



J. Hayden Harrell

Partner

Real Estate

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With "a great knowledge of real estate and lending" and more than 30 years' experience closing real estate deals, Hayden Harrell "brings a logical and practical business perspective to the transactions." Hayden represents lenders, investors and developers in construction, permanent, mezzanine and syndicated loan transactions. He also provides experienced advice in joint venture agreements for both the equity providers and the sponsors.

"A logical and practical business perspective" on real estate transactions

According to *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, "clients hold him in high esteem, noting that he is 'very responsive and good at what he does; he is wonderfully client-focused and wonderful to deal with.'" Hayden's practical, commonsense approach helps clients throughout all stages of the real estate cycle.

Hayden regularly prepares and negotiates loan documents, intercreditor agreements, forbearance agreements and all other documents involved in a real estate transaction. He also works a great deal with real estate investors and developers in the negotiation of joint venture agreements. Finally, he has a great deal of experience in the modification and restructuring of distressed commercial real estate secured loans as well as the acquisition of distressed debt and the eventual acquisition of the underlying real estate project.

Recognitions

Recognized or listed in the following:

- *Best Lawyers in America*
 - Real Estate Law, 2008–2026
 - Lawyer of the Year
 - Real Estate Law, Charlotte, 2013
- *Business North Carolina*

Practices

- Real Estate
- Real Estate Acquisitions, Dispositions and Joint Ventures
- Real Estate Development
- Real Estate Finance and Lending

Industries

- Hospitality

Education

- JD, Wake Forest University School of Law
- BA, Wake Forest University, *cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- North Carolina

Professional & Community Involvement

- American Bar Association
- North Carolina Bar Association
- Mecklenburg County Bar

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- North Carolina's Legal Elite
- *Chambers USA*
 - Real Estate: Finance, 2010–2026

News

- Katten Climbs in *Chambers USA* 2026 Rankings (June 4, 2026)
- Katten Celebrates 101 Attorneys Honored by *Best Lawyers®* (August 21, 2025)
- *Chambers USA* 2025 Ranks Katten as Leading Law Firm (June 5, 2025)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized as *Best Lawyers®* and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch®* Award Recipients (August 15, 2024)
- Katten Receives High Marks in *Chambers USA* Guide 2024 (June 6, 2024)
- Katten Co-Hosts 17th Annual Outlook on the Commercial Real Estate Market in Charlotte (January 29, 2024)
- Katten Attorneys Distinguished by *Best Lawyers®* (August 17, 2023)
- Katten Boosts Rankings in *Chambers USA* Guide 2023 (June 1, 2023)
- Katten Attorneys Recognized by *Best Lawyers®* (August 18, 2022)
- Katten Ranked Leading Law Firm by *Chambers USA* 2022 (June 1, 2022)
- Katten Attorneys Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America®* (August 19, 2021)
- Katten Boosts Rankings in *Chambers USA* 2021 (May 20, 2021)
- Katten Attorneys Distinguished as Top Legal Talent in the 2021 *Best Lawyers in America* and *Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch* Lists (August 20, 2020)
- Katten Rated Top Law Firm by *Chambers USA* 2020 (April 23, 2020)
- Katten co-sponsors 13th Annual Outlook on the Commercial Real Estate Market (January 14, 2020)
- Katten, Cushman & Wakefield to Host 13th Annual Outlook on the Commercial Real Estate Market (January 8, 2020)
- Katten Lauded Top Ranked Law Firm by *Chambers USA* 2019 (April 25, 2019)

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- Katten Rated as Leading Law Firm by *Chambers USA* 2018 (May 3, 2018)
- Katten Recognized as Leading Law Firm by *Chambers USA* 2017 (May 30, 2017)
- 79 Katten Attorneys Selected for *Best Lawyers in America*® 2017 (August 15, 2016)
- *Chambers USA* 2016 Distinguishes 22 Katten Practices and 50 Attorneys (May 27, 2016)
- 91 Katten Attorneys Recognized in *Best Lawyers in America*® 2016 (August 17, 2015)
- Katten Attains 22 Practice and 58 Attorney Rankings by *Chambers USA* 2015 (May 20, 2015)
- 85 Katten Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers in America*® 2015 (August 18, 2014)
- *Chambers USA* 2014 Distinguishes 24 Katten Practices and 54 Attorneys (May 23, 2014)
- 83 Katten Attorneys Lauded in *Best Lawyers in America*® 2014 (August 15, 2013)
- *Chambers USA* 2013 Recognizes 24 Katten Practices and 49 Attorneys (May 24, 2013)
- 80 Katten Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers in America*® 2013 Guide (August 24, 2012)
- *Chambers USA* 2012 Distinguishes 19 Katten Practices and 45 Attorneys (June 7, 2012)
- 75 Katten Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers in America*® 2012 Guide (September 12, 2011)
- Katten Earns Recognition for 17 Practices and 44 Attorneys in 2011 *Chambers USA* Guide (June 10, 2011)
- 70 Katten Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers in America*® 2011 (August 9, 2010)
- Katten Lands 16 Practices and 39 Attorneys in *Chambers USA* Guide (June 24, 2010)
- 66 Katten Attorneys Named to 2010 List of *Best Lawyers in America*® (August 5, 2009)
- 50 Katten Attorneys Named to 2009 List of *Best Lawyers in America*® (September 23, 2008)

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- 46 Katten Attorneys Named to 2008 List of *Best Lawyers in America*® (October 31, 2007)

Publications

- 18th Annual Outlook on the Commercial Real Estate Market (March 21, 2025)
- Implications of the Lehman Bankruptcy Entities on Multi-Lender Financings (September 2008)