



Jason M. Smith

**Member; Chair, Real Estate; Chair, Commercial Finance
Cleveland**

P: 216.430.2033

Practice Focus

- Commercial finance
- Finance
- ESOP transactions
- Business counseling
- Real estate

As a Member in the Business Department, chair of the firm's Real Estate Practice Group, and chair of the firm's Commercial Finance Practice Group, Jason focuses his practice on real estate transactions and commercial finance and lending. Jason has commercial finance experience assisting in the representation of lenders and borrowers in a variety of transactions including: real estate acquisition, development and construction loan transactions; asset-based finance transactions; and structured and mezzanine finance transactions. In addition, Jason's real estate practice is wide ranging in scope and includes the financing, acquisition, development, construction, leasing and disposition of retail, commercial, industrial, and office properties. Jason is also a member of the Firm's Real Estate Tax Practice Group, representing real property owners in valuation and exemption matters, including representing clients before County Boards of Revision and the Ohio Board of Tax Appeals. Jason also represents entrepreneurs and companies in a wide variety of general corporate matters, including commercial contract negotiation, corporate governance, structuring business organizations and business succession planning. Prior to joining the firm, Jason worked in the securities industry as a portfolio analyst for a large investment firm.

Jason earned his J.D., summa cum laude, from Cleveland State University College of Law in 2005. He received a B.S.B.A. from John Carroll University in 2000.

Admissions - State

- Ohio

Education

- Cleveland State University College of Law
- John Carroll University

Honors and Awards

Jason M. Smith

- Named one of the *Best Lawyers in America* (2023)
- Best Law School Newspaper Humorous Article, American Bar Association (2005)
- Best Law School Newspaper Editor-in-Chief, American Bar Association (2004)
- Student Leadership Award, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law (2003-2004)

Professional Membership

- Bond Accountability Committee
- Commercial Finance Association
- International Council of Shopping Centers

Alerts

- Steps to perfecting a security interest in consigned goods
- What you need to know about ESOP valuation season
- 4 FAQs about the end of LIBOR

Blog Posts

- Paycheck Protection Program Loans: Lender Considerations
- The novel coronavirus impact on secured loans: Considerations for secured lenders and borrowers
- COVID-19's impact on the LIBOR transition
- Coronavirus and lending relationships: Communication and planning are key

News

- McDonald Hopkins Announces Transition to New Co-Presidents, Leadership Team
- 50 McDonald Hopkins attorneys recognized in the 2023 editions of *The Best Lawyers in America*® and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch in America*™
- McDonald Hopkins recognized in Chambers USA 2022 rankings
- Jason M. Smith named Chair of Commercial Finance Practice Group

Events

- FAQs About the End of LIBOR | Thursday, January 24, 2019
- Navigating real estate collateral for non-real estate lenders | Thursday, April 7, 2016

Speaking Engagements

- "Legal and Other Issues for New Physicians Joining a Practice: Preparing for the Business Aspects of Practicing Medicine," The Academy of Medicine of Cleveland, October 2005.

