



## Michael D. Martz

MANAGING PARTNER

Michael is a partner in the Vorys Columbus office and serves as the managing partner of the firm's ten offices. Michael is a member of the corporate and business organizations group and serves as corporate counsel to both large companies and mid-sized businesses engaged in multiple industries including manufacturing, retail, financial institutions and the restaurant and food industry. Michael's areas of practice include mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, general commercial and business matters and licensing transactions.

### Columbus

52 East Gay Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

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### Practice Areas

Business Organizational Matters,  
Including Entity Selection and  
Capital Structure

Corporate and Business  
Organizations

Corporate Governance

Mergers and Acquisitions

Securities Law Compliance

Securities Offerings

### Education

University of Wisconsin Law  
School, J.D., 1991

University of Nebraska, B.S., 1987

### Bar & Court Admissions

Ohio

*Admitted to practice law only in  
the states listed above.*

### Industries

Financial Institutions

Manufacturing

### Board Memberships and Community Activities:

- The Columbus Partnership, Current Board Member and Finance Committee Member
- Future Ready Columbus, Current Board Member and Development Committee Member
- Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Columbus Museum of Art, November, 2016 to November, 2018; Board Member 2010-2021
- Ohio Business Round Table, Current Board Member
- One Columbus Leadership Circle, Member, 2018-2021
- Columbus Chamber of Commerce, Board Member and Executive Committee Member, 2018-2022
- Chair of the Upper Arlington Community Foundation Board of Trustees since April 2023; Current Board Member since 2019
- Godman Guild Association, Board of Trustees, 1995-2001
- Columbus Bar Association, Current Member

### Other Career Highlights:

- Selected for *Columbus Business First* Power 100 List Recognizing the Most Influential Leaders in Central Ohio in 2019 and 2020
- Serving as the Co-Chair of the Legal Aid Society of Columbus' 2019-2022 Capital Campaign

Restaurants, Food and Beverage  
Retail and Consumer Products

**Representative Transactions:**

- Represented The Ohio State University in its negotiations with Nike regarding licensing rights and equipment/apparel products
- Represented ScottsMiracle-Gro in multiple transactions with Monsanto relating to ScottsMiracle-Gro serving as the exclusive agent for the marketing, sale and distribution of Round-Up products in the consumer lawn and garden market
- Represented multiple firm clients in structuring, negotiating and completing license and branding agreements with the National Football League, Major League Baseball, the National Hockey League and over 50 colleges and universities
- Represented Bob Evans Farms, Inc. in its sale of 145 Mimi's Cafe restaurants to Le Duff America, Inc.
- Represented ScottsMiracle-Gro in its divestiture of the Smith & Hawken Brand to Target Corporation
- Represented Camco Financial Corporation in its merger with Huntington Bancshares, Inc.
- Represented Thirty-One Gifts, LLC in its acquisition of Jewel Kade Holdings LLC
- Representing Thirty-One Gifts, LLC in its acquisition of Rendi LLC
- Represented multiple public companies and start-up companies in capital raising transactions
- Represented Citizens Independent Bancorp, Inc. in its equity raise
- Represented Venture Med, LLC in its Series A preferred equity raise
- Represented the owner of Safety Solutions, Inc. in a sale of stock to W.W. Grainger, Inc.
- Structured, negotiated and completed numerous intellectual property licensing agreements, including numerous celebrity licensing and endorsement deals

**Honors & Recognitions**

*Columbus CEO*, Best Lawyers, Corporate Law, 2023, 2025; Mergers & Acquisitions Law, 2023

Selected for *Columbus Business First* Power 100 List Recognizing the Most Influential Leaders in Central Ohio, 2019-2020

*Chambers and Partners*, Leading Lawyer in Corporate/M&A, 2016-2017

*The Best Lawyers in America*, Corporate Law, 2013–2026

