

Sectors

Equine Law

The equine industry is a complex, global business generating more than \$120 billion in economic activity across the United States. Navigating an industry steeped in tradition requires experienced and seasoned counsel versed in its customs and culture, and a team with the agility and vision to overcome challenges and maximize opportunities on behalf of their clients.

Akerman's national Equine Sector Team is a highly knowledgeable, passionate, and full-service team comprised of former collegiate equestrians and ranked amateur equestrians who are equally as comfortable competing in the riding arena as they are in the courtroom protecting our clients' legal rights. Some of the largest names in the equine industry look to Akerman when they face complex legal issues. Whether a team member is strategizing over how to approach a course before a national hunter jumper competition or reviewing a complex real estate acquisition for a horse park, we apply the same level of care and dedication.

The Equine Sector Team advises clients on the wide range of issues impacting the sector, from legal advice on the purchase and sale of multimillion dollar horse properties to securing HB-1 visas for polo professionals and horse trainers. Representing horse owners, trainers, and athletes; equestrian centers, including boarding and training facilities; and professional equine associations, our team of skilled lawyers leverage their first-hand experience and deep ties to the sector to deliver tailored counsel on matters relating to litigation, immigration, trusts

Connect With Us



**Adam L.
Massaro**

Team Leader,
Equine Sector
Team
+1 303 640 2525

Our Team

Related Work

Franchise and
Licensing
Immigration Planning
and Compliance
Intellectual Property
International
Litigation
Real Estate

and estates, transactions, real estate, and franchise and licensing, among others.

Litigation

The equine industry is no stranger to high-stakes litigation. Our nationally ranked Litigation Practice Group has extensive depth in the equine industry with ongoing representation of polo entities, horse racing owners/operators, and investors in all types of disputes. Akerman has been part of high-profile equine industry disputes that have garnered national media attention on cutting-edge litigation issues of first impression regarding horse cloning issues and breeding licensing rights.

Immigration

The equine industry is talent-rich with international athletes and coaches, who come to the United States to compete and train in all equine disciplines. Recognized by *Chambers USA* and *The Legal 500* as a national leader in immigration law, Akerman's Immigration Planning and Compliance Practice helps U.S. and international companies operating in the equine industry in all aspects of immigration and nationality law, from nonimmigrant to immigrant (green card) visas to U.S. naturalization.

Gaming and Real Estate Development

Horse tracks and horse racing are staples of the equine industry. With substantial gaming and real estate industry experience and local market insights, we provide comprehensive and fully integrated counsel to equine industry clients across the United States. Whether helping clients navigate the acquisition or sale of racetracks or assisting in the purchase of multi-acre horse properties, Akerman has the legal and industry knowledge to meet our clients' needs.

Intellectual Property

The equine industry innovates and develops cutting-edge technologies. Noted by *Chambers USA* for our “strong national capabilities across the full range of intellectual property matters,” Akerman serves clients across all aspects of intellectual property services, including counseling, litigation, licensing, transactions, and due diligence. Our national team helps our clients’ protect their brands and defend their intellectual property rights in courtrooms throughout the United States, at the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, and at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Franchising

Franchising business concepts apply with equal force to the equine industry. Akerman offers its franchise and licensing clients a team of lawyers strategically located across the country and resident in the cities with the largest franchise activity. These lawyers assist franchise companies of all sizes as they confront numerous legal challenges. Akerman has guided show jumping outfits through successful national franchising efforts and has the deep industry knowledge and skills to take our clients’ equine franchise concept from idea to a reality.

International

The equine industry is without borders and so is Akerman’s International Practice. Akerman has international experience in more than 35 countries and is ranked by *Chambers USA*, *Chambers Latin America*, and *Chambers Global* for its international work. Whether our clients are acquiring and transporting horses internationally or acquiring equestrian property in another country, Akerman has the legal team to address their international equestrian needs.