



Stephen B. Esko

Partner

Structured Finance and Securitization

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Recognized as a leading lawyer in the Structured Finance: Securitizations category by *The Legal 500 US*, Stephen Esko advises clients on all aspects of asset-backed and mortgage-backed securitizations.

A creative problem-solver with a client-first approach

Stephen's experience encompasses a wide range of structured finance transactions, including issuer and underwriter representation in public and private securitizations, asset sales and financings, structured note issuances and credit derivatives work. Clients recognize him as someone they can trust, stating, "He is very thoughtful, very smart and works with you to become your partner in resolving whatever is on the table." (*Chambers USA* 2022). Stephen works with government-sponsored enterprises, banks, lenders, broker-dealers and mortgage loan servicers.

Recognitions

Recognized or listed in the following:

- *The Legal 500 United States*
 - Recommended Attorney, 2014–2018, 2020–2022
- *Chambers USA*
 - Capital Markets: Securitisation CMBS, 2021–2023
 - Capital Markets: Securitisation: RMBS, 2026
- *Chambers Global*
 - Capital Markets: Securitisation: CMBS, 2022–2024

News

- Katten Climbs in *Chambers USA* 2026 Rankings (June 4, 2026)
- Katten Ranked as Leader in *Chambers Global Guide* 2024 (February 15, 2024)
- Katten Boosts Rankings in *Chambers USA Guide* 2023 (June 1, 2023)

Practices

- Commercial Mortgage-Backed Securities
- Structured Finance and Securitization

Education

- JD, Yale Law School
- MM, The Juilliard School
- BM, Manhattan School of Music

Bar Admissions

- New York

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- Katten Lauded in *Chambers Global Guide* 2023 (February 16, 2023)
- Katten Awarded Top Ranking in Structured Finance: Securitization in *The Legal 500 United States* 2022 (June 8, 2022)
- Katten Ranked Leading Law Firm by *Chambers USA* 2022 (June 1, 2022)
- Katten Receives Top Billing by *Chambers Global* in Banking & Finance, Bankruptcy, Derivatives, Hedge Funds and Securitisation (February 17, 2022)
- Katten Receives High Marks in Derivatives, M&A and Securitization in *The Legal 500 United States* 2021 Guide (June 10, 2021)
- Katten Boosts Rankings in *Chambers USA* 2021 (May 20, 2021)
- 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)
- Eight Katten Practices and Forty-Two Attorneys Recognized by *The Legal 500 United States* 2014 (July 3, 2014)
- Katten Is Number One Issuer Counsel in Structured Finance (July 15, 2013)
- Katten Welcomes Structured Finance and Securitization Attorney Stephen B. Esko (August 27, 2012)

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"Stephen has a wealth of knowledge and is always willing to have conversations about hard topics." "Stephen has exceptional attention to detail and mastery of complex securitization structures. His ability to anticipate potential issues, provide clear and practical guidance and maintain a collaborative, solutions-oriented approach sets him apart from peers." "He knows our business intimately. He's consistently been a fantastic adviser and trusted counsel."

***Chambers USA 2026
(USA Nationwide, Capital
Markets: Securitization: RMBS)
survey response***

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