

Karen A. Tobin

Crystal Lake, IL

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PARTNER

Overview

Clients go to Karen for legal counsel in all phases of the business life cycle, whether they are starting-up, expanding, re-organizing or winding down. Karen is well versed in drafting and negotiating contracts, corporate governance, formation and maintenance in all jurisdictions. She also assists clients with shareholder agreements, operating agreements and lease negotiations.

In addition to her corporate practice, Karen assists clients with commercial and residential real estate. Whether purchasing, selling, or leasing, she helps with negotiating, due diligence and closing of the transactions.

Karen is familiar with the process of raising of capital through Regulation D and Regulation A, preparation of private placement memoranda and associated agreements, and is familiar with the filing process of the Illinois Secretary of State, the Internal Revenue Service, and the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

Karen has in-depth knowledge and experience with not-for-profit corporate formation and qualification of tax-exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service for 501 (c)(3) organizations. She is instrumental in qualifying organizations for Women Business Enterprise Certification and Minority Business Enterprise Certification, as well as annual recertification's. Karen has experience in small claims contract litigation, shareholder dispute settlement negotiation, and litigation involving breaches of fiduciary duty and fraudulent conveyance.

Experience

Sale of a Controlling Interest in a Steel Processing Business to a Strategic Buyer

Represented the Shareholders of a Risk Management Information System Provider for Health Care Organizations in the Sale of Their Business

SERVICES

Banking & Finance

Commercial Contracts

Commercial Lending

Corporate & Securities

Corporate Governance

Joint Ventures & Strategic Alliance Agreements

Mergers & Acquisitions

Nonprofit Institutions & Tax-Exempt Organizations

Outside General Counsel

Real Estate, Zoning & Public Finance

Securities & Capital Markets

Securities Enforcement

Shareholder Activism

Venture Capital & Private Equity

EDUCATION

Loyola University School of Law, J.D., 2001

Indiana University, B.S., 1987

ADMISSIONS

Illinois

Represented an Electronic Discovery and Digital Forensics Company in its Sale to a Private Equity Backed Platform

Membership & Involvement

- Heartland Realtor Organization: Current Member; Chairperson, Resource Committee; Commercial Real Estate Committee; Contacts and Forms Committee; Former Ambassador, Task Force
- Crystal Lake Chamber of Commerce: Board of Directors, Vice-Chair
- Member: Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA), McHenry County Bar Association; Woodstock Chamber of Commerce

Honors

- Selected to *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Insurance Law: 2026

Firm News

130 Amundsen Davis Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers® in 2026 in America Firm News, August 21, 2025

Amundsen Davis Promotes 10 Attorneys to Partner
Firm News, February 21, 2024

In the Media

Karen Tobin Quoted in Cook County Record – Illinois law reducing LLC fees will help make Prairie State a bit more business friendly

Alerts

IRS Expands the IP PIN Opt-In Program: A Key to Protect Your Identity

THE TIME IS NOW – Telemedicine on the Frontlines

Monitor Your Business Liens

Navigating Withdrawal Procedures in Multiple Jurisdictions

Speaking Engagements

Managing New Legal Mandates for Multi-State Employers
Speaking Engagement, Connor & Gallagher OneSource, Webcast, August 29, 2024

Managing New Legal Mandates for Multi-State Employers
Event, Amundsen Davis, Webcast, June 11, 2024

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Corporate Transparency Act - Everything You Need to Know For 2024
Event, Amundsen Davis; Webcast, December 20, 2023

Everything You Need to Know About LLCs - Including Important Recent
Developments
Better Business Bureau, Webcast, November 12, 2020

A Guide for Small and Medium Size Businesses to Obtain Funds Under the CARES
Act and Other State Lending Programs
Client Presentation, Webcast, April 2, 2020

The Corporate Paralegal from A to Z
Speaking Engagement, National Business Institute, Webcast, September 26, 2018

The Corporate Paralegal: Overcoming Top Challenges
Speaking Engagement, Institute for Paralegal Education; Webinar, March 8, 2018

2016 JOBS Act Updates: Critical Changes in Capital Formation Rules
Illinois State Bar Association's Business and Securities Law Section, Chicago, IL,
May 25, 2016

Starting a Business in Illinois
Illinois Chamber of Commerce, Webinar, November 5, 2015

Published Works

State of Illinois Force Majeure Law Compendium (during COVID-19 pandemic)
USLAW, June 5, 2020

Illinois Limited Liability Company Fees Slashed! "The time could not be better to
form an LLC in Illinois"
Heartland Realtor Organization, January 10, 2018

Guidance for Attorneys in Dealing with Cybersecurity Risks
Illinois State Bar Association's Business & Securities Law Forum, July 2016

Blog Posts

Treasury Department Announces Suspension of Enforcement of Corporate
Transparency Act
Corporate News: A Legal Update, March 5, 2025

Treasury Department Announces Suspension of Enforcement of Corporate
Transparency Act
Labor & Employment Law Update, March 5, 2025

The Corporate Transparency Act Is Back in Effect With a March 21 Reporting
Deadline
Corporate News: A Legal Update, February 20, 2025

U.S. Supreme Court Provisionally Reinstates the Corporate Transparency Act
Corporate News: A Legal Update, January 23, 2025

Nationwide Injunction Back in Place for the Corporate Transparency Act
Corporate News: A Legal Update, December 27, 2024

Corporate Transparency Act Deadline Back in Place With FinCEN Deadline Extensions
Corporate News: A Legal Update, December 24, 2024

Enforcement of the Corporate Transparency Act Suspended by Federal Court's Preliminary Injunction
Corporate News: A Legal Update, December 5, 2024

You Filed Your Beneficial Ownership Information Report, But Is it Right? An Analysis of Substantial Control
Corporate News: A Legal Update, September 23, 2024

REGISTER NOW – Managing New Legal Mandates for Multi-State Employers – Webcast on June 11
Labor & Employment Law Update, May 21, 2024

U.S. District Court Rules the Corporate Transparency Act Unconstitutional: What is the Impact for Businesses?
Corporate News: A Legal Update, March 4, 2024

Enhancing Transparency in Real Estate: FinCEN's New Reporting Requirements for Non-Financed Transfers
Corporate News: A Legal Update, February 8, 2024

FinCEN to Extend Initial Reporting Deadline for the Corporate Transparency Act
Corporate News: A Legal Update, September 28, 2023

New Guidance on the Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting Rule
Corporate News: A Legal Update, April 3, 2023

The Potential Impact of the Climate Risk Disclosure Act
Corporate News: A Legal Update, March 24, 2022

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