

ROBERT W. BARRON

Partner

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Robert W. Barron is a Florida-based business attorney with significant experience with real estate asset and financing transactions, corporate acquisition and disposition transactions, and business and debt restructurings.

Robert has significant experience in real estate asset transactions involving multifamily/apartments, condominium projects, shopping centers, office buildings, hotels, industrial properties, undeveloped land, and trading in debt secured by these types of assets. Robert represents borrowers and lenders in real estate mortgage financing transactions, including representing borrowers in commercial mortgage-backed securities (CMBS) loans. He also represents buyers and sellers in the acquisition and disposition of commercial real estate assets.

Within the commercial real estate industry, Robert represents clients with the acquisition and disposition of office, industrial, multifamily properties, luxury and near-luxury hotel properties and the negotiation of leases, property management agreements and hotel management contracts. He represents lenders and borrowers in commercial real estate loan transactions and workouts (including defeasance opportunities) as well as owners and developers in connection with leasing transactions, construction projects and related construction and architect agreements.

Robert assists clients with the negotiation, formation, and restructuring of complex corporate, limited partnership and LLC structures for corporate and real estate asset transactions, including and the structuring and negotiation of shareholder agreements, limited partnership agreements and LLC operating agreements and the negotiation and settlement of internal disputes among shareholders, partners and LLC members. Robert has significant experience with acquisitions and dispositions of corporate businesses (including portfolio companies and subsidiaries), venture capital investment and investment partnership transactions, formation and capitalization of corporations, limited partnerships or limited liability companies and asset-based corporate financing for businesses. Robert represents corporate clients with their on-going corporate and operational matters, including corporate governance issues and the structuring, preparation and negotiation of employment agreements, non-competition agreements, severance agreements, confidentiality, distribution, sales, license, manufacturing and other general business contracts.

He represents clients involved in distressed corporate and partnership restructuring transactions – representing from time to time either the buy-side or the sell-side – whether in connection with a bankruptcy proceeding (including the representation of debtors or purchasers in Section 363 asset auction transactions in connection with a bankruptcy proceeding) or outside of the bankruptcy process. Robert works closely with the Business Reorganization Team of the Berger Singerman in connection with such restructuring matters. He has worked with borrowers, guarantors, and lenders to work out or restructure distressed loans with an aggregate outstanding balance in excess of a billion dollars.

Robert also advises not-for-profit companies, educational organizations and other charities in connection with the use of entrepreneurial strategies to obtain capital and to accomplish their mission and purpose, including through the use of program-related investments provided by private foundations and funds provided by donor-advised funds.

Education

J.D., Louisiana State University Law Center, 1987

- 1984 *Valedictorian*, *Candidate for LSU Law Review*, *Chancellor's List*, the LSU Law Center Hall of Fame and the Louisiana Law Institute in 1987.
- Order of the Coif

B.S., Oral Roberts University, 1984

Bar Admissions

Florida
Louisiana
Texas

Practice Teams

Business, Finance & Tax

Practice Areas

Corporate
Distressed M&A & Restructuring
Healthcare
Hospitality & Leisure
Mergers & Acquisitions
Real Estate
Securities & Capital Markets

Representative Matters

- Representation of venture capital funds with respect to investments in early stage financial services, artificial intelligence and other emerging technology companies.
- Representation of the sale of a medical products company with medical clinics in multiple locations with overseas manufacturing facility for medical products.
- Representation of the sale of a manufacturing facility with operating business structured as a Section 363 sale in a Chapter 11 proceeding.
- Representation of the owners of civil engineering and surveying company in the sale of their business to a private equity firm.
- Representation of the owners of a medical products company in the sale of their business to a private equity firm.

