Speaker Bios

David V. Allen is now counsel for the Mixed-Use Group of Brookfield Properties Development LLC, which acquired Forest City Realty Trust, Inc. in December of 2018. His responsibilities include construction, development, acquisitions, sustainability initiatives, and leasing. Prior to Forest City, David was a partner with Taft, Stettinius & Hollister, LLP, handling privately and publicly financed projects, condominiums, low income housing tax credit transactions and many other types of development. Mr. Allen taught business law and ethics at Walsh University and served four years on Strongsville City Council. David is also a past presenter and moderator in ICSC law seminars as well as past presenter, moderator and Chair of the Real Estate Law Institute for the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association. David is a graduate of The University of Akron School of Law and Baldwin-Wallace College. Mr. Allen belongs to the American Institute of Architects, the Gorilla Group, the British-American Chamber of Commerce and has published various articles on real estate development, ethics and entrepreneurship.

Kim Amrine is a Member and the Director of Diversity and Inclusion at Frost Brown Todd. This past year, Kim celebrated her 13-year anniversary in her role as the firm’s Director of Diversity and Inclusion at FBT and her 20-year anniversary with the firm. Her billable hour requirement is zero, meaning, Kim’s primary responsibility is to ensure that FBT’s commitment to diversity and inclusion are not just words in a glossy brochure or a mission on the website. She uses her passion, great resources and leadership support to ensure that the firm is constantly pushing the needle to improve in the areas of diversity, equity and inclusion, and ultimately to promote a more inclusive work environment at Frost Brown Todd. Kim also consults with many firm clients on best practices in the D&I space and facilitates inclusion training for their executives.

David M. Blau is an attorney in Clark Hill PLC’s Birmingham, Michigan office. He helps landlords in retail tenant bankruptcies, collects rent, and negotiates retail leases. Shopping center landlords rely on his expertise in retail bankruptcies around the country. He has led several roundtable sessions at a variety of ICSC events.

Michele Knapp Boal is General Counsel at Zeisler Morgan Properties in Cleveland, Ohio. Zeisler Morgan is a privately held owner, developer and manager of retail shopping centers. Michele has extensive experience with a variety of real estate transactions including acquisitions, dispositions, leasing and financings.

Melissa A. Breeden is Of Counsel with Dickinson Wright PLLC in its Phoenix, Arizona office where she counsels clients on development, retail and office leasing, purchase and sale of commercial real estate, and financing. Prior to her current position, Ms. Breeden served for nearly 20 years in various in-house counsel roles at Simon Property Group, providing advice in the areas of development, shopping center acquisition and disposition, joint ventures, real estate finance and corporate law. She earned her bachelor’s degree at Ball State University and her juris doctorate at Valparaiso University Law School. Ms. Breeden is a member of the State Bar of Arizona, the Indianapolis Bar Association and the International Council of Shopping Centers.

John G. Cameron, Jr., of Dickinson Wright PLLC, practices real estate and construction law. Educated at the United States Naval Academy, Albion College (AB, 1971), Wayne State University (JD cum laude, 1974), and The University of Michigan (LLM, 2016), he has published several legal treatises and many articles. Mr. Cameron served as the NCARB Public Director and is a member of the American Law Institute and former chair of the State Bar of Michigan Professional Ethics Committee. He served as law clerk to the Honorable William H. Webster, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, and is admitted to practice in Michigan, Illinois, Colorado, and North Carolina. Mr. Cameron is an Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Michigan.

