akerman

People

Barbara Edwards

Partner, Corporate

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vCard

Barbara is a valued and trusted partner to the companies, financing parties, and other stakeholders she counsels. Barbara is relied upon to provide solutions to the most challenging legal and business issues by providing critical assessment to guide clients in decision making that appropriately balances risks and outcomes. With over two decades of experience guiding public and private corporations, Fortune 500 and middle market companies, hedge and debt funds, fintechs and other enterprises in transactional matters, whether routine or of strategic importance, Barbara brings a wealth of knowledge to the general counsels, treasurers, chief financial officers, and management leadership teams she represents. She has counseled clients across a broad spectrum of industries that present unique challenges including solar energy, fintech, healthcare and life sciences, personal care products, automotive, power and energy, natural and renewable resources, industrials, gaming, sports, and media.

Barbara assists her clients in navigating complex financings. Representing major investment and commercial banks, public and private companies, note issuers and holders, funds of funds, hedge funds and debt funds in their borrowing and lending activities through the placement of first and second lien debt, term loan B facilities, investment grade facilities, subscription line facilities, private placements and debt restructurings, acquirors in their asset purchases, and fintechs to address general corporate needs, Barbara has leveraged her experience to effectively structure and successfully close these business transactions.

As part of her practice, Barbara has worked with clients – both at the individual and corporate levels – to advance their diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) goals. Her advice and guidance is informed by many sources, including NBA player representation, extensive transactional legal experience, and a deep appreciation of some of the nuances of working on DEI objectives.

Areas of Experience

Corporate
Corporate Finance and Lending
Investment Management
Capital Markets
International
Latin America and the Caribbean
Financial Services
Distressed Transactions and Corporate Restructuring
Project Finance and Development
Sports and Entertainment Law

Education

J.D., New York University School of Law
B.A., Brooklyn College, magna cum laude

Admissions

Bars

New York

Related Content

Crain's Names Gina DelChiaro and Barbara Edwards 'Notable Women in Law'
June 26, 2023

Kanika Corley and Barbara Edwards Explain how Diversity Riders in Sports Contracts are Tools for Change
February 16, 2023

Akerman Partner Barbara Edwards Recognized Among 'Women of Influence' in the *New York Business Journal*
September 20, 2021

Affiliations

- Member, New York City Bar Association
- Steering Committee Member, Akerman's Women Initiative Network (WIN)
- Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, Fellow, 2016
- International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda Externship
- Lawyers without Borders, Nigeria Externship

Honors and Distinctions

- *Crain's New York Business*, Notable Women in Law Honoree, 2023
- *New York Business Journal*, Named One of Ten 'Women of Influence' in New York, 2021

Published Work and Lectures

- *Sports Business Journal*, Author, "Diversity Riders: How a Paragraph of Legalese Is Opening the Door to Parity," February 6, 2023