

Sheila Kailus

Partner

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She / Her

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Areas of Focus

Real Estate Transactions

Corporate

Real Estate and Hospitality

Life Sciences

Hedge, Investment, and

Private Equity Funds



Overview

Sheila Kailus represents property owners, operators, and developers with their most critical real estate transaction needs. Be it a privately held small company or a public Fortune 500 titan, Sheila provides strategic and thoughtful legal counsel for complex real estate transactions, real estate developments and loan workouts.

Sheila is well versed in addressing operational issues that affect real estate owners. She also has deep experience forming joint ventures (and resolving thorny joint venture disputes). As a former in-house attorney in both private and public companies, she understands her clients' business needs and develops effective strategies that solve their legal issues.

Known as a tireless advocate, Sheila handles legal matters in a straightforward, efficient, and effective manner. Clients engage Sheila not only for her in-depth understanding of their legal needs but also because of her insight regarding proactive measures they can take to avoid future issues.

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I do not have a one size fits all approach to practicing real estate law — I tailor advice to meet clients' diverse needs and offer targeted solutions to resolve their legal issues.”

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- Corporate
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- Life Sciences
- Hedge, Investment, and Private Equity Funds

Credentials

Admissions

- Illinois, 1997

Education

- University of Illinois College of Law, JD, Rickert Award
- Princeton University, BA, Lewis Kraft Award

Court Admissions

- US District Court, Northern District of Illinois, 1998

Clerkships

- Hon. George W. Lindberg, US District Court, Northern District of Illinois

Service / Recognition

Awards

- *The American Lawyer Industry Awards*, Best Client Law-Firm Team, Jenner & Block and BMO (finalist), 2025
- The Albert E. Jenner Pro Bono Award, 2024
- The Jenner & Block Mentorship Award, 2020
- Associate Board of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago, Member, 2000-2004; Outstanding Mentor, 2003

Community

- Active volunteer on behalf of Princeton University, a student and member of the varsity tennis team from 1990-1994 and captain of the varsity tennis team from 1993-1994; participation Co-Chair of the Princeton Annual Giving Fund from 2018-2019; a member of Princeton's ASC Interview Committee for prospective students
- Vice-Chair of the Chicago Bar Association Real Property Committee from 2010-2011