Alexander S. Conn is an associate with the law firm of Ulmer & Berne LLP, and has experience in commercial real estate matters, focusing on representation of commercial landlords and tenants in the development and lease-up of new locations. He has experience working on transactions involving shopping centers, lifestyle centers, restaurants, and other retail spaces.
Susan Cornett is a partner at Thompson Hine LLP. Susan practices in Thompson Hine's Cincinnati and Dayton offices. Susan focuses her practice on real estate matters, particularly mortgage and mezzanine financing, commercial real estate purchases and sales and commercial leasing. Susan earned her B.S., M.B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Cincinnati. Susan was selected as an Ohio Super lawyer Rising Star for the years 2012 through 2018 and was listed in The Best Lawyers in American in 2016 and 2017 and in The Legal 500 United States in 2014. Susan is a member of the International Council of Shopping Centers, the American College of Mortgage Attorneys and CREW. She frequently speaks on commercial real estate issues and has presented at seminars hosted by the American College of Mortgage Attorneys, National Business Institute, International Council of Shopping Centers and Ohio State Bar Association.

Eric Cotton serves as deputy general counsel and corporate compliance officer for SITE Centers Corp., a publicly traded real estate investment trust based in Cleveland, Ohio, where he oversees the company’s litigation, risk management and compliance matters and provides legal support to its business units. Eric was previously general counsel for Equivest Finance, Inc., a publicly traded real estate development and finance company based in Syracuse, New York. He has also held positions in the legal departments of the Pyramid Companies and the Edward J. DeBartolo Corporation.

Robert E. Dauer, Jr. focuses his practice on corporate, commercial, real estate, banking and bankruptcy legal matters, and litigation. He is a member of the firm’s Management Committee and Chair of the firm’s Creditors’ Rights & Bankruptcy Group. He is also a member of the Corporate Business Law and Litigation Groups.

David N. DeRoberts is an attorney with the Columbus, Ohio law firm of at Gallagher Kavinsky & Burkhart LPA. He is admitted to practice in Ohio and in Illinois, and his practice focuses primarily on shopping center and office leasing representing local and national office and retail landlords and tenants in leasing matters and related litigation/dispute resolution. He also represents clients in general business matters, evictions and collection litigation, traffic court, misdemeanors, and general litigation/dispute resolution. He graduated magna cum laude from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law in 1994. He has presented CLE seminars on §1031 exchanges and a variety of other topics in more than 15 states and has served as an adjunct faculty member at Cleveland-Marshall, Hondros College, and the Real Estate Center at DePaul University.

Gary S. Desberg is a founding shareholder in the Cleveland law firm of Singerman, Mills, Desberg & Kauntz Co., L.P.A. Mr. Desberg has extensive experience in commercial real estate transactions through his representation of chain store tenants, as well as lenders, owners, and managers of retail, industrial, office, and multi-family properties. Mr. Desberg was named an “Ohio Superlawyer” by Cincinnati Magazine in 2006-2019. He was named in The Best Lawyers in America for 2007-2019, and was named Best Lawyers’ 2015 Cleveland Real Estate “Lawyer of the Year”. Mr. Desberg was listed in Chambers USA Leading Lawyers in the area of real estate in 2011-2019. Mr. Desberg received his undergraduate degree in 1982 from the University of Michigan and earned his J.D., cum laude, in 1985 from Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

Michael Dostal, Managing Director, CIBC Bank. Mike has over 30 years of experience in the banking and commercial real estate development. Mike joined CIBC Bank in 2016, having previously held similar positions with FirstMerit Bank, Sky Bank and Citizens Republic Bank. Mike graduated from Bowling Green State University and earned an MBA from Cleveland State University. Mike is active with organizations including as a board member of the YMCA of Greater Cleveland, Canalway Partners, the Ohio City Business Improvement District, the Downtown Cleveland Alliance, and as a member of the Hudson Planning Commission.

Thomas A. FitzSimmons is Of Counsel with Singerman, Mills, Desberg & Kauntz Co., L.P.A. and Assistant Law Director for Jackson Township, Stark County, Ohio. Tom represents both private developers and governmental entities on all manner of commercial real estate transactions. Previously, Tom was General Counsel and Secretary of Robert L. Stark Enterprises, a national developer of retail and mixed-
use developments, and Corporate Counsel for Forest City Enterprises. He is a graduate of The University of Cincinnati College of Law and Muskingum University.

