



Michael E. Zatezalo

Director



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Zatezalo is the head of the firm's Gaming Law practice and also practices in the areas of real estate law and financing. He has been with Kegler Brown since 1986.

Real Estate + Financing

Michael's real estate experience includes all aspects of real estate development, including sales and acquisitions, leasing (office, retail, industrial and telecommunications towers), zoning, land use, development issues, real estate tax valuation, construction and permanent financing. He has represented a number of businesses seeking financial incentives in connection with the location and expansion of their facilities in Ohio. His experience also includes serving as lead real estate counsel in the initial public offering of Glimcher Realty Trust, one of Central Ohio's largest real estate investment trusts. He represents institutional investors, pension funds, lenders, buyers, sellers, tenants and landlords of all sizes.

Gaming

Michael represents local, national and international clients, including suppliers, distributors and manufacturers within the gaming industry, as well as charitable organizations. A former section chief of the charitable law section of the Ohio Attorney General's Office, he also served as president of the International Masters of Gaming Law and has been a previous presenter at the Gaming Law Minefield seminar. Michael has been involved with advising clients with respect to Ohio's 2009 casino initiative, which authorized the construction and operation of four casinos in Ohio, as well as advising clients with respect to the Ohio Lottery Commission's authorization of video lottery terminals (VLTs) at Ohio's racetracks. He regularly contributes to publications seeking insight on the national gaming landscape and recently authored an article entitled "The Perfect Storm: Ohio's Entry Into Legalized Gaming" for *Casino Enterprise Management* magazine.

Professional Affiliations

- + California Bar Association, member
- + Columbus Bar Association, member
- + Columbus Bar Services Board, Board of Trustees
- + International Council of Shopping Centers, member
- + International Masters of Gaming Law, past president
- + Ohio State Bar Association, member
- + SCG-Legal, board of directors, past chairman

Special Honors

- + Selected as the 2020 "Lawyer of the Year" in Columbus in the area of Real Estate Law by *The Best Lawyers in America*®
- + Martindale-Hubbell Rating of AV
- + Selected to the Ohio Super Lawyers list
- + Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*®

Charitable + Civic Involvement

- + Buckeye Ranch Foundation, Operations Board
- + Columbus Council on World Affairs (CCWA), Member

Bar Admissions

- + Ohio
- + California
- + U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio
- + U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio

Education

- + The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law (J.D., 1975)
- + West Virginia University (B.S. Aerospace Engineering, 1972)