

Cristina Kuhn

Partner

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With over 30 years of experience, Cris focuses her practice on assisting governmental entities and corporations navigate a wide variety of financing and economic development matters.

Cris is a partner in Dorsey's Public Finance Group, specializing in municipal law and finance for governmental entities and corporations. Cris routinely serves as bond counsel, issuer's counsel, underwriter's counsel, borrower's counsel, and bank counsel on financing transactions, debt restructurings, and economic development matters, with a special focus on governmental financings, healthcare and senior care financings, USDA financings, senior and multi-family housing financings, and solid waste, and other exempt facilities financings.

Cris has guided clients through a wide range of private activity and governmental financing transactions, including issuances for private and governmental hospitals and other health care entities, 501(c)(3) entities, state-wide associations, intergovernmental entities, manufacturing facilities, public and private colleges, and multi-family residential rental facilities. Cris also maintains a general municipal finance practice, advising cities, counties, rural water districts, utilities, and school corporations. She also provides legal advice regarding federal tax and securities law, open meetings/public records laws, public bidding laws, economic development issues, contracting issues, and other legal matters.

Cris holds key leadership roles at Dorsey, currently as the office head of the Des Moines office, serving as a member of the Firm's opinion committee. She previously served on the Firm's Professional Practice Committee.

Education

- Drake University Law School (J.D., with honors, 1994)
 - Order of the Coif
 - *Drake Law Review* Note Editor, 1993-94; *Drake Law Review* Junior Staff Member, 1992-93
 - ATLA Mock Trial Team, 1993-94
- University of Iowa (Bachelor of Business Administration, 1991)

Bar Admissions

- Iowa

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the District of Iowa
- U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

Professional Affiliations

- Member, National Association of Bond Lawyers
- Iowa Bar Association
 - Member
 - Chair, Governmental Practice Section Council (2007-2009)
- Polk County Bar Association
 - Member
 - Member, Public Relations Committee (2007-2008)
- Council of School Attorneys
- Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute, Graduate, Class of 2012
- Broadlawns Medical Center Advocacy Circle Member

Accolades

- *Best Lawyers® Lawyer of the Year*, Municipal Law, 2025
- *Best Lawyers® Lawyer of the Year*, Public Finance Law, 2023, 2025
- *Best Lawyers in America®*, 2013-2026
- *Best Lawyers® Des Moines Public Finance Lawyer of the Year*, 2015 and 2021

Select Presentations

- Webinar: Annual Training, Municipal Securities Disclosure, Spring 2015
- “Post Issuance Compliance Procedures for Tax Exempt Obligations: Are You Ready for an IRS Audit?” LeadingAge Iowa Fall Conference, October 9, 2013
- “Legal Issues for Municipal Finance-the Basics and Beyond,” co-presenter, Iowa Municipal Professionals Academy, July 25, 2013
- “Project Finance 101,” co-presenter, Iowa Rural Water Association, 38th Annual Conference, February 19, 2013
- “Hospital Construction Projects: Digging Through the Regulatory and Financing Morass,” co-presenter, Iowa Hospital Association Annual Meeting, Iowa Hospital Association, Annual Meeting, October 9, 2012

Insights

December 11, 2025

Reputation is Everything: Iowa Supreme Court Clarifies Use of Closed Session

Job Interviews

June 21, 2022

Critical Changes To Iowa's Public Bidding Law

April 19, 2022

SEC Charges School District, the District's Former Chief Financial Officer and the District's Auditor with Violations of Federal Securities Laws in a 2018 Bond Offering

October 27, 2021

SEC Charges School District and the District's Former Chief Financial Officer with Violations of Securities Laws in a 2018 Bond Offering

July 6, 2020

Iowa Governor Signs Legislation Related to Iowa County Hospitals' Authority to Borrow Money

May 14, 2020

SEC Statement Encourages Municipal Securities Issuers to Provide Expanded COVID-19 Disclosures

April 13, 2020

CARES ACT Municipal Liquidity Facility

April 2, 2020

Iowa Governor Proclamation Temporarily Allows County Hospitals to Borrow Money For Operations Not Solely Secured by Revenues

March 30, 2020

CARES Act Summary for Public Finance

March 25, 2020

Guidance Regarding Electronic Meetings in Iowa

Des Moines