**Michael Glimcher** is Chief Executive Officer of Starwood Retail Partners, working with parent Starwood Capital Group and the company's senior management to take advantage of their combined platforms' relationships and scale, further enhancing their ability to capitalize on the opportunities and face the challenges that are confronting the retail industry. Michael has worked in the real estate industry for 28 years. Prior to joining Starwood Retail Partners in 2017, he served as CEO of Glimcher Realty Trust/WP Glimcher from 2005 to 2017 and Chairman from 2007 to 2015. He holds a B.S. degree from Arizona State University and recently served as a trustee for the University Foundation. Michael has served on the Executive Board of Governors and the Governing Committee of the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts, is a former Trustee of the International Council of Shopping Centers, and is also a member of the Real Estate Roundtable. He was a 2013 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year and named a Midwest Real Estate Icon by Real Estate Forum Magazine.

**Lori Pittman Haas** is a Partner and the Vice Chair of Ulmer & Berne LLP's Real Estate Practice Group. She has extensive experience in a wide range of legal issues affecting the real estate industry, with a particular skill in representing commercial property owners and tenants in eminent domain cases.

**Leigha Hanby**. As Corporate Counsel – Real Estate at Dick’s Sporting Goods, Leigha handles a broad range of real estate matters for the Company, from litigation management to leasing. Prior to joining Dick’s, Leigha was a Litigation Associate with Goehring, Rutter & Boehm in Pittsburgh, PA. Leigha is a graduate of Duquesne University Honors College and the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

**Steve Haughey**. For more than 30 years, Steve Haughey has been representing clients across the country in regulatory compliance counseling, permit negotiations, wetlands disputes, rulemaking challenges, enforcement litigation, citizen suits, criminal prosecutions, and cleanup of contaminated property. He has counseled developers in stream/wetland-related issues at sites ranging from residential and commercial developments of a few acres, to hundreds of acres developed for health care complexes, schools and universities, and industrial plants. Steve’s science background enables him to work closely with consultants on technical issues at sites, including whether wetlands are present; whether streams are ephemeral, intermittent or perennial; and endangered species and historic preservation issues, which helps the firm's clients minimize their permitting requirements and potential delays in their development objectives.

**TJ Hess** is a commercial real estate associate at Kayne Law Group in Columbus, Ohio, where he represents a wide array of clients on all aspects of retail development, leasing and financing. TJ is a graduate of The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law and Miami University.

**Kendall Kadish** is an associate attorney at the law firm of Keating Muething & Klekamp PLL (KMK) based in Cincinnati, Ohio. Kendall's practice is focused primarily on general commercial real estate development matters. He is a graduate of The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law.

**Chris Kahn** is a managing associate in the Environmental Practice Group at Frost Brown Todd LLC. She focuses her practice on counseling clients on regulatory matters and regularly counsels buyers, sellers, and lenders on environmental risks in real estate and corporate transactions. Chris has defended federal and state enforcement actions and has conducted environmental audits and internal investigations for industrial clients. Chris has experience in advising and defending clients with respect to many areas of state and federal environmental law, including the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, the Comprehensive Environmental Resource, Compensation and Liability Act, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Underground Storage Tank Act, and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act. Prior to joining the Firm, Chris was an Assistant Attorney General at the Ohio Attorney General’s Office, where she enforced state air pollution control laws and regulations.
Dusty Elias Kirk is a Partner in the Global Real Estate Practice Group of Reed Smith, LLP, one of the world’s largest law firms with offices in 30 global cities. Dusty’s practice focus is on development, acquisitions, land use concerns and economic incentives. She also counsels her clients on an array of sustainability issues that impact development projects and facilities that include the LEED rating system and regulatory greenhouse gas emission regulations. She regularly handles complex issues in the public-private partnership arena that include Pennsylvania’s first Community Benefit Agreement between neighborhood groups, government agencies and the Pittsburgh Penguins NHL franchise. She is highly regarded in the Western Pennsylvania real estate community and supports efforts to encourage greater involvement of women in the industry through her work with the Urban Land Institute (ULI), Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW) and Dress for Success.

