

Bonita K. Black

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Bonita Black is a Partner who leads the firm's new Public Finance Practice. Prior to joining the firm, Ms. Black was partner at a northeastern based boutique corporate and securities law firm. She brings experience with higher education, affordable housing (multi-family and single-family transactions), utility bonds, electric and gas utilities, medical care facilities, water and sewer utilities, energy authorities, housing equity fund transactions and grants, HUD programs, 501(c)(3) organizations, churches, conduit issuers and financial advisors in public finance transactions. She serves as bond, issuer, underwriters', disclosure, special HUD, Special, Company, Trustee, Agent and lender's counsel to parties to public financings.

Ms. Black has focused her practice in the areas of general corporate law, including but not limited to corporate, structured and public finance law, mergers and acquisitions and divestitures, and corporate and non-profit governance law. She has experience in the formation of corporate governance and compliance issues, municipal securities law, taxable and tax-exempt financings, securitization transactions, debt and equity offerings, cross border transactions, governmental bonds, telecommunications regulatory issues and real estate finance. Ms. Black has extensive experience assisting local and regional non-profit organizations with their legal issues, including formation, and board training and governance counseling, policy and procedure development, creative financing and tax issues.

Ms. Black began her career on in New York City at Dewey and practiced in New York City for 13 years before moving back to Kentucky. She practiced at the largest firm in Louisville for 13 years before she was asked to open an office for a regional firm in Louisville, Kentucky where she served as its inaugural Managing Partner for four years. Ms. Black is on the board of Transit Authority River City and is Governance Chair for the organization. She joins White and Williams out of Louisville and will reside in our New York City office.

PRACTICES

Corporate and Securities

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Kentucky

New Jersey

New York

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, J.D.

University of Kentucky, BA (*summa cum laude*), Political Science major, Economics and Philosophy minors

LANGUAGES

French

Spanish

MEMBERSHIPS

Member, National Association of Bond Lawyers

Member, Women in Public Finance

RECOGNITION AND INVOLVEMENT

Ms. Black is rated as a *Super Lawyer* since 2012 in the area of Corporate Law, and as one of the *Best Lawyers in America*®. She is an AV® ranked attorney with Martindale-Hubbell.

Among her involvement in the community, Ms. Black is actively involved with the following organizations:

- Trustee, Advisory Board of the Institute from Inclusion in the Legal Profession (2009-present)
- Disclosure Counsel and Bond Counsel, Louisville Water Company (2006-present)
- Board and Executive Committee Member, Community Foundation of Louisville (2004-present)
- Business Diversity Network of KY (2003-present)
- Chair, Benevolence Ministry, Westport Road Church of Christ (1997-present)

REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

Served as bond and disclosure counsel for a utility in several bond issuances and drafted their new indenture for their bond program Counsel to a public utility company in several financings, including a cross-border lease transaction and a securitization transaction. The securitization was a first to use utility payments.

Served as general counsel to a non-profit company in the area of corporate governance and transactions.

Served as Bond counsel to various non-profits and churches in financings for new facilities.

Served as Trustee's counsel to several corporate trustees in public finance transactions.

Performed divestiture transactions for clients in the energy field dealing with wind power facilities and gas and electric facilities.

Served as counsel to Fortune 500 companies in the areas of records management and international shipping contracts.

Served as Bond counsel and special counsel for international logistics companies in physical plant expansion projects in Kentucky.

Underwriters' counsel to international investment banking firm in Louisville Arena project transactions.

Served as Lender's Counsel to Fortune 500 company in its affordable housing equity loan and grant program.

Served as Special Counsel to northeastern Housing Finance Agency in its FFB/Risk Share bond program.

Served as Bond, Underwriter's, Special counsel to northeastern Housing Finance Agency in its multi-family housing and single-family bond programs.

Served as Bond and Underwriter's counsel to medical care facilities in their tax exempt and taxable bond programs.

Served as Bond Counsel to water and sewer utility entities in their taxable and tax-exempt bond programs.

Served as Disclosure and Underwriter's counsel to Independent and Christian Schools in their facilities financing programs.

Served as Bond and Underwriter's counsel to several gas and electric utilities in New York state.

Served as Bond and Underwriter's counsel to Housing Corporation in southern state.

Served as Bond Counsel to major metropolitan municipalities in their bond programs.

Counsel to corporation as lender in public private partnerships in affordable housing.

Counsel to multi-national corporation related to green energy financing transactions.