

## Miller Quoted in *Columbus Dispatch* Story Titled “Eminent Domain Can Be Used By School Districts, But That's Rare”

### Related Professionals

Joseph R. Miller

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Joe Miller, a partner in the Columbus office, was quoted in a *Columbus Dispatch* story about the use of eminent domain by school districts in Ohio to take private property. According to the story, it is not common for school districts to do this.

### The story states:

*“Yes, school districts can take property, though that doesn't appear to be common. In 1999, Mansfield schools used eminent domain to take 50 houses so the district could build a new high school. In 2005, Milford schools near Cincinnati filed an eminent domain suit to purchase land, but ended up reaching a settlement with the owner. In 2011, Dover City Schools near New Philadelphia talked about taking 86 acres to build a high school, but voters that November rejected a bond issue to fund the new building.*

*Dublin schools are attempting to deal with a crowding problem in a creative and less-expensive way than building a fourth high school for \$75 million, Superintendent Todd Hoadley said. Officials settled on the vacant, 125,000-square-foot Verizon building at 5175 Emerald Parkway but lost in a bidding war even though the district's offer was \$1 million more than the winning offer.*

*The Dublin Board of Education has given its blessing to take the property if a price can't be settled upon. It has given the owner, Emerald Parkway Valley Equity, 30 days to accept \$7.4 million before the district files suit. Joe Miller, a lawyer at Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease who represents Valley Equity, called the taking ‘unbelievable and unprecedented’ and the district's offer ‘grossly inadequate.’”*

To read the entire story, visit the *Columbus Dispatch* [website](#). (Subscription may be required).