

People



Paul J. Foley

Chair, Investment Management Practice

Winston-Salem
T: +1 336 296 7101

New York
T: +1 212 880 3800

paul.foley@akerman.com
vCard

A leading corporate and securities lawyer, Paul Foley serves as Chair of Akerman's Investment Management Practice Group. Paul also serves as the Managing Partner of Akerman's North Carolina office. He offers his clients practical, business-oriented solutions.

Paul focuses his practice on corporate, securities, and business law, with a particular focus on investment fund formation, investment adviser regulation, private securities offerings, securities enforcement, and corporate representation. He represents investment advisers, private equity funds, venture capital funds, funds of funds, hedge funds, issuers, institutional investors, broker-dealers, financial institutions and other entities with regard to complex federal and state securities regulatory matters.

Notable Work

Fund Formation: Advises clients on investment fund formation and has assisted fund managers with the formation of hundreds of funds of all sizes. Counsels clients on structuring, forming, and offering investment funds and has experience with nearly every imaginable asset class and strategy. Provides fund managers with ongoing advice regarding investments, transactions, corporate governance, regulatory compliance, and securities law matters.

Investment Advisor Registration and Compliance: Extensive experience representing institutional and retail investment advisers with regard to various securities, compliance, and business matters, including federal and state investment adviser registration on Form ADV, drafting and reviewing investment advisory agreements and other material contracts, SEC examinations, mergers and acquisitions, succession planning, and developing and implementing customized compliance policies and procedures.

Securities Enforcement and Investigations: Conducts internal investigations and advises clients with respect to examination and

Areas of Experience

Investment Management
Capital Markets
Corporate
Venture Capital and Emerging Growth Companies
Financial Services
M&A and Private Equity
Distressed Property

Education

J.D., University of North Carolina School of Law, 2004, with honors
B.A., Queens University of Charlotte, 2000, magna cum laude

Admissions

Bars

North Carolina
District of Columbia
New York

Related Content

SEC's Latest Marketing Rule Guidance: Key Takeaways for Advisers
March 27, 2025

Akerman Expands Corporate Practice Group With Investment Management Partner Cole Beaubouef
March 05, 2025

Six Akerman Attorneys Named Legal Elite by Business North Carolina
January 03, 2025

enforcement-related inquiries and investigations by the SEC, self-regulatory organizations, and state securities agencies.

Corporate Representation: Serves in a general counsel role for various private businesses and as part of these representations coordinates with various practice groups, including litigation, intellectual property, real estate, tax, environmental, and employment law.

Published Work and Lectures

- Private Investment Fund Tax & Accounting Forum, Panelist, “SEC New Rules Review and Implementation,” December 7, 2023
- Packard Place Public House, Webinar, Speaker, “The CARES Act: What Entrepreneurs Need to Know,” April 8, 2020
- *JD Supra*, Co-Author, “DOL Puts Advisers on Notice: Fiduciary Rule Will Be Effective June 9th,” May 2017
- *JD Supra*, Co-Author, “General Solicitations of Certain Regulation D ‘Private’ Securities Offerings: SEC Affirms Zero-Tolerance Policy,” May 2017
- *JD Supra*, Co-Author, “SEC Amends Crowdfunding Rules,” May 2017
- *JD Supra*, Co-Author, “SEC Issues Guidance to Robo-Advisors,” April 2017

Affiliations

- North Carolina Bar Association, Securities Regulation Committee, Board Member
- Southeastern Alternative Fund Association, President
- Hedge Funds Care Southeast, Former Committee Member
- Wake Forest University Deacon Club, Former Athletic Advisory Council Member
- Big Brothers Big Sisters Services, Inc., Former Board Chair
- Winston-Salem Hospice Foundation, Former Board Member
- Winston-Salem Heart Ball, Former Executive Leadership Team Member, 2014-2015

Honors and Distinctions

- *Best Lawyers in America*, 2024-2025, Listed in North Carolina for Venture Capital Law
- Martindale-Hubbell, AV Rated
- *The Legal 500*, 2020, Recommended for M&A - Middle Market
- *Business North Carolina Magazine*, 2013-2014, 2016, 2021-2022, 2024-2025, Recognized as a Member of the “Legal Elite” for Corporate Law
- *Triad Business Journal*, 2012, Named one of the “40 Leaders Under Forty”
- *Super Lawyers Magazine*, 2012-2018, Listed in North Carolina as a “Rising Star”