

ANDREW W. BARNES

SHAREHOLDER

South Haven
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Andrew W. Barnes focuses his practice primarily in the area of Real Estate Law. Clients have sought his counsel on a variety of real estate transactions, mortgages, debt collection litigation, and commercial and residential mortgage foreclosures for nearly 20 years. He is renowned for his pragmatic approach to obtaining the desired results while providing exceptional attention to each client as an individual. He is admitted to practice in Michigan and Indiana, and the US District Courts for the Western District of Michigan and Northern District of Indiana.

Real estate transactions continue to become more complex, requiring the know-how to successfully navigate a variety of challenging scenarios and sophisticated legal instruments. Clients rely on Andy's experience in lease negotiations, real estate transactions, eviction actions, and land contract forfeitures. The scope of his practice includes general civil litigation, estate planning, and business formation. He has represented various Michigan convention and visitors bureaus concerning the enforcement of Michigan Convention and Tourism Marketing Acts. He helps clients with real property, development, construction and financing, and restructuring, workouts, and short sales.

In the financial institutions sector, Mr. Barnes represents entities in regulatory issues set forth by federal and state law, complex commercial foreclosures, residential foreclosures, debt collection litigation, forbearance agreements, and loan workouts.

Andy also has experience counseling clients in Real Estate, Construction, Contract, Environmental, and Family Law in the agribusiness and food processing sector. He assists with lending,

Primary Practice Areas

Construction
Environment, Energy & Sustainability
Family Law and Personal Services
Real Estate

All Related Practice Areas

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Real Estate

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debt collection, and a variety of other real estate issues that are characteristic to small and large entities doing business in this area.

Mr. Barnes is a Shareholder practicing in Butzel's Southwest Michigan office. Prior to joining the firm, he was engaged with a large law firm with offices located throughout Michigan. He has been recognized numerous years in a row by a prestigious national legal publication for his knowledge of Real Estate Law. Andy received his juris doctor, *magna cum laude*, from the Michigan State University College of Law. He received his Bachelor of Arts, also *magna cum laude*, from Western Michigan University.

Dedicated to supporting his community and elevating opportunities for achievement for youth, Andy serves in leadership roles in numerous organizations, including as Director and Past President of the Greater South Haven Area Community Foundation and as Director and President of the Grand Valley Amateur Hockey Association, Inc., in addition to a number of other associations.

Credentials

EDUCATION

Michigan State University College of Law, J.D., *magna cum laude*

Western Michigan University, B.A., *magna cum laude*

ADMISSIONS

Indiana

Michigan

United States District Court for the Northern District of Indiana

United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan

MEMBERSHIPS

State Bar of Michigan

Van Buren County Bar Association

Berrien County Bar Association

Cass County Bar Association

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Awards & Recognitions

Michigan Super Lawyers – Rising Stars – Real Estate, 2013–2020

South Haven Tribune, Best Law Office in South Haven, 2018

Michigan State Law Review, Michigan State University College of Law

Community & Professional

The Greater South Haven Area Community Foundation – Director 2017–Present; President 2018–2021

South Haven Junior Youth League – Director 2019–Present; Treasurer 2020–Present

Grand Valley Amateur Hockey Association, Inc. – Director 2022–Present; President 2022–Present

South Haven Area Chamber of Commerce, Member

South Haven Kiwanis Club, Member

YMCA of Southwest Michigan; Benton Harbor – St. Joseph YMCA, Volunteer