

Leslie J. Messineo

Counsel

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Leslie Messineo is experienced in a broad range of complex business transactions, including asset-based loans, construction loans, mortgage loans, equipment leases, asset and equity sales and purchases, and private placements of equity and debt.

In her financing practice, she has effectively represented both borrowers and major lenders and lessors in sophisticated loan and lease transactions. In her M&A transactions, Leslie has extensive experience representing buyers as well as sellers, giving her valuable insight into the negotiating tactics and arguments on both sides. She has advised clients ranging from Fortune 500 firms to startup companies.

In addition to her M&A and financing work, Leslie has negotiated virtually every type of commercial contract, including employment and non-competition agreements, consulting contracts, confidentiality agreements, software licenses, IT service agreements and statements of work, supply and distribution agreements, real property leases, guaranties and transportation contracts.

Prior to joining Leech Tishman, Leslie served as General Counsel of Union Switch & Signal Inc., worked as a consultant to technology startups seeking angel investment, and headed her own marketing consulting business.

With her combination of legal and business education, in-house legal department and law firm tenure, and knowledge gained from running her own business, Leslie has a unique understanding of the types of challenges faced by clients. She brings the education, experience, and understanding to all interactions with clients, serving as a trusted team member who is able to clearly communicate the pros and cons of various strategies and provide reasoned advice to inform her clients' decision making.

Leslie is a gifted speaker who has participated in programs sponsored by the MIT Enterprise Forum of Pittsburgh, the Pittsburgh Technology Council, the Riverside Center of Innovation, the Women's Economic

Development Outreach Tour, and the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. She has appeared on the "American Entrepreneur" radio show and the "High Tech Pittsburgh" television show.

Capabilities

Corporate
Commercial Contracts
Software Licensing & Development (Co-Leader)

Admissions

Pennsylvania

Academics

J.D., Harvard Law School
M.B.A., *summa cum laude*, University of Pittsburgh
Joseph M. Katz Graduate School of Business
B.A., *summa cum laude*, University of Pittsburgh

Experience

Reed Smith Shaw & McClay LLP
General Counsel, Union Switch & Signal Inc.