

Mark V. Thigpen

Partner
Corporate, Finance and Investments

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Mark Thigpen leads the firm's real estate practice and is the Managing Partner of our Charlotte office. Mark specializes in representing private equity clients, public companies and privately held companies in a variety of matters relating to their real estate, infrastructure and other real asset investments.

Mark counsels private equity investors, institutional investors, and public and private operating companies in all aspects of their real estate and real assets businesses. He regularly handles the structuring and formation of funds, joint ventures and other investment vehicles. He also assists with acquisitions, dispositions, development, leasing and financing matters.

Recently, Mark has focused on recapitalization of private developers and owners as well as infrastructure projects. He also advises both buyers and targets in "take private" transactions.

Mark has been recognized as a top lawyer in the *Legal 500*, *The Best Lawyers in America*, and *Chambers USA*. In the *Chambers USA* 2016 and 2017 guides, clients highlight Mark's "very strong interpersonal skills" and "he doesn't show off and he concentrates on getting the deal done." Clients also note Mark "adds a lot of value in the business context" on their transactions.

Matters

Advised **Transwestern Investment Group** in connection with a joint venture with Phoenix-based investment manager JDM Partners, and also advised the joint venture in its sale-leaseback with State Farm Auto Insurance Co. of Marina Heights a 2-million-square-foot, five-building project in Tempe, Arizona.

Advised **Transwestern Investment Group** in connection with a \$825 million joint venture with Seoul-based investment manager Mirae Asset Global Investments Co, and also advised the joint venture in its sale-leaseback with State Farm Auto Insurance Co. of a 2.2-million-square-foot, four-building portfolio located in CityLine, a 186-acre, mixed-use project outside of Dallas.

Advised **Asana Partners** in the formation of Asana Partners Fund I, a \$500 million closed-end fund investing in retail assets throughout the U.S., and also advised the fund on a \$350 million credit facility.

Advised **Douglas Emmett, Inc.**, a Los Angeles-based public REIT, in connection with the

formation of a joint venture with Qatar Investment Authority to acquire a portfolio of four office buildings in Los Angeles for \$1.34 billion, and in the acquisition of the portfolio from affiliates of Blackstone.

Advised **Post Properties, Inc.** (NYSE:PPS) in connection with its pending \$3.9 billion stock-for-stock merger with Mid-America Apartments Communities, Inc. (NYSE:MAA).

Advised **Edens Investment Trust** in connection with its “take-private” \$763 million acquisition of AmREIT, Inc., a Houston-based public REIT, specializing in the acquisition, operation and redevelopment of retail and mixed-use properties.

Advised **Edens Investment Trust**, a privately held REIT, in a \$1.47 billion equity recapitalization by Blackstone, J.P. Morgan Asset Management and New York State Teachers Retirement System.

Advised **Douglas Emmett, Inc.**, a Los Angeles-based public REIT, in connection with a joint venture with Qatar Investment Authority to provide \$225 million in capital to fund the acquisition and operation of an office property in Los Angeles.

Advised **the U.S. subsidiary of a Dutch REIT** in connection with the \$720 million disposition of its entire real estate portfolio, consisting of office, retail, hotel, multifamily and industrial assets located throughout the U.S.

Advised **a private real estate company** in connection with a recapitalization of its equity and debt structure relating to a consolidated portfolio of 38 grocery-anchored centers located in the midwestern U.S.

Advised **a private real estate company** in connection with the roll-up of 28 retail assets located in the southeastern and mid-Atlantic U.S. and the subsequent recapitalization of the equity structure.

Advised **a private real estate company** in connection with its portfolio of over 100 retail assets located in the eastern U.S. and the restructuring of its \$2 billion equity structure.

Advised **the real estate division of a global financial institution** in connection with the acquisition, repositioning and disposition of multiple office and multifamily assets throughout the U.S.

Advised **a private equity investor** in the acquisition of debt instruments from the FDIC and the subsequent sale or restructuring of such debt instruments and the foreclosure on the underlying security.

Advised **a private REIT** in the structuring of a closed-end fund for the purpose of acquiring equity positions in retail projects in the southeastern and midwestern U.S.

Advised **a private equity investor** in the structuring of a joint venture for the acquisition of multifamily assets in California and Florida together with negotiating a credit facility to provide financing for such acquisitions.

Advised a joint venture comprising **a syndicate of private equity investors** in the acquisition of multifamily assets throughout the southeastern and midwestern U.S. as well as related acquisition financings through Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac (including the CME loan program) and HUD.

Advised **a German institutional investor** in the acquisition and financing of various office and industrial assets throughout the U.S.

Advised a **public REIT** in the structuring of a joint venture with a foreign investor for the acquisition of grocery-anchored retail assets in the southeastern U.S.

Advised a **German institutional investor** in the leasing of its office, industrial and retail portfolio in the U.S.

Advised a **developer** in the development and leasing of an office park containing over 1,000,000 square feet.

Advised a **developer** in the acquisition, financing and development of a 100-acre mixed-use development, including implementing various forms of ownership to achieve the goal of differing uses within the multi-level portions of the development.

Advised a **private real estate company** in connection with a roll-up of 42 assets consisting primarily of grocery-anchored retail centers located in the midwestern, southwestern and southeastern U.S., and the subsequent recapitalization of the equity structure to redeem certain investors and to provide capital for growth.

Credentials

EDUCATION

J.D., University of South Carolina, magna cum laude

B.S., Hampden-Sydney College, cum laude

ADMISSIONS

North Carolina

Recognition

Recommended for Real Estate

LEGAL 500, 2016

"Very strong interpersonal skills" and "adds a lot of value in the business context."

CHAMBERS USA CLIENT INTERVIEW

Named a Leading Real Estate Lawyer

THE BEST LAWYERS IN AMERICA

"The best lawyer I've ever dealt with, he doesn't show off and he concentrates on getting the deal done."

CHAMBERS USA CLIENT INTERVIEW

A Top Real Estate Lawyer

CHAMBERS USA

Insights

ARTICLE

May 23, 2019 • Source: Chambers Global Practice Guide - Real Estate

NEWSLETTER

December 17, 2018

REIT Advisor – December 2018

November 30, 2018 • Source: REIT Advisor

Using Forward Sale Agreements to Capitalize on Market Conditions

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News

CASES & DEALS

April 9, 2019

Asana Partners Closes \$800 Million Fund

RECOGNITION

August 16, 2019

The Best Lawyers in America Recognizes 115 King & Spalding Lawyers in its 2020 Guide

King & Spalding Earns Top Rankings in Chambers USA 2019 Guide

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