Michael Kostiew is a Partner in the Global Real Estate Practice Group of Reed Smith, LLP, one of the world’s largest law firms with offices in 30 global cities. Michael’s law practice centers on commercial real estate transactions and complex land-use matters. Since joining Reed Smith in 2010, Michael has worked on a series of high-profile projects that include the creation of a master plan for the former 28 acre site of Pittsburgh’s Civic Arena and a master plan for Hazelwood Green (a 178 acre former steel mill site), representation of a major university in various development deals for student housing and off-book financing transactions for lab, office, and academic space, and the establishment of joint ventures for real estate acquisitions and development.

Kathryn Kramer Gaydos is a partner in the Real Estate & Environmental Practice Group of Benesch, Friedlander, Coplan & Aronoff LLP. Kathryn has experience analyzing and counseling clients on a wide variety of real estate issues. Kathryn’s practice focuses on the representation of corporate landlords in commercial retail leasing transactions. She has experience negotiating commercial retail leases with national, regional and local tenants, which have ranged in size from anchor tenants, to restaurants, to small shop retailers. She also has experience representing tenants in commercial retail lease negotiations, as well as representing both landlords and tenants in industrial and office lease negotiations. Her leasing representation has included: drafting and negotiating leases and guarantees (including other ancillary documents, such as estoppels and SNDAs); analysis of existing lease and/or title restrictions; and minor lease dispute resolution.

Eric E. Landen is a Member in the Cincinnati office of Frost Brown Todd LLC. Eric represents developers on shopping center acquisitions, development, and leasing. In addition, Eric represents banks and other corporations on their retail, office, and warehouse leasing portfolios and has represented Cincinnati Public Schools on its real estate matters for more than ten years. Eric is the current board secretary for the Cincinnati Preservation Association, a member of Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber C-Change Leadership Program, Class VI, and former board president of Hamilton County Special Olympics. Prior to attending Case Western Reserve School of Law, Eric served as a Peace Corps Volunteer in El Salvador working with villages outside of San Salvador to implement water and sanitation projects. Eric, his wife, and school age daughter and son live in the Clifton neighborhood of Cincinnati.

PAUL S. MAGY is a member of the law firm of Clark Hill PLC’s Real Estate Practice Group. Mr. Magy’s extensive commercial real estate experience includes acquisition, development, finance, zoning, leasing and sale of commercial real estate, in addition to litigation related to those areas, including receiverships, distressed assets and retailer bankruptcy. Mr. Magy also has substantial experience representing owners of all manner of commercial real estate as well as developers, property managers and brokers. Mr. Magy is actively involved in a number of real estate trade associations. Mr. Magy is a long-time member of the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC), serving as ICSC’s Michigan State Director from 2001-2004 and has held numerous other state and regional ICSC offices. In 2012, Mr. Magy was awarded ICSC’s highest honor, the Trustees Distinguished Service Award, at a special ceremony at RECon in Las Vegas. Mr. Magy is currently chair of the Michigan ICSC’s Continuing Education Program for Real Estate Professionals and frequently presents at seminars and programs on a variety of real estate related topics. Mr. Magy’s work in the area of shopping center related law and involvement with ICSC earned him a seat on ICSC’s National Legal Advisory Council beginning in 2002. Mr. Magy was named to become its Chairman effective at the 2013 RECon. Mr. Magy is Past President of the Building...
Owners and Managers Association (BOMA) of Metropolitan Detroit. Prior to joining Clark Hill, Mr. Magy was a founding member of Kupelian Ormond & Magy (KOM) - a Southfield, Michigan based law firm that joined with Clark Hill PLC in 2012. Mr. Magy graduated from Wayne State University Law School in 1982. Mr. Magy has been designated a Michigan Super Lawyer and a DBusiness Top Lawyer for many years. Mr. Magy is a Fellow of the Michigan State Bar Foundation and a Life Member of the Judicial Conference of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Mr. Magy is also actively involved with a number of educational, religious and charitable institutions, and has presented or facilitated at seminars and programs on topics related to leadership development, programming and fundraising. Mr. Magy served as President of Adat Shalom Synagogue, a 1,000-member family congregation in Farmington Hills, Michigan, between 2004-2006 and was Chair of the Board of Advisors of the Rabbinical School of Jewish Theological Seminary of America, located in New York, N.Y., from 2006-2009.

