonelli & DiMatteo Scholarship, the Frisch Family Endowed Scholarship, the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA) Award, the Cali Excellence for the Future Award in International Business Transactions, and numerous Dean's Certificate of Achievement Awards.

Areas of Experience

Real Estate Real Estate Acquisitions and Sales Immigration Planning and Compliance International

Education

J.D., University of Miami School of Law, 2016, magna cum laude B.A., University of Toronto, Criminology and Ethics, Society and the Law, 2012, with honors

Admissions

Bars

Florida

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Akerman Sponsors UM Annual Real Estate Impact Conference February 23, 2024

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Affiliations

- American Bar Association
- American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA)
- Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) Miami
- Young International Council for Commercial Arbitration (ICCA)
- Florida Association for Women Lawyers (FAWL)

Published Work and Lectures

- HR Defense Blog, Contributor
- *HR Defense*, Author, "Luck Strikes Twice for Certain FY 2021 H-1B Petitioning Employers" June 28, 2021
- *HR Defense*, Author, "Biden Quickly Shifts Immigration Policies What Employers Need to Know" January 25, 2021
- *HR Defense*, Author, "Use of Form I-765 Approval Notices for I-9 Verification Due to COVID-19" October 6, 2020
- *HR Defense*, Author, "Suspending Entry for Temporary Workers: What Employers Need to Know" June 23, 2020
- *HR Defense*, Author, "Homeland Security Eases Policy on Expired Documents and Extends Remote Verification for Form I-9" June 3, 2020
- *HR Defense*, Author, "Return to Work: Key Immigration Issues for Employers" April 29, 2020
- *HR Defense*, Author, "Deadline Rapidly Approaching To Register Online for H-1B Visa Lottery" March 4, 2020
- *HR Defense*, Author, "Preregistration Process Brings Revamp and Uncertainty to H-1B Visa Program" December 30, 2019
- *HR Defense*, Author, "Anticipated Changes to Employment-Based Green Card Processing" August 6, 2019
- *HR Defense,* Author, "Sanctuary Cities in the United States: Sinking or Swimming?" June 3, 2019
- *HR Defense,* Author, "USCIS Introduces Two-Phased Approach to Premium Processing for FY 2020 H-1B Cap Cases," March 28, 2019
- *HR Defense*, Author, "Changes Coming Soon to H-1B Work Visa Program?" December 18, 2018
- *HR Defense,* Author, "Waitlisted: U.S. Employers Face Longer Delays for Hiring H-1B Workers," September 6, 2018
- HR Defense, Author, "SOS: Students Stuck Outside," May 22, 2018
- *HR Defense,* Author, "Big Brother to Review Visa Applicants' Social Media History?" April 23, 2018
- *HR Defense,* Author, "Employers Relying on H-4 Dependent Spouse Visas Better Move Fast as April 1 Lottery Looms," March 19, 2018
- *HR Defense,* Author, "Big Brother is Watching You: Feds Now Vetting Foreign Workers Via Social Media," December 5, 2017
- *HR Defense,* Author, "Higher Costs for Highly Skilled Foreign Workers in Store for Employers?" August 28, 2017
- *HR Defense*, Author, "Heads Up: Employers Must Use Yet Another New I-9 Form," August 15, 2017
- *HR Defense*, Author, "EB-5 Program: All That Glitters Is Not Gold," June 4, 2017
- *HR Defense*, Author, "Up Against the Wall: New Immigration Measures Impact Employers," March 3, 2017

• *The Practical Lawyer,* Author, Vol. 63:3, 27-30, "Up Against the Wall: New Immigration Measures Impact Employers," June 2017

Honors and Distinctions

- *GlobeSt*, 2025, "Women of Influence" Honoree for the Rising Star Category
- *The Legal 500* 2021-2022, Recommended for Labor and Employment Immigration