

James H. Smith

Partner

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JAMES COUNSELS CLIENTS, BOTH GOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE, ON MUNICIPAL FINANCE TRANSACTIONS THAT FUND HOUSING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND OTHER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

James regularly serves as underwriters' counsel, disclosure counsel, bond counsel and trustee counsel on public finance matters, with an emphasis on state housing finance agency (HFA) transactions. Having worked for several years at the Iowa Finance Authority before joining Dorsey, James has a unique perspective of HFA work, including a thorough understanding of housing and state revolving fund programs. James applies this direct experience to help governmental issuers and their finance professionals obtain necessary program funding.

In addition to his HFA-related work in numerous states, James also frequently serves as bond counsel, disclosure counsel and/or underwriter's counsel on general governmental, utility and economic development transactions.

Select Experience

Housing Finance Agency Background

- Since joining Dorsey in 2008, James has worked with several housing finance agencies (HFAs), in various roles, including as bond counsel, underwriter's counsel and trustee counsel. James has worked as part of the transaction team for HFA housing programs in Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Colorado, Ohio, Nebraska, Wisconsin and New Mexico.
- James has served as underwriter's counsel, bond counsel and trustee counsel on more than 70 housing finance agency bond transactions since 2010. He has also served as bond counsel on multiple state revolving fund issues.
- In addition to the specific HFA-related work, James has served as counsel on finance transactions ranging in size from \$700,000 to \$1.2 billion. This work includes bond counsel, underwriter's counsel and disclosure counsel on general governmental

Education

- University of Iowa College of Law (J.D., 1997)
 - with high distinction
 - Senior Associate Editor, *Journal of Corporation Law*
- Simpson College (B.A., Accounting, 1994)
 - *cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- Iowa

finance, conduit, housing and other infrastructure issues.

Charitable & Civic Involvement

- Recently concluded a term as President of church congregation council
- Currently providing pro bono counsel to an unaccompanied minor in immigration removal proceedings

Insights

September 20, 2022

SEC Charges Underwriters with Violations of Rule 15c2-12

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

May 14, 2020

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

April 13, 2020

CARES ACT Municipal Liquidity Facility

March 30, 2020

CARES Act Summary for Public Finance

August 27, 2018

SEC Adopts Rule Amendments to Improve Municipal Securities Disclosure