

# Sarah W. Benedict

DIRECTOR

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Sarah W. Benedict is a business attorney at Ireland Stapleton. She represents clients with a variety of their day-to-day legal needs, often effectively acting as their outside general counsel. She provides practical, strategic advice in connection with mergers and acquisitions, contract negotiations, leases, corporate governance, software licenses, and other matters. Sarah also works with both issuers and investors in connection with a range of private placements and equity offerings, and she counsels clients on restructurings intended to meet their specific business needs.

Sarah's clients rely on her for answers to their business legal needs, knowing that she will respond quickly and efficiently to ensure that they receive the advice and support they need. That may involve drafting or reviewing a contract on short notice, advising on the risks that a client faces in a particular transaction, or negotiating with the opposing party to obtain the best result for the client. Sarah knows that more legal work is not necessarily what clients need, and her clients appreciate that she is always willing to have a conversation with them to help them understand their options and the legal ramifications of an action they are considering. Perhaps most importantly, Sarah understands the complex needs of business owners and executives and always strives to ensure that the guidance she provides is given in the context of the client's business realities.

### Legal Experience

- Regularly advises and represents long-time clients when they are ready to sell their businesses, including representing a client with the sale of an apartment complex and related business for more than \$60 million.
- Represents private lenders, banks and borrowers in connection with loans and refinancings that involve complicated legal issues or otherwise require outside legal counsel, including representing a private out-of-state lender with an \$11,500,000 loan to a group of related borrowers.
- Represents long-time clients in various funding rounds and in connection with investments by
  private equity firms, including representing technology companies in multi-million dollar venture
  capital investments.
- Works closely with attorneys in other practice areas of the firm when their clients need business guidance or when a transaction has corporate aspects, including advising the firm's utility, energy and real estate clients in transactions that involve complex business matters.
- Advises foreign companies with business operations in Colorado on their legal needs, including representing a European company in the acquisition of a Colorado-based manufacturing company and its establishment of a US presence.
- Counsels clients on new business ideas and assists those clients in bringing them to fruition, including coordinating the legal work necessary to allow those clients entry in various US and foreign markets.

#### **Practice Areas**

Business Banking & Commercial Finance Corporate & Securities Corporate Restructuring Emerging Business Entity Formation & Governance Mergers & Acquisitions Energy Rural Electrical Cooperatives Intellectual Property Real Estate

#### **Bar Admissions**

Colorado

#### Education

J.D., William & Mary, 2007, Order of the Coif, Articles Editor, William & Mary Law Review

B.A., University of Virginia, 1999, Anthropology

### Honors & Awards

Selected to The Best Lawyers in America® for Corporate Law and Real Estate, 2021-2025

I R E L A N D STAPLETON

## **Community Involvement**

- Colorado Lawyers Committee, Board Member and Volunteer
- Tennyson Center for Children, Family Advisory Council Member
- Adoption Options, Former Board Member and Secretary