- Representation of large tract real property developers in the negotiation of operating agreements with private equity firms and other investors.
- Representation of the purchasers of multi-family apartment projects in various southern states, including negotiation of the acquisition financing for such acquisitions.
- Representation of land owner in the negotiation and sale of 3,700 continuous acres in Palm Beach County, Florida.
- Representation of the owner of approximate 2,300 acre resort property located in Costa Rica in connection with modification of its existing financing arrangements.
- Representation of physician medical practice in connection with the sale of the practice through an asset transaction and the negotiation of a physician employment agreement.
- Representation of beneficial owners of Texas refinery in connection with the sale of the refinery.
- Representation of real estate partnerships and LLCs in connection with the refinance of various mortgage loans using CMBS lenders for the refinancing.
- Representation of owner of commercial office/retail building in connection with the refinance of its existing mortgage financing using a CMBS mortgage loan.
- Representation of property owners obtaining "hard money" loans to facilitate the quick refinancing of real property to meet the time constraint requirements of the existing lenders.
- Representation of lender providing construction and mini-permanent financing for the construction of a commercial office building.
- Representation of owner in connection with the construction of a port facility in Barbados using FIDIC construction contracts.
- Representing of owner in connection with a port dredging contract off the coast of Bermuda using FIDIC construction contracts.
- Representation of owners in the negotiation and drafting of AIA construction contracts with contractors and construction managers in connection with a construction project.
- Representation of owners in the negotiation and drafting of AIA architect agreements with architects in connection with a construction project.
- Representation of development company and property owner in connection with the negotiation of a development agreement with an investor to locate, develop, construct, lease and sell apartment communities.
- Representation of distributor in connection with the negotiation and drafting of a distribution agreement.
- Representation of licensee in connection with the negotiation and drafting of a license agreement.
- Representation of borrowers, sellers and/or buyers as local Florida counsel to provide local Florida law assistance for the transaction.
- Representation of borrowers in connection with the review of loan documents to provide Florida third party legal opinions in connection with the closing of loan transactions to the extent appropriate under applicable Florida Bar customary practice.
- Modification of existing Florida limited liability company operating agreements to address issued presented by the new Revised Florida Limited Liability Company Act.
- Representation of various homebuilders and real property developers with indebtedness exceeding hundreds of millions of dollars in connection with restructuring transactions.
- Serve as title agent for major title insurance companies to arrange for the provision of title insurance in connection with the closing of real estate transactions.

Awards & Honors

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, 2013-2022; 2024
 - *Best Lawyers'* 2019; 2022; 2024 Corporate Law Lawyer of the Year, Fort Lauderdale
- *Florida Super Lawyers*, 2007-2020, 2022-2023
- *South Florida Legal Guide*, Top Lawyer, Commercial Real Estate and Corporate Transactions, 2007-2016
- *Daily Business Review*
 - Winner, Top Dealmaker Award: Leasing, 2014
 - Finalist, Top Dealmaker Award, 2013
 - Finalist, Most Effective Lawyer Award in Bankruptcy, 2011
- *Martindale-Hubbell*, AV® Preeminent™ rated
 - Top Rated Lawyer in Corporate Restructuring and Bankruptcy, 2013
- Chapter 11 Reorganization of the Year (Middle Market) for HearUSA, *M&A Advisor's* 6th Annual Turnarounds Awards (2012)
- *Florida Trend*, Legal Elite, 2006 – 2008, 2010-2011, 2013
- *Real Estate Florida*, Top Real Estate Lawyer in the State of Florida, 2008
- Salute to Business Award from the Chamber for activities related to Leadership Fort Lauderdale, 2006

Community Activities / Associations

- Board of Advisors, Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine (2024)
- Board Member, Sheridan House Family Ministries Inc.
- Business Law Section of The Florida Bar
- Executive Council (2006-present)
- Chair of Legislation Committee of Business Law Section of the Florida Bar (2023-present)
- Chair of Corporations, Securities and Financial Services Committee of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar - (2016-2017)
- Chair or Co-Chair of Opinion Standards Committee of Business Law Section of the Florida Bar (2013 to 2022)
- Vice Chair of Opinion Standards Committee of Business Law Section of Florida Bar (2006-2013)
- Member of the Board of Trustees, Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, Oklahoma (2015 to 2024)
- Chairman of Finance Committee; Member of the Executive Committee of Oral Roberts University (2016 to 2024)
- Member of the Board of Directors, Henderson Behavioral Health Inc.
- Board of Governors, Health Professions Division, Nova Southeastern University (2011 to present)
- Member of the Ambassadors Board - Nova Southeastern University (2013- present)
- Member of the Board of Directors of Habitat for Humanity of Broward, Inc. (2020 – present)
- Member of Board of Elders – New River City Church Inc. - Cooper City, FL
- Former Member of the Advisory Board of Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship at Florida State University
- Former Member of the Board of Directors of Tower Forum
- Former Chairman of the Board of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce (2010) Former Member of the Board of Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce
- Former Member of the Executive Committee and Finance Committee of the Chamber
- Leadership Florida Class XXI
- Leadership Fort Lauderdale - Curriculum Chair Class X

