

People



Christopher W. Hayes

Partner, Real Estate
Real Estate Acquisitions and Sales

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vCard

Chris Hayes represents developers, homebuilders, and investors in the acquisition, development, and sale of real property. He has overseen numerous complex acquisitions and dispositions. As part of his transactional practice, Chris also represents clients in retail and office space leasing.

Additionally, Chris works with investors and owners in acquiring and selling small and mid-market sized businesses, having worked on over 65 auto and motorcycle dealership transactions, and multiple other non-automotive asset and equity transfers. His experience and responsiveness is invaluable in managing complex due diligence investigations and serving as borrower's counsel in project financing.

With significant experience in a wide range of real estate, corporate and M&A matters, Chris structures and negotiates turnkey complex business and real estate transactions for his clients.

Notable Work

Acquisition of Automotive Dealerships: Represented a private equity group in establishing a multi-level organization for an \$80M acquisition of four automotive dealerships; work included: managing the ownership and source of funds vetting process for the applicable manufacturers, negotiating the purchase agreements and leases for their multiple commercial properties, negotiating loan documents with multiple lenders, and closing the deal.

Related Professional Experience

- Federal Judicial Intern to the Honorable Elizabeth Kovachevich, Middle District of Florida

Affiliations

- Boy Scouts of America Central Florida Council, Board of Directors Member, 2018-Present
- Central Florida Real Estate Attorneys' Council, Member, 2009-Present

Areas of Experience

Residential Land Acquisitions and Development
Real Estate Acquisitions and Sales
Real Estate
Commercial Leasing and Development
Automotive Retail
M&A and Private Equity
Environment and Natural Resources
Corporate
Lease Restructuring and Workouts

Education

J.D., Stetson University College of Law, 2004, cum laude
M.B.A., Stetson University, 2002, summa cum laude
B.S., Northwestern University, Speech, 1997

Admissions

Bars

Florida
California

Related Content

Akerman Enhances Real Estate Strengths with Christopher Hayes in Orlando, Stephen Tilbrook in Fort Lauderdale
August 05, 2019

- Family of Friends, Inc., Past President, Current Vice President and Director, 2004-Present
- Northwestern Alumni Club of Central Florida, Past President, Scholarship Chair, Director, 1998-Present
- Northwestern Alumni Admissions Council, Central Florida, Co-Director, 2014-Present

Published Work and Lectures

- National Trust Real Estate Association, Speaker, "Florida LLCs for Real Estate Ownership," May 1, 2019
- National Business Institute (NBI) CLE, Speaker, "Florida's Revised LLC Act: What You Need to Know," February 5, 2016
- Central Florida Real Estate Counsel (CFREAC) CLE, Speaker, "It's a R.E.C.! Understanding New Phase 1 Assessment Standards" April 23, 2014

Honors and Distinctions

- Martindale-Hubbell, AV Rated