

People



Robert S. Winner

Partner, Corporate

Chicago *

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vCard

Robert Winner focuses his practice on mergers and acquisitions, corporate and finance, venture capital, private securities offerings, and general commercial transactions. Robert has more than twenty years of transactional experience working with startups, developers, established privately-held companies and Fortune 500 companies.

In addition to his representation of traditional manufacturing and distribution companies, Robert represents energy and clean technologies companies, with a focus on renewable energy projects, including solar, wind, biofuels, biomass, and waste-to-energy ventures. His experience extends beyond general corporate and M&A practices to negotiating and drafting specialized commercial contracts in project construction and finance, power purchases and related interconnection agreements, technology licenses, and fuel supply contracts.

More recently, Robert has developed a niche client base within the cannabis industry and in EB-5 financing. He has worked on various corporate and M&A transactions for clients holding, acquiring and/or developing cannabis cultivation and dispensary licenses and facilities. In addition, Robert has worked with some of the top EB-5 developers, regional centers and project sponsors, including preparing securities offerings and investment documentation.

Notable Work

Logistics Company Merger: Represented a transportation logistics company in connection with the merger of its business with a strategic publicly traded purchaser.

Oilfield Roll-up Acquisitions: Represented sponsor of a newly formed oilfield services holding company in connection with a “roll up” acquisition of four oilfield services companies, including a publicly traded high-yield debt financing.

EB-5 Financings: Represented developers of luxury residential, hotel and commercial properties in connection their securities

Areas of Experience

Corporate
M&A and Private Equity
Cannabis
Energy and Infrastructure
EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program
Renewable Energy and Electric Power

Education

J.D., DePaul University College of Law, 1997, Editor in Chief, DePaul Business Journal
B.A., Washington University, 1994

Admissions

Bars

Illinois

Courts

U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Related Content

Akerman Sponsors Benzinga Cannabis Capital Conference
September 27, 2023

Akerman’s Exclusive Private Equity Pre-Reception at Capital Connection
May 21, 2019

Akerman Strengthens Corporate Offering with Addition of Seasoned New York Partner Ricardo Hollingsworth
April 02, 2019

Location

*Non-resident

offerings for EB-5 financings.

Cannabis Transactions: Represented owner and operator of two cultivation facilities in various equity and debt offerings, as well as a sale leaseback transaction to a real estate investment company.

Private Equity Sale: Represented an e-discovery company in connection with the sale of its business to a private equity group.

Energy Industry Financing: Represented waste-to-energy developer in connection with a multi-plant financing, including multiple tranches of new market tax credit financings, senior and subordinated loan facilities, and equity raises.

Real Estate Acquisitions: Represented a commercial real estate developer in connection with the acquisition of two national portfolios of suburban office properties, including an equity raise, senior and subordinated financings.

Project Financing: Represented a biofuels refinery developer in connection with a joint development to construct a renewable diesel refinery, including equity and construction loan financing.

Technology Investments: Represented the venture capital arm of a Fortune 500 company as the lead investor in connection with a series of preferred stock and debt investments in various software and hardware companies, including commercial development agreements.

Published Work and Lectures

- *Mergers & Acquisitions*, Co-Author, “How to Manage Wage-Hour Risks in an Acquisition,” August 21, 2017
- *PREA Quarterly*, “EB-5 at a Crossroads (Again): Implications for Real Estate Investments,” May 17, 2017
- CDFA Illinois Financing Roundtable, Presenter, “The Latest in Illinois PublicPrivate Partnership Deals,” Chicago, IL, May 2, 2017
- ACG Chicago Sunrise Session, Presenter, “Why Acquiring a Company with Workers Can Get You Sued, and What You Can Do About It,” March 9, 2017
- ILW.COM, Presenter, “Securities Issues in EB5, EB5 Summit for Attorneys and Developers,” September, October and December 2016
- ACG Chicago’s *The Journal*, “Shareholder Activism in Privately-Held Companies: Lessons to be Learned from the Public Market,” June 26, 2015
- 2015 CDFA Illinois Financing Roundtable Conference, Moderator, “Let’s Make a Deal,” Panel, May 2015

Affiliations

- Council of Development Finance Agencies
- Association for Corporate Growth – Chicago Chapter