

Joseph Topolski

Partner

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Practices

FOCUS: Structured Finance and Securitization

Corporate

Corporate Securities

Financial Markets and Funds

Futures and Derivatives

Industries

Finance and Financial Markets

Education

JD, University of Michigan Law School

BA, University of Michigan, Economics and Political Science

Bar Admissions

New York

Michigan

Community Involvements

State Bar of Michigan

Structured Finance Industry Group

For more than 25 years, Joe Topolski has helped banks, captive finance companies, independent specialty finance companies, private equity and hedge funds, and other financial entities obtain financing for their portfolios of consumer and commercial loans and other financial assets. Finance companies in a wide range of industries, including automotive, commercial equipment, marketplace lending and small business lending, rely on Joe's broad knowledge of the market to help them obtain cost effective, efficient and innovative solutions to their financing needs.

Practical solutions and a business-smart approach

Joe understands the importance to all parties in getting the deal done, and is well-known for his ability to come up with practical solutions and proactively manage the process to ensure smooth transaction execution. In addition to spending over two decades as outside counsel, Joe also spent a portion of his career as in-house counsel for a leading captive finance company. As a result, he has unique insights into issues facing finance companies beyond the immediate financing transaction, as well as the issues that concern their counterparties in the transaction. These insights, coupled with his years of experience, mean he can spot and avoid roadblocks that could otherwise cause delays.

Joe's clients range from large public companies doing \$1 to \$2 billion financings to smaller private companies doing \$50 to \$100 million financings, involving a wide range of asset classes, including auto loans and leases, dealer floorplan finance loans, equipment loans and leases, small business loans and merchant cash advances, litigation and medical finance loans, and personal loans. Because he has worked with a wide variety of asset classes, Joe is able to use concepts for different sectors of the structured finance market to develop innovative solutions for his clients.

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Recognitions

- The Legal 500 United States
 - Recommended Attorney, 2011, 2013–2020
- *Chambers USA*
 - Top Ranked, 2011–2015
- *Chambers Global*
 - Capital Markets
 - USA, 2015–2016

News

- Katten Named Top-Tier Firm in Structured Finance and Securitization by The Legal 500 United States 2020 Guide (June 16, 2020)
- Katten Praised in The Legal 500 United States 2019 Guide (June 11, 2019)
- Katten Distinguished by *The Legal 500 United States* (June 14, 2018)
- Katten Distinguished by *The Legal 500 United States 2017* (May 31, 2017)
- Eighteen Katten Practices and 70 Attorneys Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States 2016* (June 17, 2016)
- Six Katten Partners Recognized by *Chambers Global* (March 17, 2016)
- Nine Katten Practices and 42 Attorneys Distinguished by *The Legal 500 United States 2015* (June 3, 2015)
- Katten Attains 22 Practice and 58 Attorney Rankings by *Chambers USA 2015* (May 20, 2015)
- Six Katten Partners Praised by *Chambers Global* (March 13, 2015)

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- Katten Securitization Transaction Recognized as "Deal of the Year" by *China Business Law Journal* (March 10, 2015)
- Eight Katten Practices and Forty-Two Attorneys Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States 2014* (July 3, 2014)
- Katten Represents Ford Automotive Finance in First ABS Transaction in China (June 2, 2014)
- *Chambers USA 2014* Distinguishes 24 Katten Practices and 54 Attorneys (May 23, 2014)
- Six Katten Partners Lauded by *Chambers Global* (March 14, 2014)
- Katten Is Number One Issuer Counsel in Structured Finance (July 15, 2013)
- Six Katten Practices and Twenty-Four Attorneys Distinguished by *The Legal 500 United States 2013* (June 4, 2013)
- *Chambers USA 2013* Recognizes 24 Katten Practices and 49 Attorneys (May 24, 2013)
- *Chambers USA 2012* Distinguishes 19 Katten Practices and 45 Attorneys (June 7, 2012)
- Six Katten Partners Lauded by *Chambers Global 2012* (April 26, 2012)
- Five Katten Practices Recognized by *Legal 500* in 2011 US Edition (June 16, 2011)
- Katten Earns Recognition for 17 Practices and 44 Attorneys in 2011 *Chambers USA Guide* (June 10, 2011)
- Four Katten Partners Recognized by *Chambers Global* (November 12, 2010)
- Katten Welcomes Prominent Structured Finance Group (November 2, 2010)

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Publications

- *Corporate & Financial Weekly Digest* (Weekly) | *Author*
- Structured Finance Year in Review and the Outlook for 2021 | Key Takeaways (December 23, 2020)

Presentations and Events

- Structured Finance Year in Review and the Outlook for 2021 (December 8 and 10, 2020) | *Speaker*
- The 20th Annual ABS East Conference (September 21–23, 2014) | *Panelist* | *Auto ABS Sector Update: New Structures and Subprime Concerns*
- Securitization Finance Summit 2011: Regulatory Reforms (November 30, 2011) | *Presenter* | *Auto Loans: The Top Sector in Asset-backed Securities*