

Robert B. Spitzer

Counsel

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Robert Spitzer is an experienced real estate, finance and business problem solver. He has practiced in these areas for over 30 years, and has also personally developed real estate properties, overseen manufacturing and real estate lending businesses and bought and sold a number of enterprises. Robert has advised companies acquiring hundreds of commercial properties, negotiated leases for millions of square feet of space and organized hundreds of companies. He has been involved in workouts with tens of banks and has served as trustee on almost a thousand deeds of trust involving commercial real estate. He counsels a number of dynamic business enterprises in Washington state.

Robert has worked for the U.S. Justice Department in Washington D.C., served on the staff of Senator John V. Tunney (D-Calif.) and clerked for Chief Justice Robert Brachtenbach of the Washington State Supreme Court.

Education

J.D., Columbia University School of Law, 1980

B.A., Stanford University (with honors), 1976

Honors & Recognition

The Best Lawyers in America® Real Estate Law, 2018-present

"Top Lawyer" Corporate in *Seattle Met* magazine, 2010

Washington Super Lawyers list

Services

Real Estate, Land Use & Environmental

Beauty & Wellness

Election and Political Law, Public Policy & Lobbying

Family-Owned & Closely Held Businesses

Financial Services

Food & Beverage

Luxury Law

Admissions

Washington, 1981

Martindale-Hubbell AV Preeminent rating

Professional Activities

Washington Partnership & LLC Deskbook, Executive Editor, 2020

University of Washington, Commercial Real Estate Certificate Program, Faculty, 1994-2018

Washington State Bar Association, Real Property & Probate Section, Member, 1983-present

Community Activities

B'nai B'rith, International President, elected in January 2025

- Chair, Strategic Planning, 2018-2024
- Senior Vice President, 2015-2018
- National Fundraising Chairman, 2000-2002

BBYO, Inc., Vice Chairman, 2004-2009

Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle, President, 2002-2004

- Chair, Community Relations Committee, 2018-2021
- Executive Committee Member 2015 to present

King County Library System

- Board of Trustees, President, 2012-2013, and 2016-2017
- Board of Trustees, 2008-2018

United Way Ambassador

News

71 Foster Garvey Attorneys Recognized Among the 2026 Best Lawyers in America; Paul Trinchero Named 'Lawyer of the Year'
8.21.25

65 Foster Garvey Attorneys Selected to The Best Lawyers in America® 2025, Three Named 'Lawyer of the Year'
Foster Garvey Newsroom, 8.15.24

57 Foster Garvey Attorneys Recognized Among the 2024 Best Lawyers in America; Two Portland Attorneys Named 'Lawyer of the Year'
Foster Garvey Newsroom, 8.17.23

45 Foster Garvey Attorneys Recognized Among *The Best Lawyers In America*®
Foster Garvey Newsroom, 8.18.22

38 Attorneys Named 2022 Best Lawyers in America; 11 Named Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch
Foster Garvey Newsroom, 8.19.21

43 Attorneys Named 2021 *Best Lawyers in America*; 10 Named Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch
Foster Garvey Newsroom, 8.20.20

50 Foster Garvey Attorneys Named 2020 *Best Lawyers in America*
Foster Garvey Newsroom, 8.15.19

Speaking Engagements

Investing in the West Coast of the United States - The Fifth Largest Economy in the World
Investment Seminars in China
Beijing / Fuzhou / Shenzhen, China, 5.22.17 | 5.24.17 | 5.26.17

Legal Alerts

New Commercial Lease Restrictions in the City of Seattle
1.17.24

The State Supreme Court Confirms Washington is a Neighborly State
7.1.15

How Adverse is Adverse?
4.7.15

Division III's Neighborly Approach to Prescriptive Easements
4.8.14

Publications

The Government's New Oversight of Real Estate Deals With Foreigners: A Roadmap for
Applying the CFIUS Rules
2.24.20

Securities Law and Real Estate Offerings in Washington
Garvey Schubert Barer, 5.15.14