

# ROBERT E. ROLAND

Senior Counsel | Canton  
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## ASSISTANT

Michelle Feller | mfeller@bdblaw.com

## AREAS OF PRACTICE

Business  
Finance Law  
Mergers & Acquisitions  
Nonprofit & Foundation



As a business attorney, I help my clients navigate the complexities, and capitalize on the opportunities, that exist in corporate and banking matters, employee stock benefit plans, corporate governance issues, mergers and acquisitions, business dispute resolution matters, and commercial real estate transactions. Because of this experience, I often serve as general counsel for closely-held corporations and non-profit associations throughout Ohio.

I work directly with my clients to understand their business needs and offer solutions that both support their goals and avoid legal conflict in the courtroom. I proactively reach out to clients to offer guidance on new regulations and changes within the marketplace, and routinely counsel clients on legal and strategic situations that could affect their business. In matters where litigation is inevitable, I will work aggressively with a collaborative team of commercial litigators to protect my clients' best interests.

Clients come to me for my corporate and banking law experience, my sound business judgment and my collaborative approach to business growth and development. They look to me to understand their sophisticated, complex transactions and develop practical solutions. Clients often ask me to counsel shareholder and closely-held business disputes knowing I can help them through these sensitive issues.

## EXPERIENCE

- Prior to joining the firm in 2019, served on Executive Management Committee of a large multi-city law firm for over 30 years and Managing Partner for 8 years.
- Provides counsel to a wide range of businesses throughout Northeast Ohio
- Focuses on corporate transactional work, banking and commercial real estate
- Heavily involved in community activities and serves on the board of numerous area non-profit organizations
- Appointed Commissioner by the President of the Senate to serve on Ohio Local Reform and Collaboration Commission (2008-2010)

## EDUCATION & ADMISSIONS

The Ohio State University Moritz School of Law (J.D., 1985)

Exeter University, United Kingdom (International Law and European Community Law, 1983)

Miami University (B.S., *cum laude*, 1982)

### Admissions

Ohio

## AWARDS & HONORS

Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® (2011-2025)

Recognized by Best Lawyers® as the 2022 Bankruptcy and Finance Law "Lawyer of the Year" award winner in Canton

Selected for inclusion in *Ohio's Super Lawyers*® (2015-2016), as voted by his peers

## PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, Board of Directors

School Levy Review Committee, Chair

City-County Affairs Committee, Chair

21st Century Government Steering Committee, Chair

Chairman of the Board of Directors (2007)

Nominating Committee, Past Chair

Ohio Commission on Local Government Reform and Collaboration

ArtsinStark, Board of Directors

Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Festival, Board of Directors

Steering Committee, Member

Sunday Kickoff Concert and Community Parade, Chairman

Edgewood Community Center, Founding Director

Brookside Country Club, Board of Directors

Stark County Government Academy, Founding Chair

Stark Development Board, Trustee  
Leadership Canton, Class of 1992  
Canton Ballet, Board of Directors  
Canton Forum, Chair, Board of Directors  
Canton Symphony Orchestra, Board of Directors  
Canton Palace Theater, Board of Directors  
Eric Snow YMCA, Board of Directors  
    Downtown YMCA Campaign Drive, Chair  
United Way Allocation Council  
Greater Akron Chamber, Akron Small Business Council

**Associations**

Ohio State Bar Association  
Stark County Bar Association  
    Corporate Law Committee  
    Unauthorized Practice Committee