

## Experience

Joseph M. Saponaro is a trusted leader and accomplished attorney with more than 20 years of experience in complex real estate transactions, including acquiring, selling, leasing, financing, and developing commercial real estate, on a regional and national basis. Prior to practicing law, Joe served as Chief Administrative Officer for a private national company for over 10 years. His vast business experience and diverse education, coupled with his natural skills as a dynamic communicator, have enhanced and advanced his legal practice.

## Representative Matters

- Represented restaurant franchisees in leasing 50 in-line and out-parcel locations nationwide
- Represented client in sale of \$300-million office building
- Represented client in sale of \$60-million industrial portfolio
- Represented major tenant in a 65,000 SF office lease
- Represented modal transportation company in obtaining \$5-million grant from Ohio Department of Transportation
- Represented client in obtaining over \$500,000 in appropriation matter regarding the I-90 Inner Belt Bridge project
- Represented commercial landlords in 100+ leasing transactions with national and regional tenants
- Represented clients with respect to multiple joint venture development of 80/20 residential projects

## Civic and Professional Involvement

- Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, Real Estate Law Section; Chair, 2006-2007, 2015-2017.
- Real Estate Institute Planning Committee, 2004-present.
- American Bar Association; Vice Chairman of the Retail Leasing Committee for the Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Section
- Justinian Forum
- Lawyer's Guild
- Ohio State Bar Association
- Cleveland-Marshall Law Alumni Association
- Acting judge, Rocky River Municipal Court

## Joseph M. Saponaro

Partner



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**Practice Areas:**

- Real Estate, Chair
- Business & Corporate
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Finance
- Construction
- Estate Planning & Probate

**Bar Admissions:**

- Northern District of Ohio
- US Court of Appeals, 4th Circuit
- All Ohio State Courts
- District of Columbia

**Education:**

- Bowling Green State University, BS in Business Administration, 1986
- Cleveland State University, MA in Economics, 1996
- Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, J.D., 1999



Meyers, Roman, Friedberg & Lewis

A Legal Professional Association

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## **Civic and Professional Involvement (continued)**

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- Mayfield Village Council President (past) and Council Member for over 15 years, completing his last term in 2019 before retiring from public service.

## **Accomplishments**

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- Ohio "Super Lawyers," Real Estate Law, 2017-2022
- Martindale-Hubbard – AV Preeminent rating
- Outstanding Fellow – Leadership Academy of Cleveland State University-Levin College of Urban Studies, 2005
- Established Leader – Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association Inaugural Leadership Academy, 2018

## **Publications**

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- *Bar Journal of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association*, "The Public Trust Doctrine and Submerged Lake Erie Lands in Ohio"
- *Builders Exchange Magazine*, "Choosing the Right Entity for Your Business"
- *Clev. St. L. Rev.*, 115, "Determining the Immunity 'Measuring Stick:' The Impact of the Health Care Quality Improvement Act and Antitrust Laws on Immunity Aspects of Granting Privileges to Physician Assistants"