bodman

Sarah J. Williams

Member

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Sarah J. Williams serves as corporate counsel to a variety of businesses in matters involving mergers, acquisitions, corporate governance, commercial contracts, corporate finance, and debt and equity financing (private equity, venture capital, and angel investments). She frequently works with technology-based startup businesses in the vibrant Detroit and Ann Arbor markets and with businesses in the aviation services industry.

Sarah represents private equity investors, venture capital firms and high net worth individuals that invest in high-growth companies. Her general corporate expertise includes handling business formation (corporation, limited liability company, and partnership) and representation of emerging and other companies from inception through transactions involving intellectual property, venture capital financing, and ultimate sale. Sarah is part of a Bodman team that has represented a significant number of the start-up and spin-off companies that have recently licensed technology from the University of Michigan.

Sarah has advised both buyers and sellers in merger and acquisition transactions ranging from less than $10 million to over $100 million involving businesses in the technology, health care, professional services, software development, foundry, and general manufacturing industries, among others. She also advises private and public companies regarding federal and state securities law matters and has represented clients in securities offerings, preparation of proxy statements, periodic reports, and ownership reports.

She serves as outside general counsel to a major aviation services company that offers aircraft management, maintenance, avionics,

practices & industries

Mergers and Acquisitions

Business

Emerging Companies and Venture Capital

Aviation Law and Finance

education

University of Michigan Law School, J.D.

University of Michigan, B.A.

admissions

Michigan

and FBO services. As general counsel, she drafts and negotiates all commercial contracts, charter agreements, and management agreements, and is responsible for regulatory compliance matters and complex corporate transactions.

Sarah also practices municipal law and served eight years as township attorney for Ann Arbor Township, Michigan.

As part of her diversified business practice, Sarah advises corporate clients that operate commercial vessels on Jones Act and other general maritime law compliance matters. She also negotiates and documents transactions involving vessel charters, contracts of carriage, and vessel acquisitions and divestitures.

Sarah is active in the management of the firm, chairing the Associate Evaluation and Compensation Committee and serving on the Executive Committee, which guides the firm's business strategy and day to day operations, as well as serving on the Opportunity, Inclusion, and Belonging Committee and the Alumni Committee.

HONORS, AWARDS, AND RECOGNITION

- *Michigan Lawyers Weekly* Leaders in the Law, 2026
- *The Best Lawyers in America 2027*, Corporate Law
- *Crain's Detroit Business* Notable Women in Law, 2026
- *Chambers USA 2025-2026*, Corporate/M&A
- *DBusiness* Magazine "Top Lawyers" 2020-2027, Mergers & Acquisitions Law
- *Michigan Rising Stars 2014*, Business Law

CIVIC, CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- The Women's Center of Southeastern Michigan, past Member, Board of Directors and past Chair of the Governance Committee

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- State Bar of Michigan
  - Business Law Section, Chair of Programming Directorship

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Moderator, "Business Boot Camp I: Basic Training for Every Business Lawyer," ICLE, January, 2024
- Moderator, "Business Boot Camp I: Basic Training for Every Business Lawyer," ICLE, November, 2023
- Moderator, "Business Law Institute, 33rd Annual," ICLE, October 2022