

## Press Release

# Akerman Expands Atlanta and Winston-Salem Offices with Corporate Partners Jonathan Beckham and Michael Fulks

September 29, 2022

Top 100 U.S. law firm Akerman LLP has expanded its national Corporate Practice Group with partners [Jonathan Beckham](#) in Atlanta and [Michael Fulks](#) in Winston-Salem. They are the fifth and sixth partners to join Akerman's national corporate team this year after New York partner [Cristina Gonzalez](#), Atlanta partner [Bryan Reese](#), Winston-Salem partner [Steven "Will" Walker](#), and Los Angeles partner [Peter Hurm](#).

Beckham, who will also work as a member of the firm's Data Center and Digital Infrastructure Group, becomes the 31<sup>st</sup> lawyer to join the Atlanta team since the office opened in 2018 with just three lawyers, led by office managing partner [Sidney Welch](#). With Fulks' arrival, headcount in Winston-Salem has grown to 11 lawyers since the office opened with three lawyers, led by office managing partner [Paul Foley](#), in 2019.

"Jonathan and Michael are talented lawyers with stellar records of advising on a diverse mix of complex transactions," said [Jonathan Awner](#), Corporate Practice Group co-chair. "Jonathan's extensive experience representing clients with on complex technology transactions in industries as diverse as financial services, health care, manufacturing, retail and telecommunications adds bench strength to our cutting-edge Technology

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### Related People

[Jonathan A. Beckham](#)  
[Paul J. Foley](#)  
[Michael T. Fulks](#)  
[Cristina Gonzalez](#)  
[Peter R. Hurm](#)  
[Bryan L. Reese](#)  
[Steven W. \('Will'\) Walker](#)

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[Data Centers and Digital Infrastructure](#)  
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[Los Angeles](#)  
[New York](#)  
[Winston-Salem](#)

Transactions Practice and our Data Center and Digital Infrastructure Group. Michael's experience representing both established and emerging companies from formation to sale will strengthen the transactional backbone of our Winston-Salem office and be instrumental in expanding our capabilities nationwide."

### **Jonathan Beckham**

Beckham is a seasoned corporate and technology transactions lawyer who is intimately involved in counseling clients on transactions and other matters that relate to the ongoing digital transformation of industry. He advises leading technology and data center providers, enterprise customers (and their operations, procurement, and technology teams), investors, landlords and other institutions and entrepreneurs on a variety of sophisticated commercial, technology, and corporate matters.

In the technology space, Beckham counsels clients on all aspects of cloud and telecommunications infrastructure transactions worldwide, including data center and colocation leases, subsea cable systems, dark fiber builds and leases, and other infrastructure transactions, in addition to license transactions for cloud enterprise platforms and applications for leading enterprise customers in retail, manufacturing, chemicals, hospitality, real estate operations and government contracting, and in regulated industries such as financial services, payment processing, and healthcare.

Beckham has served as lead and special counsel for a variety of M&A and corporate finance transactions that include seed investment rounds, with an emphasis on impact investment transactions.

### **Michael Fulks**

Fulks focuses his practice on corporate and business law matters, with a focus on representing buyers and sellers of businesses in the negotiation of

mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, and other strategic transactions. He frequently counsels investment funds and other investors on fund formation and general operational and securities law matters, as well as the negotiation of their portfolio investments.

Fulks also represents entrepreneurs, startups, investors, and businesses of all sizes, both at key points in their lifecycles and on day-to-day business matters. He assists startups and other emerging growth companies with entity selection and formation, capital raising, corporate governance, and restructuring matters, and has deep experience negotiating venture capital financings on behalf of startups and their investors.

## About Akerman

Akerman LLP is a top 100 U.S. law firm recognized among the most forward-thinking firms in the industry by *Financial Times*. Its more than 700 lawyers and business professionals collaborate with the world's most successful enterprises and entrepreneurs to navigate change, seize opportunities, and help drive innovation and growth.

The Akerman Corporate Practice Group advises public and private companies, including private equity funds, in M&A, capital markets transactions, financings, and other transactional matters, with a strong focus on the middle market. Akerman is top-ranked nationally for mergers, acquisitions, and buyouts: middle market by *The Legal 500*, and is recognized as a leading U.S. law firm by *U.S. News - Best Lawyers* for corporate, M&A, private equity, securities/capital markets, securities regulation and banking and finance law.