



Curtis A. Johnson

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Corporate | Impact Investing | Debt Financings | Mergers & Acquisitions | Private Equity | Capital Markets | Financial Institutions

Curtis Johnson advises clients with respect to complex financings and other business and capital transactions, including syndicated loan facilities, asset based loans, mezzanine financing and equity investments. He serves as primary counsel to a major financial institution with respect to its impact investments. Recently, he also has represented lenders in various transactions financing renewable energy facilities.

Prior to joining McCarter, Curtis was Associate Deputy General Counsel to First Fidelity Bancorporation, providing legal services for commercial lending business units in New Jersey. After joining the firm, Curtis represented several commercial banking institutions in the collection and restructuring of distressed debt obligations and defense of lender liability claims, including enforcement of such obligations through litigation in state, federal district and bankruptcy courts. This credit administration and recovery experience enables him to provide practical guidance to clients involved in complex transactions.

Curtis is a co-author of the treatise “Secured Transactions Under Revised Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code” as enacted in the State of New Jersey, and served as an Adjunct Professor at Seton Hall Law School teaching a course on sales, payments and secured transactions under the UCC.

Some recent examples of transactions handled by Curtis include:

- Senior secured revolving and term loan facility provided to a recycling company in the Northeast by a syndicate of banks
- Senior leverage loan for New Market Tax Credit transaction to finance purchase equipment for an areoponic urban farm facility
- Senior secured facility to finance purchase of Qualified School Construction Bonds in connection with acquisition of property and construction of facility for a charter school
- HUD guaranteed loan refinancing term loan debt of assisted living facility
- Asset based loan facility secured by healthcare receivables with related mezzanine financing
- Credit facility to warehouse PACE bonds used to finance renewable energy improvements pending proposed syndication

Representative Matters

PFM—Acquisition

Represented PFM's financial advisory business in connection with U.S. Bank's entry into a definitive agreement to purchase PFM's asset management business. PFM is a Philadelphia-based firm that focuses on asset management, financial advisory, and consulting services.

PFM—Transaction

Represented the managing directors of PFM's financial advisory business in connection with the closing of U.S. Bank's acquisition of PFM's asset management business and the spin-off of PFM's financial advisory business to an entity owned by the managing directors of the same business. PFM is now a Philadelphia-based firm that focuses on financial advisory and consulting services within the public and non-profit sector.

LaRose Industries—Acquisition

Represented LaRose Industries, LLC, d/b/a Cra-Z-Art, a prime manufacturer and global leader in classic toy, arts and crafts kits, puzzles, and school supplies, in the acquisition of the Arts, Crafts, Stationery (AST) business from Mattel.

Education

Columbia Law School, JD, 1980

Columbia University, BS, 1980

Tau Beta Pi (Engineering Honor Society)

Jewell M. Garletts Award for Excellence in Civil Engineering

Bar Admissions

New Jersey

New York

Memberships and Certifications

New Jersey State Bar Association
Banking Law Section

American Bar Association
Business Law Section

Newark School of the Arts
President of the Board of Directors

Alerts

Silicon Valley Bank: What Happens Next?, Financial Institutions Alert, 3.14.2023

Mid-sized Businesses May Be Eligible to Participate in the Main Street New Loan Facility and the Main Street Expanded Loan Facility, Coronavirus Legal Advisory, 4.12.2020

IRS Issues New Proposed Regulations on Qualified Opportunity Zones, Impact Investing Alert, 5.15.2019

IRS Issues Highly-Anticipated Guidance on Qualified Opportunity Zones, Impact Investing Alert, 11.5.2018

New Tax Law Provisions Encourage Investments in Low-Income Communities, Impact Investing Alert, 2.6.2018

Articles

Main Street Lending Program Expanded by Federal Reserve, Coronavirus Legal Advisory, 5.14.2020

Mid-Sized Businesses May Be Eligible To Participate in the Main Street New Loan Facility and the Main Street Expanded Loan Facility, New York Law Journal, 4.27.2020

Speaking Engagements

4th Annual Opportunity Zones Conference, Mid Atlantic Real Estate Journal, 5.31.2019

Impact Investing – Benefiting Communities and Your Bottom Line, 11.8.2018

Structuring Pledge Agreements for Equity Interests in Partnerships and LLCs to Maximize Protection for Lenders, Stafford CLE Webinar, 5.9.2016

Webinars

Structuring Pledge Agreements for Equity Interests in Partnerships and LLCs to Maximize Protection for Lenders, Strafford, 2.16.2022

Structuring Pledge Agreements for Equity Interests in Partnerships and LLCs to Maximize Protection for Lenders, Strafford Webinar, 8.12.2020

Structuring Pledge Agreements for Equity Interests in Partnerships and LLCs to Maximize Protection for Lenders, Stafford CLE Webinar, 2.28.2019