

Criston E. Cicala

PARTNER

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Aiming to create lasting, effective, fair and transparent business partnerships for clients, Cris draws upon his diverse legal and business backgrounds to achieve innovative solutions for a variety of legal needs.

A corporate, finance and banking attorney with more than two decades of both domestic and international experience, Cris focuses his multifaceted practice on providing corporations, financial institutions, private equity and credit funds, real estate developers, media companies and entrepreneurs with practical and strategic legal advice.

He regularly represents clients in complex matters involving trade finance, private equity and credit, commercial lending, real estate finance, structured finance, banking, mergers and acquisitions, and capital markets. He is a former principal investor and advisor in both private equity and real estate matters, providing him the unique perspective of having played a lead role in both the acquisitions and dispositions of assets, as well as having been involved in the day-to-day management of both real estate and corporate ventures.

Prior to joining Stinson, Cris served as the New York office managing partner of a boutique law firm.

PRACTICES & INDUSTRIES

- Corporate Finance
- Real Estate & Public Finance
- Commercial Lending
- Real Estate Lending
- Structured Finance & Securitization
- Banking & Financial Services
- Private Equity
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- International

ADMISSIONS

- New York
- Florida
- U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York

EDUCATION

- Tulane University, J.D., *cum laude*, 2000
- Vanderbilt University, B.A., Political Science and Anthropology, 1996

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EXPERIENCE

Cris counsels on complex matters involving trade finance and corporate finance, capital markets, private equity, and mergers and acquisitions, and real estate finance. The following are a sampling of his representations and transactions:

Trade Finance & Corporate Finance

Represented Brazilian financial institution in more than 100 trade and structured finance transactions totaling over \$1 billion.

Represented Brazilian financial institution in \$200 million credit facility with South American (Andean) regional development bank.

Represented Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC) of the United States in \$1 billion Senior Credit Facility.

Represented Brazilian telecom as borrower in term and bridge loan facilities totaling \$300 million.

Represented various major European financial institutions in United States Commercial Paper Programs totaling over \$2.5 billion.

Represented Japanese financial institution in the sale of various municipal bond assets to major French bank.

Represented well-known European transportation and energy conglomerate in various receivables securitization programs.

Capital Markets

Represented underwriting syndicates in the issuance and public offering of various long maturity securities of major U.S. entertainment conglomerate pursuant to Rule 144A totaling an aggregate amount of \$3.3 billion.

Represented Dutch bank, as lead arranger and administrative in \$200 million note purchase facility for large Caribbean financial institution.

Represented German state-owned bank, as lead arranger and documentation agent in \$40 million note purchase facility for large Caribbean financial institution.

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Private Equity / Mergers & Acquisitions

Represented European transportation and energy conglomerate in proposed joint venture with U.S. motor corporation to form locomotive parts supplier.

Represented Fortune 50 U.S. electronics and defense conglomerate in the sale of one its divisions to a large leveraged buyout group.

Represented internet financial services client in their acquisition of internet-based financial information service competitor.

Represented Miami-based publishing group in the purchase Hispanic interest magazine.

Real Estate & Real Estate Finance

Represented joint venture of major media and hospitality companies in \$450 million refinancing of several major theme park/hotel properties.

Represented major hotel chain in \$151 million refinancing of major Miami Beach hotel.

Represented the structured finance team of British Bank in the financing of a large luxury resort and golf club located in Palm Beach County, Florida.

Represented major Kuwaiti financial institution in the formation of an investment fund and the corresponding acquisition and disposition of numerous multi-family properties throughout the United States.

Represented lender in \$53 million financing of multi-family property in Pinellas County, Florida.

Represented lender in \$58 million financing of luxury hotel in Brooklyn, New York.

Represented lender in \$46 million financing of multi-family development in Austin, Texas.

Represented borrower in \$50 million of acquisition financing for mobile home parks in the Midwest & Southeast U.S.

Represented borrower in joint venture to acquire \$48 million multi-family property acquisition financing in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Represented borrower in \$55 million financing of redevelopment property in Boston, Massachusetts.

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PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC ACTIVITIES

American Bar Association

- Committee on Legal Opinions

Florida Bar Association

New York Bar Association

Italy-America Chamber of Commerce, Senior Sustaining Member

Warren, Connecticut Historical Society, Board Member

Collegiate School of New York City, Former Alumni Council Board Member

NEWS

Cicala Explores Evolving Landscape Surrounding Basel III Capital Requirements in *American Banker*
04.15.2024

Impact, Compliance and Role of CLNs Explored by Stinson Finance Attorney in *Bloomberg Law*
02.22.2024

Cicala Examines Effects of Italy's Proposed Windfall Tax in *Law360* Article
09.28.2023

Stinson Real Estate and Finance Partner Talks South Florida CRE, Private Capital in *Daily Business Review*
08.01.2023

Cicala, Corcoran Examine the Intersection of Sports, Economics and Geopolitics of PGA Tour/LIV Golf Merger
07.12.2023

Stinson Adds New Partner in NYC, Expands Office Space and Reach of Real Estate and Finance Services
05.23.2023

PUBLICATIONS

["Basel delay won't diminish banks' appetite for synthetic risk transfers,"](#) *American Banker*, April 2024

["Federal Reserve's Capital Relief Change Eases Path to Basel III,"](#) *Bloomberg Law*, February 2024

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["What Fed's Credit-Linked Note FAQ Means For Capital Relief,"](#) *Law360*, March 2024

["Italy's Bank-Profits Tax Plan May Become Model for Eurozone,"](#) *Law360*, September 2023

["Controversy, Criticism, Profit – PGA and LIV Golf Merger Leaves Many Unanswered Questions,"](#) *New York Law Journal*, July 2023

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