

FisherBroyles

Name: Joseph M. Saponaro

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Direct: (216) 956-7756

Office: Cleveland

Practice Areas: Commercial Transactions; General Corporate; Private Client Services; Real Estate; Trust & Estates

Bar Admissions: Ohio; District of Columbia

Education: Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, JD, 1999; Cleveland State University, MA, Economics, 1996; Bowling Green State University, BS, Business Administration/Finance, 1986

Experience: DDR Corp., Legal Counsel; Atlas, Incorporated, Chief Administrative Officer; Tucker Ellis LLP

A partner at FisherBroyles, LLP, Joseph M. Saponaro focuses his practice primarily on real estate, business, and financing transactions. Serving clients in Ohio and various other states, he handles a wide variety of matters, including complex real estate transactions, including leasing, financing and development, mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, succession planning, business disputes, contract negotiations, regulatory compliance, entity formation and strategic planning.

An active participant in a variety of organizations, Mr. Saponaro is a member of the Real Estate Law Section of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association—he recently chaired the 37th Annual Real Estate Law Institute, the 38th Annual Real Estate Law Institute and is slated to chair the 39th Annual Real Estate Law Institute in 2017. He is a member of the International Council of Shopping Centers, the Justinian Forum, the Lawyer's Guild, the American Bar Association, and the Ohio State Bar Association. Mr. Saponaro has served as an acting judge on the Rocky River Municipal Court. Currently, Mr. Saponaro is Mayfield Village Council President and has been a Council Member for over 13 years, serving as the chair of the Finance Committee, as well as the Economic Development Committee and the Wage Review Committee. He is a member of the St. Ignatius Father's Club and serves on the Board of The Fawcett Foundation/Cleveland Roots.

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Mr. Saponaro has authored: Choosing the Right Entity for Your Business, Builders Exchange Magazine; The Public Trust Doctrine and Submerged Lake Erie Lands in Ohio, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Journal; and Determining the Immunity "Measuring Stick": The Impact of the Health Care Quality Improvement Act and Antitrust Laws on Immunity Aspects of Granting Privileges to Physician Assistants, 47-1 Clev. St. L. Rev., 115. He has been speaking and presenting on various real estate topics including financing, development, leasing, water rights, and environmental, as well as, New Lawyer Training at Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association from 2007 through the present.

Recognized by his fellow professionals for his legal acumen, Mr. Saponaro was recently named as 2017 Super Lawyer. He has received an AV Preeminent peer review rating through Martindale-Hubbell, and named as one of Cleveland's Top Rated Lawyers in 2014-2016. Further, he was selected as the Outstanding Fellow at the Leadership Academy of Cleveland State University-Levin College of Urban Studies.

Representative Transactions

- Represented aggregate supplier in obtaining over \$500,000 in appropriation matter regarding the I-90 Inner Belt Bridge project
- Represent client with respect to multiple joint venture development of 80/20 residential projects involving taxable and tax-exempt bonds, low income housing tax credits and credit enhancement
- Represented client in sale of industrial portfolio in Dallas, Texas
- Represented client in sale of \$300-million office building in Jersey City, New Jersey, including defeasance of securitized loan
- Represented commercial landlords in 28 leasing transactions with national and regional tenants
- Represented restaurant franchisees in leasing 30 in-line and outparcel locations in 8 states as one of only three approved firms nationwide
- Represented modal transportation company in obtaining \$5-million grant from Ohio Department of Transportation

Presentations and Teaching Experience

- New Lawyer Training, Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association, 2010 – 2012
- New Lawyer Training, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, 2013 – 2014
- Real Estate Law Institute, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, 2004 – Present

Publications

- Choosing the Right Entity for Your Business, Builders Exchange Magazine, 2003
- The Public Trust Doctrine and Submerged Lake Erie Lands in Ohio, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Journal
- Determining the Immunity "Measuring Stick": The Impact of the Health Care Quality Improvement Act and Antitrust Laws on Immunity Aspects of Granting Privileges to Physician Assistants, 47-1 Clev. St. L. Rev., 115