Anna Maiuri is Co-Chair of the Environmental, Energy & Sustainability Practice Group at Dickinson Wright PLLC. She is particularly adept at assisting companies and manufacturers achieve regulatory compliance through effective negotiations with governmental regulators that result in cost-effective strategies that fulfill both the client's and the regulator's needs. With more than $2.0 billion in transactions to date, Anna has extensive experience in helping corporations, business owners and operators assess environmental liabilities when purchasing, selling or leasing assets both across the country and around the world. Her prior experience as an auditor for the United States General Accounting Office (GAO) gives her unique insight into the way government and government regulators think and work, and her clients benefit for her understanding of what happens behind-the-scenes. Anna has been included in The Best Lawyers in America© since 2007 for her work in Environmental Law and Litigation – Regulatory Enforcement (SEC, Telecom, Energy). She was named the Best Lawyers® 2020 Environmental Law "Lawyer of the Year" in Troy, Michigan. Anna co-chairs the firm's Diversity & Inclusion Committee.

Brian McAllister is Senior Director, Leasing Counsel of Washington Prime Group, a retail real estate investment trust and a recognized leader in the ownership, management, acquisition and development of retail properties with corporate headquarters in Columbus, Ohio. Mr. McAllister's main responsibilities include the management of lease and contract negotiations throughout the United States. Prior to joining Washington Prime Group, Mr. McAllister served as Senior Leasing Counsel at Simon Property Group where he was responsible for lease and contract negotiation of Simon’s Midwest Region properties. Mr. McAllister is a graduate of Dickinson School of Law and currently resides in Columbus, Ohio.

Madeline McGrane is Legal Counsel in the Corporate and Transactions group at SITE Centers Corp. Madeline focuses her practice on commercial real estate transactions including acquisitions and dispositions, development, and financing. She received her B.A. from Georgetown University and her J.D. from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. Madeline currently enjoys XFL DFS.

Kevin F. McKeegan is a partner of Meyer, Unkovic & Scott LLP. He served as Managing Partner of the firm from 2006 to 2011 and is now co-head of the Corporate & Business Law Practice Group. His broad practice includes acquisition and development of commercial real estate, land use and zoning, corporate planning and transactions, and commercial lease transactions. In addition to ICSC, he is a member of the Urban Land Institute and serves on ULI’s Pittsburgh District Council Executive Committee. Mr. McKeegan has spoken at or moderated numerous programs for the Pennsylvania Bar Institute, ULI and ICSC. He was formerly a member and for two years was chair of Allegheny County’s Board of Property Assessment Appeals and Review. Currently, he is a member of the Community College of Allegheny County’s Educational Foundation Board. He is a graduate of Dickinson College and the University of Pittsburgh’s School of Law.

Sharon Newlon is Co-Chair of the Environmental Practice Group at Dickinson Wright PLLC. Sharon has been assisting companies for over 30 years in evaluating environmental issues associated with their acquisitions and operations. She oversees environmental risk management in multi-million dollar purchase, merger and financing transactions; chairs Superfund PRP Groups; serves as environmental crisis counsel on significant spill incidents; and is national environmental audit counsel for chemical and
manufacturing companies. She holds a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from the University of Detroit and a JD from Notre Dame Law School. Sharon has served as an environmental law lecturer on environmental auditing and crisis management, the environmental aspects of real estate development and financing, environmental issues for small businesses, and the siting of renewable energy projects in Brownfields, among others. Ms. Newlon served on the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality’s Part 201 Workgroup to review Michigan’s environmental remediation and redevelopment laws, on the State Bar’s Environmental Law Section’s Council and as Ethics Committee Co-Chair, and as Co-Chair of the Environmental Law Committee for the Southeast Michigan Chapter of the Federal Bar Association.

