



Clifton B. Clark

Member

Lexington Office

100 West Main Street

Suite 700

Lexington, KY 40507

(O): 859.288.2837

(F): 859.252.0688

(C): 859.619.6626

cbclark@jacksonkelly.com

Clifton B. Clark is a Member in the Banking, Equine, and Financial Services industry groups, focusing primarily on corporate structuring and finance, commercial lending, mergers and acquisitions, and tax. He practices out of the Firm's office in Lexington, Kentucky, where he also serves as that office's Managing Member.

Clifton works with business owners to structure transactions to achieve the long-term strategic objectives of the business. He guides his clients through the legal issues involved in forming and running a business, ranging from initial business formation, capitalization, financing, contract negotiation, secured transactions, and mergers and acquisitions.

Practical and efficient are the words Clifton lives by when it comes to helping business owners resolve legal issues – he knows that business owners have a lot on their plate, and he prides himself on helping ease the complex legal load.

From investment banking to non-profit organizations, Clifton's experience is wide-ranging. Clifton has represented individuals and business clients of all sizes in industries including manufacturing, marketing, wholesale and retail sales, mining, banking and insurance, coal and natural resources, and the healthcare and pharmaceutical industries.

In addition to being an attorney, Clifton is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA), making him uniquely positioned to provide the best counsel to his clients in issues relating to tax and commercial law. He is admitted to practice before the United States Tax Court and represents clients in matters before the Internal Revenue Service and the Kentucky Department of Revenue. If it's tax-related, Clifton can help.

When he's not cheering on the University of Kentucky Wildcats, his alma mater, Clifton stays actively involved in the Kentucky Society of Certified Public Accountants, where he serves as a member of the Tax Committee.

Awards

- Rated "Distinguished" by Martindale-Hubbell

Notable Legal Experience

- Represented affiliate of a publicly traded foreign corporation in acquisition of a coal company valued at approximately \$20 million, including advising regarding U.S. holding company structuring, federal and state and negotiation, documentation and closing of acquisition transaction
- Represented lender in loan transaction associated with the acquisition of coal company valued at approximately \$50 million
- Advised lender on real property and regulatory issues associated with acquisition and lending transaction and the issues relating to the perfection and priority of secured interests in collateral of target company

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- Represented family-owned manufacturing corporation in negotiation and documentation of term loan and revolving credit facility with regional lender
- Served as corporate counsel to pharmaceutical manufacturing company
- Served as counsel to franchisor of regional quick-casual restaurant chain with approximately 300 company owned and franchised locations in negotiation and documentation of joint venture transaction with national restaurant chain

Work History

- Jackson Kelly PLLC (2012-Present)
- Dinsmore & Shohl LLP, Partner (1997-2012)
- Jackson Kelly PLLC (1995-1997)

Practices

- Commercial Lending
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Opportunity Zones
- Tax

Industries

- Banking
- Coal
- Energy
- Equine
- Financial Services

Education

- University of Kentucky College of Law (J.D., 1993)
- University of Kentucky (B.S. in Accounting, *with distinction*, 1990)

Admissions

- Kentucky (1993)
- U.S. Tax Court (2012)
- U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Kentucky (1995)
- Kentucky Supreme Court (1993)

Professional Organizations

- Kentucky Society of Certified Public Accountants
- Kentucky Bar Association (Business Law and Taxation Sections)

Speaking Engagements & Publications

- "Early professional advice gives you power in business purchase or sale deals," *The Lane Report* (Oct. 25, 2016)
- "Tax Modernization (HB 272 Makes Sweeping Changes to New Tax Law)," *Kentucky Alert* (The Lane Report) (Dec. 2015)
- "Buying or Selling a Business? Consider These Tips When Negotiating a Letter of Intent," *The Lane Report* (Dec. 2004)
- "Securities Law Concerns for Small Business," *Kentucky Alert*, Fourth Quarter (2004)

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Community

- Tax Committee, Kentucky Society of CPAs