



J. Marc Ward

SHAREHOLDER

Des Moines

515.242.8901

mward@fredlaw.com

Services

Bank & Finance

Debt Finance

Corporate Governance

Mergers & Acquisitions

Corporate

Finance & Securities

Marc has extensive experience in working on banking, mergers and acquisitions and general corporate matters.

Marc chaired the committee that wrote the original LLC law in 1992 and chaired the committee that wrote the new Iowa LLC law in 2009.

Experience

- Over 30 years of experience assisting Iowa banks on the buy and sell side of acquisitions in Iowa, Minnesota and North Dakota
- Representing Iowa-based company with farming operations in Brazil in a debt-restructuring involving companies in four countries and four continents
- Represented client in the sale of its business, including the sale of real estate in transaction totaling over \$10 million
- Advised bank holding companies on the private placement of new securities
- Represented restaurateur in restaurant development in Iowa, Missouri, Colorado and Nebraska
- Advised client in the purchase of a United Kingdom business with operations in Australia and the U.S.

Credentials

Education

- Drake University Law School, J.D., 1984, with honors
- Iowa State University, B.S., 1980

Admissions

- Iowa, 1984

Recognition

- *Best Lawyers in America*, Banking and Finance Law, 2006-2024; Corporate Law, 2008-2024; Financial Services Regulation Law, 2011-2024; Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships), 2012-2024; Mergers & Acquisitions Law, 2012-2024; Closely Held Companies and Family Businesses Law, 2013-2024
- Lawyer of the Year in Des Moines for Financial Services Regulation Law, *Best Lawyers*, 2019, 2022
- Lawyer of the Year in Des Moines for Closely Held Companies and Family Business Law, *Best Lawyers*, 2018, 2020, 2022
- Lawyer of the Year in Des Moines for Banking and Finance Law, *Best Lawyers*, 2017
- Lawyer of the Year in Des Moines for Business Organizations (including LLCs and Partnerships), *Best Lawyers*, 2016
- *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*, Iowa – Corporate/ Mergers & Acquisitions, 2009-present
- *Great Plains Super Lawyers*, Banking, 2013-2016
- Distinguished Education Leadership Award, Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute, 2008
- Order of the Coif

Civic & Professional

Professional Activities

- Iowa State Bar Association, Business Law Section's Limited Liability Companies Committee, Member, 1992-present
- Iowa State Bar Association, Business Law Section's Limited Liability Companies Committee, Chair, 1992-1994, 1996-1998, 2002-2008
- Iowa State Bar Association, Business Law Section Council, Council Member, 2016-present
- Iowa State Bar Association, Business Law Section Council, Chair, 2011-2015
- Iowa State Bar Association, Business Law Section Council, Vice Chair, 2009-2011
- American Bar Association, Member
- American Bar Association, Business Law Section, Member
- American Bar Association, Model Limited Liability Company Task Force, Partnerships and Unincorporated Business Organizations Committee, Member
- American Bar Association, Banking Law Committee, Member

- American Bar Association, Legal Opinion Committee, Member
- Polk County Bar Association, Member
- National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, Drafting Committee on Amendments to the Uniform Limited Liability Company Act, Observer, 2003
- Drake University Law School, Adjunct Professor, Course on Business Planning, 1996
- Community Bankers of Iowa, Member
- *Drake Law Review*, Projects Editor, 1984

Community

- Broadlawns Medical Center, Chair of the Board, 2021-2022
- Broadlawns Medical Center, Board of Trustees, 2016-present
- Taxpayers Association of Central Iowa, Board of Directors, 2004-present
- Des Moines Public Schools Board of Education, President, 2002-2003, 2006-2007
- Des Moines Public Schools Board of Education, Member, 1997-2003, 2004-2007
- Iowa Student Loan Liquidity Corporation, Vice Chair, 2009-2011
- Iowa Student Loan Liquidity Corporation, Tax Exempt Bond Issuance Committee, Chair, 2010-2011
- Iowa Governor's Commission on the Status of Women, Vice Chair, 2008-2010
- Central Iowa Taxpayers Association, President, 2010-2013
- Civic Center of Greater Des Moines, Board of Trustees, 2001-2004
- City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Board, Member, 2003
- United Way of Central Iowa, Member, Campaign Cabinet, 2001-2002
- Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute, 2000

News

Firm News | 08.17.2023

Fredrikson Attorneys Recognized in The Best Lawyers in America© 2024

Firm News | 06.01.2023

Fredrikson Recognized by 2023 Chambers USA

Article | 08.18.2022

Fredrikson & Byron Attorneys Recognized in The Best Lawyers in America© 2023

Firm News | 06.02.2022

Fredrikson & Byron Recognized by 2022 Chambers USA

Firm News | 07.02.2021

Six Fredrikson Attorneys Appointed to Positions Within Iowa State Bar Association

Firm News | 05.20.2021

Fredrikson & Byron Recognized by 2021 Chambers USA

Firm News | 03.24.2021

Attorney J. Marc Ward Named Chair of Broadlawns Medical Center Board of Trustees

Firm News | 06.21.2018

Six Fredrikson Attorneys Appointed to the Section Council of the Iowa State Bar Association

Firm News | 07.24.2017

Fredrikson Attorneys Appointed to the Section Council of the Iowa State Bar Association

Legal Updates

Legal Update | 12.01.2023

The New Corporate Transparency Act

Legal Update | 06.01.2023

Sub Debt Can Provide Bank Liquidity

Legal Update | 08.31.2022

Does Sandbagging Hurt? – The Importance and Enforceability of Sandbagging Provisions in Bank M&A Deals

Legal Update | 12.01.2020

Practical M&A Considerations for Community Banks

Legal Update | 03.01.2018

Negotiating a Data Processing Contract

Legal Update | 12.05.2017

Is Backdating Ever Okay?

Legal Update | 11.21.2017

Crafting Language in an Acquisition Agreement: Part Two

Legal Update | 10.31.2017

Crafting Language in an Acquisition Agreement: Part One

Legal Update | 09.01.2017

Private Offering: An Effective Capital Raising Method for Community Banks

Legal Update | 09.01.2016

Buying and Selling a Bank: How to Get the Best Price

Legal Update | 06.01.2015

Crafting Language in an Acquisition Agreement

Legal Update | 09.03.2014

Success and Failure in Bank Auctions

Publications & Presentations

Co-Presenter, "Drafting Contracts Potpourri," ISBA Annual Meeting, May 2020

"The Value of Health Care Reform is More Than You May Think," *Des Moines Register*, August 17, 2018

"The Emergency Powers of a Board of Directors," *ABI The Voice of Iowa Business*, January 2015

"Successful Planning and Shareholder Agreements," *ABI The Voice of Iowa Business*, December 2014

Co-Presenter, "Documenting the M&A Deal," Fredrikson & Byron's Bank and Finance Seminar: Key Developments that Every Banker Should Know, August 20, 2014