**Tracey Nichols** works with clients to identify and secure public financing opportunities for business expansion and real estate projects. In addition, she works with non-profit and municipal clients to assist with economic development strategies, real estate strategies, brownfield projects, program development and technical assistance. Tracey joined Project Management Consultants after serving nearly nine years as Director of Economic Development for Mayor Frank G. Jackson of the city of Cleveland. During her tenure, Tracey led her team to complete almost 900 projects, representing nearly $3 billion in investment in the city of Cleveland and creating and retaining more than 27,000 jobs. Tracey’s team also secured nearly $100 million in grants and pass-through funding. Tracey has a degree in Business Management from Case Western Reserve University and is a certified Economic Development Finance Professional. Her work has been nationally recognized and she has been invited to speak at numerous conferences and events including the National League of Cities, the Clinton Global Initiative, the National Brownfields Conference and the International Economic Development Council on topics including economic development finance, economic inclusion, transit-oriented development and redevelopment projects. She received the Cleveland Foundation’s Homer Wadsworth Award and was honored as Public Executive of the Year by Novogradac Journal of Tax Credits and was given the Robert W. Davenport Community Development Leadership award from the National Development Council in October 2017. She is a board member of the International Economic Development Council.

**Tandy C. Patrick** is a partner with Bingham Greenebaum Doll LLP where she serves on the Firm’s Board of Directors. Her practice focuses on the leasing, acquisition, development and financing of commercial real estate, representing several regional shopping center developers and national restaurant franchisees. She is listed in the Best Lawyers in America, Kentucky Super Lawyers and Chambers USA America’s Leading Lawyers for Business. She is a member of ACREL and is active in ICSC and CCIM. Tandy is a frequent speaker at the annual ICSC KY/TN Idea Exchange, and she has made presentations at numerous ICSC’s US Shopping Center Law Conferences. She is on the Planning Committee for the ICSC OKIMP Retail Development and Law Symposium (Co-Chair in 2017/2018). Tandy is also a lifelong horsewoman and serves on the Board of Directors of the American Saddlebred Horse Association, and she is a member of the Kentucky State Fair Board that oversees the Kentucky State Fairgrounds and the Kentucky International Convention Center.

**Margaret Petersen** is the founding principal of Petersen Law PLLC, which focuses primarily on commercial leasing matters (retail, office, and medical office). Previously she was Director–Real Estate Counsel for Borders Group, the parent company of Borders and Waldenbooks stores. Before joining Borders in 1993, Ms. Petersen previously was an in-house real estate counsel with Hechinger/Home Quarters Warehouse in Landover, MD and an in-house counsel for Baltimore–based developer Continental Realty Corporation. She is a graduate of the University of Maryland (now Francis King Carey) School of Law and of Loyola College (now University) at Baltimore.

**Karen R. Pifer** is a Partner in Honigman’s Real Estate Department and is located in the firm's Bloomfield Hills, Michigan office. Ms. Pifer advises and represents clients in various types of real estate transactions, including the acquisition, sale, development, financing and leasing of shopping centers, office buildings, hotels and other real estate projects. She has significant leasing experience representing landlords in connection with retail and office leases. Ms. Pifer also represents borrowers and lenders in mortgage loan transactions and advises and represents clients in workouts, foreclosures and restructuring of debt transactions. Admitted to practice in the state of Michigan, Ms. Pifer received a J.D. from the University
Megan Roberts is the Senior Legal Counsel – Real Estate at The Wendy’s Company in Dublin, Ohio. Prior to joining Wendy’s, Megan was a Partner at Ulmer & Berne in Cleveland and focused her real estate practice representing quick-service restaurants, as well as traditional office, commercial, and industrial clients.

Chelsea R. Spickelmier represents clients in all aspects of real estate development, financing and leasing. She counsels real estate developers in the acquisition, development, financing and disposition of multi-family, mixed-use, retail, industrial, office and other commercial properties. She also advises clients on the business entity life cycle, from formation through dissolution.

