



## LESLIE S. JOHNSON

PARTNER



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Leslie S. Johnson serves as the Partner-in-Charge of Hahn Loeser's Columbus office and advises individuals and businesses of all types and sizes on a wide range of real estate, corporate and business law matters, including entity formation, corporate governance and compliance, real estate, contracts, and mergers and acquisitions, including diligence, structure negotiation and documentation.

Leslie focuses her real estate practice on commercial real estate matters, particularly commercial leasing, real estate financings and refinancings, commercial development, acquisitions and divestitures, and mortgage and mezzanine financing in various markets including office, retail, industrial, multi-family residential and mixed-use properties. She represents clients in drafting and negotiating purchase agreements, leases, joint venture agreements, loan documents, easements and other related real estate documentation and coordinating all real estate due diligence. In addition, Leslie counsels clients on a broad range of general real estate matters including issues relating to capital formation and alternative financing sources, title matters, real estate taxation, tax credits, land use and zoning. She counsels real estate holding companies and developers of shopping centers as well as mixed-use and affordable housing projects.

In addition to her real estate experience, Leslie assists corporate clients with structure, preparation and implementation of joint ventures and strategic-partnering relationships, as well as board committee charters, internal controls, disclosure and document retention policies and fiduciary duties of directors.

Leslie also regularly counsels companies on immigration strategies for employing foreign nationals on a temporary or permanent basis. She represents multinational corporations seeking to employ or transfer international personnel to the United States. She also conducts I-9 audits and advises employers on employment eligibility and I-9 compliance. This includes counseling the company and providing training to human resource professionals on best practices to ensure companies are complying with employment eligibility verification requirements.



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### *Publications & Speaking Engagements*

- Speaker, “Obstacles and Opportunities for Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession,” Women Lawyers of Franklin County, January 2010.
- Speaker, “Business Entity Selection (Topics: Emerging Trends and Legal Updates and Ethical Considerations),” National Business Institute, December 2009.
- Speaker, “Personal Estate Planning,” Ohio Judicial College–Ohio Association of Magistrates Spring Conference, April 2009.
- Speaker, “Modifying Irrevocable Trusts and Trust Decanting,” Worthington Estate Planning Council, January 2009.
- Contributing Author, “Inside the Minds: Immigration Strategies for Companies,” *Aspatore Books*, January 2009.
- Speaker, “The 7 Greatest Estate Planning Techniques in Ohio,” Lorman Seminar, 2008.

### *Community Involvement*

- Unverferth House, Board Member.
- National Association of Women Business Owners, Member.
- Central Ohio Land Title Association, Past President.
- Make-A-Wish Foundation, Greater Ohio Volunteer Member.

### *Professional History*

- Partner, Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP, 2008-present; Partner-in-Charge, Columbus Office, 2017-present. Member, Recruiting Committee, 2012-14.
- Lane, Alton & Horst LLC, 2000-08.
- Law Offices of James A. Saad/Star Title Agency, 1993-2000.

### *Admissions*

- State of Ohio, 1997.
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, 2004.

### *Education*

- Capital University Law School, J.D., 1997.
- The Ohio State University, B.A., Political Science, Minor in Criminology, 1993.

### *Memberships & Affiliations*

- Ohio State Bar Association, Member.
- Columbus Bar Association, Fellow; Real Estate Section, Committee Member; Probate, Estate & Gift Tax Section, Committee Member.
- American Immigration Lawyers Association, Member.
- Women Lawyers of Franklin County, Member.

### *Awards & Distinctions*

- Rising Star, *Ohio Super Lawyers*®, 2009-10.