- Leadership Fort Lauderdale - Class VII
- Former Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sheridan Family Ministries, Inc.
- Former Member of the Board of Directors of Sheridan House Family Members, Inc.
- Gamma Beta Phi Society

In the News

Forty-Three Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2023 Edition of Best Lawyers In America
August 18, 2022

Twenty-three Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in 2022 Edition of Florida Super Lawyers
June 27, 2022

M&A Advisor Recognizes Berger Singerman LLP for its Work on the Chapter 11 Bankruptcy Case of Unipharma
June 15, 2022

Thirty-nine Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2022 Edition of Best Lawyers In America
August 19, 2021

Thirty-Five Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2021 Edition of Best Lawyers In America
August 19, 2020

Twenty-Seven Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in 2020 Edition of Florida Super Lawyers
June 8, 2020

Thirty Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2020 Edition of Best Lawyers In America
August 14, 2019

Twenty-Eight Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in 2019 Edition of Florida Super Lawyers
May 29, 2019

Thirty Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2019 Edition of Best Lawyers In America
August 14, 2018

Thirty-One Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in 2018 Edition of Florida Super Lawyers
June 17, 2018

Thirty Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2018 Edition of Best Lawyers In America
August 14, 2017

REH Capital Partners, Algon Group and Berger Singerman Win M&A Advisor Latin America Deal of the Year
July 5, 2017

Thirty-Two Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2017 Super Lawyers Florida Edition
June 8, 2017

Berger Singerman Attorneys Help Land \$247 Million Loan for PortMiami Terminal
September 12, 2016

Twenty-Eight Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2017 Edition of Best Lawyers In America
August 14, 2016

Thirty-Six Berger Singerman Attorneys Recognized in the 2016 Super Lawyers Florida Edition
June 13, 2016

Publications

The M&A Advisor Recognizes Berger Singerman LLP for its Work on the Sale of Delphi Behavioral Health Group, LLC and the Acquisition of Bang Energy by Monster Beverage During its 22nd Annual Awards
[bergersingerman.com](https://www.bergersingerman.com)

November 29, 2023

Berger Singerman's Real Estate Team Authors Chambers and Partners' 2022 Florida-US Regional Real Estate Chapter

August 11, 2022

Steering Committee Member and Vice Chair of Legal Opinion Standards Committee of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar with respect to "Third Party Legal Opinion Customary Practice in Florida", Report of the Legal Opinion Standards Committee of The Florida Bar Business Law Section and the Legal Opinions Committee of The Florida Bar Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section.

Contributing Author of "Laws Commonly Excluded from the Coverage of Third-Party Legal Opinions in U.S. Commercial Loan Transactions", The Business Lawyer

July 30, 2021

Contributing Author of "Common Qualifications to a Remedies Opinion in U.S. Commercial Loan Transactions," The Business Lawyer, Volume 70, Issue 1

Winter 2014-2015

Co-Chair of the Legal Opinion Standards Committee of the Business Law Section of the Florida Bar with respect to the "First Supplement to the Third Party Legal Opinion Customary Practice in Florida, November 11, 2019", Report of the Legal Opinion Standards Committee of The Florida Bar Business Law Section and the Legal Opinions Committee of The Florida Bar Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section

December 3, 2011

Events & Speaking Engagements

Robert Barron, Speaker, Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting

February 9, 2017

Doing Business in Florida Blog

Public-Private Partnerships: An Alternative to Tax-funded Infrastructure

May 24, 2021

Prior Affiliations

- Thompson & Knight LLLP - Dallas, Texas
- Weil, Gotshal & Manges - Dallas, Texas