

JAMES S. SIMON

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AREAS OF PRACTICE
Real Estate & Construction
Public Law
Business
Land Use & Zoning



I serve as a trusted advisor, counselor and facilitator for my clients. I advise and represent businesses, public sector and non-profit clients on both routine and sensitive matters and high risk decisions.

I focus my practice on helping clients resolve real estate, governmental relations, corporate and nonprofit governance and business issues. I structure complex multi-use commercial projects, represent clients before numerous state and local agencies and elected officials, coordinate legal aspects of affordable housing transactions and represent clients in commercial real estate matters of all sizes and varieties.

I work with my clients to resolve issues early on, professionally and cost-effectively. It is my goal every day to be fully accessible to clients when you need me, to meet and exceed your needs, and to use my knowledge, skills and relationships to help you achieve your goals and aspirations.



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EXPERIENCE

- Represents individuals, businesses, tax-exempt organizations and government clients in real estate and business acquisitions, leasing transactions, financing transactions, public and low-income housing finance transactions, multiparty negotiations, and zoning and compliance matters
- Represents clients before state and local executive agencies and elected officials with respect to transactional, public policy and regulatory matters.
- Serves as Chair of the firm's recruitment committee
- Serves as a member of the firm's political action committee (BDBPAC)
- Previously worked with the firm from 2000–2003 as an associate, and from 2003–2006 served the Summit County Engineer as director of administration, overseeing a \$16 M annual budget, coordinating labor relations and a variety of audit and compliance matters

EDUCATION & ADMISSIONS

The University of Akron School of Law, Akron, Ohio (J.D., magna cum laude, 2000)

Bennington College, Bennington, Vermont (B.A., 1997)

Admissions

Ohio Bar

U.S. Tax Court

AWARDS & HONORS

Selected for inclusion in Ohio's Super Lawyers® - Rising Star (2010-2012 & 2014-2015), as voted by his peers

Martindale-Hubbell Peer Review Rating of AV® Preeminent™, which is the highest possible rating in both legal and ethical standards as established by confidential opinions from members of the Bar

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

Member: Supreme Court of Ohio, Board on the Unauthorized Practice of Law: 2017-2019

Chair: The Ohio Air Quality Development Authority

Board of Trustees: Bennington College

Vice Chair: Finance Committee



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Member: Executive and Finance Committees

Past Chair: External Relations and Development Committee

Board of Directors: Ideastream

Chair: Government Relations Subcommittee

Chair: Crown Point Ecology Center

Member: Church of Our Saviour, Episcopal

Chair: Stewardship Committee

Member: Leadership Akron, Class XXV

Member: Bluecoats of Summit County

Member: Episcopal Church, House of Deputies Committee on State of the Church (2018 – 2021)

Member: The Episcopal Church Executive Council Investment Committee (ECIC)

Past Affiliations

Member: Facility Governing Board, Summit County Community Based Correctional Facility

Deputy to the General Convention of The Episcopal Church (2015, 2018)

Chair, House of Deputies Committee on Constitution and Canons (2018)

Elected Delegate from Ohio's 13th Congressional District: 2016 Republican National Convention Committee

Elected Member: 2016 Republican National Convention's Permanent Organization Committee

Past Vice Chair: Standing Commission on Constitution & Canons of the General Convention of the Episcopal Church

Past Member: Standing Commission on Structure, Governance, Constitution and Canons of General Convention of The Episcopal Church

Past Member, Board of Directors: Autism Family Foundation of Northeast Ohio

Chair, Governance Committee: Autism Family Foundation of Northeast Ohio

Past Member, Board of Directors: The Civic Commons

Past Member, Board of Directors: Creutzfeldt–Jakob Disease Foundation, Inc.

Past Member, Secretary and President: Episcopal Diocese of Ohio - Standing Committee

Past Member, Vestry Church of our Saviour, Episcopal (2009-2012, 2014-2017)

Past Member, Board of Trustees: United Disability Services

Past Chair: United Disability Services Basketball Gala

Past Co-Chair: United Disability Services Basketball Gala

Past Member, Board of Directors: Plexus



Associations

Member: Akron Bar Association

Member: Ohio State Bar Association



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