Christina (*Chris*) M. Sprecher is a Member at Frost Brown Todd LLC, Cincinnati, Ohio, where she serves as Chair of the Real Estate Practice Group. Ms. Sprecher represents real estate developers, anchor department stores, and retailers in shopping center transactions, and she has substantial experience in the acquisition, financing, construction, leasing and sale of retail, office and mixed-use projects. She serves as Co-Chair of the 2020 Program Planning Committee for the ICSC Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan and Pennsylvania Retail Development & Law Symposium. She is a member of the Ohio and Kentucky Bar Associations. She received her undergraduate degree from Indiana University and her J.D. degree from Valparaiso University School of Law.

Maxwell Briskman Stanfield is an attorney at Meyer, Unkovic & Scott. He focuses his practice on corporate, business, financial, and commercial real estate law, and he has a wide variety of experience in the entertainment industry.

Shannon S. Vukmir is a partner of the Pittsburgh based law firm, Sitko Bruno, LLC. Shannon’s practice is devoted to all aspects of commercial real estate including representing clients in the acquisition and disposition of real estate, leasing and construction documents, as well as general corporate matters. A native of Pittsburgh, Shannon received her law degree from Duquesne University School of Law and began her legal career as an associate with a major Pittsburgh firm. Shannon is involved in numerous civic activities and is currently a member of Central Catholic High School’s Board of Directors.

Geoffrey M. White is the Real Estate Service Team Leader at Frost Brown Todd where he represents borrowers, developers, owners, investors, lenders, loan servicers, and managers in the financing, workout, servicing, purchase, sale, development and management of commercial real estate properties. Geoff is also the Member-in-Charge of the firm’s Louisville office. Geoff is a member of the American College of Real Estate Lawyers. He is listed in the Best Lawyers in America® 2014-2018, Kentucky Super Lawyers® 2013-2018 and is AV® Rated, Martindale-Hubbell®. He is also listed in Chambers USA® America’s Leading Lawyers for Business, 2011-2018, where he was noted for his particular expertise in real estate finance with sources stating, “He sees the bigger picture” and always comes up with alternative solutions, and that “he bends over backwards to help the client.” Geoff graduated cum laude from the University of Michigan Law School in 2003 and magna cum laude from Mary Washington College in 2000 where he double majored in history and political science.

Matthew A. Whitlow is Vice President, Real Estate Law for Macy’s, Inc. where he is the head of the real estate legal department. He manages a team of six real estate attorneys, three real estate paralegals, and teams of outside counsel responsible for handling the legal affairs of a multi-billion dollar real estate portfolio owned, ground leased or leased by Macy’s and its subsidiaries.

Jason M. Yarbrough is a partner with Meyer, Unkovic & Scott LLP and Chair of the firm’s Real Estate Litigation Section. Mr. Yarbrough represents commercial property owners, landlords, developers and other clients in disputes ranging from the routine to the complex, including multi-million dollar litigation with claims over $100,000,000.
Scott Ziance is a partner in the Vorys Columbus office. He leads the firm’s multi-disciplinary economic development incentives team – utilizing economic development incentives, public-private partnerships and special economic development entities to assist developers, operating businesses and political subdivisions in developing and redeveloping property and creating jobs and economic growth throughout the United States. A Harvard Law School and Bowling Green State University graduate, Scott is recognized as a national leader in the economic development incentives practice. He has represented a number of large businesses, including multiple West Coast-based Fortune 50 companies, on their tax incentives transactions throughout the United States. He also has drafted or assisted in the drafting of 18 statutory amendments related to economic development incentives, and he has served as incentives counsel in connection with three of the largest five incentives projects in the history of the Ohio Department of Development. He represents a number of the country’s largest developers and currently serves as past-president of NAIOP of Ohio, past-president of NAIOP Central Ohio Chapter, and as a member of the national NAIOP board of directors.