

Leah A. Schleicher

Partner & Chair | Real Estate

OVERVIEW

Leah is chair of the firm's Real Estate practice group and Co-Chair of the Firm's Hospitality and Leisure Practice Group. She develops legal strategies for clients, both real estate investors and clients in other industries who are heavy real estate users, in a wide range of commercial real estate transactions, including acquisitions and dispositions; mortgage and mezzanine financing transactions; commercial leases, hotel management and franchise agreements, co-living and property management arrangements; and entity structuring focused on operational and tax efficiency.

Leah's nationwide practice covers widespread asset classes. Clients include institutional real estate investors, real estate developers, manufacturers, distributors, hotel owners, retailers and restaurateurs, and high net worth individuals. She simplifies the real estate transaction process for her clients by implementing a project strategy that is tailored to the individual client's objectives and placing an emphasis on being nimble and proactive to both take advantage of opportunities that arise and avoid unnecessary complications.

Leah is a member of and previously co-chaired the firm's Diversity & Inclusion Committee. She is also a member of the Income Partner Review and Opinions Committees.

Schleicher Crains Building ChicagolandDownload

EXPERIENCE

- Represented Equity Residential, one of the largest publicly traded owners and operators of high-quality



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EDUCATION

Fordham University School of Law
(J.D., 1997)

Michigan State University (B.A., 1994)

ADMISSIONS

New York
Illinois

multi-family residential properties in the United States, in connection with its \$964 million acquisition of an 11-property multi-family residential/retail portfolio (located in Colorado, Georgia and Texas) from affiliates of Blackstone Real Estate Strategies.

- Represented multi-family property owner in acquisitions and dispositions of real estate nationwide and related financing transactions, including conventional mortgage loans and Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac loans.
- Represented distributor in acquisition and development of real estate for distribution centers throughout the country.
- Represented property owner nationally in acquisitions and dispositions of retail properties.
- Represented real estate developer in nationwide dispositions of real estate, including office, retail and multi-family projects.
- Represented hotel owner/operator in nationwide acquisitions and dispositions of owned hotel properties and in management agreements for managed hotels.
- Represented real estate developer in joint venture arrangements in connection with community development projects in Illinois.
- Represented retail property owner in securitized mortgage loan and mezzanine loan transactions.
- Represented financial institution in foreclosures and workouts of real estate loans in Illinois.
- Represented multi-family property owner in acquisitions of distressed debt secured by real estate.
- Represented multi-family operator in connection with receivership and property management services for properties in foreclosure throughout the country.

RECOGNITIONS

- "Notable Leaders in Accounting, Consulting & Law," *Crain's Chicago Business*, 2024
- *The Best Lawyers in America*, recommended in "Real Estate Law" since 2024
- *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, recommended in "Real Estate" since 2022
- *The Legal 500 United States*, recommended in "Real Estate" since 2020
- "Notable Women in Law," *Crain's Chicago Business*, 2020



NEWS & INSIGHTS

September 20, 2024 Event

NGE Attends 2024 Goldie Gala

September 9, 2024 Firm News

Bobby Gerber, Michael Kelber and Leah Schleicher Named to *Crain's Chicago Business* 2024 Notable Leaders in Accounting, Consulting and Law

August 29, 2024 Firm News

NGE Represents Equity Residential in the Acquisition of Nearly \$1 Billion Apartment Portfolio

August 15, 2024 Firm News

60 Neal Gerber Eisenberg Attorneys Included in 2025 *Best Lawyers In America*

June 6, 2024 Firm News

Neal Gerber Eisenberg Secures Nine Ranked Practice Groups and 23 Recognized Attorneys in *Chambers USA* 2024

August 17, 2023 Firm News

55 Neal Gerber Eisenberg Attorneys Included in 2024 *Best Lawyers In America*

July 7, 2023 In The Media

Tonya Newman and Leah Schleicher Interviewed by *Law.com* For "How I Made Practice Group Chair" Series

June 1, 2023 Firm News

Neal Gerber Eisenberg Secures 10 Ranked Practice Groups and 25 Recognized Attorneys in *Chambers USA* 2023

October 25, 2022 Firm News

NGE Advises National Medical Billing Services in Its Acquisition of MedTek, LLC

June 1, 2022 Firm News

Neal Gerber Eisenberg Secures 11 Ranked Practice Groups and 25 Recognized Attorneys in *Chambers USA* 2022

October 15, 2021 Firm News

NGE Represents Savencia Fromage & Dairy in Acquisition of Hope Foods

May 27, 2021 In The Media

Leah Schleicher Quoted in Wealth Management on WeWork

September 8, 2020 Firm News

Five Neal Gerber Eisenberg Attorneys Named to Crain's 2020 Notable Women in Law

June 15, 2020 Firm News

The Legal 500 United States 2020 Edition Recommends Five Neal Gerber Eisenberg Practices and 21 Attorneys

April 15, 2020 Publication

Client Alert: Seeking Rent Relief? What Your Landlord Wants You to Know



October 21, 2019 In The Media

Leah Schleicher Participates in *Crain's* Building Chicagoland Roundtable

July 10, 2019 Firm News

NGE Advises Reyes Holdings on \$2 Billion Sale of Reinhart Foodservice

July 9, 2018 Firm News

Leah A. Schleicher Named to Profiles in Diversity Journal's List of Women Worth Watching

July 9, 2018 Firm News

Neal Gerber Eisenberg Named One of the "Best Law Firms for Women"