

William J. Gelm

Scottsdale, Arizona
Shareholder

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Areas of Practice & Industry Specialties

Real Estate; Real Estate Finance; Commercial Finance; Corporate Law; Education Law, Charter & Private Schools; Private Equity and Venture Capital



William J. Gelm, shareholder, is chair of the Public Finance Industry and the Education Law, Charter & Private Schools Industry groups, formerly served on the firm's board of directors, former chair of the firm's Diversity, Equality and Inclusion committee and a member of the real estate, bank and finance and the corporate practice groups. In his practice, Will works almost exclusively with nonprofit organizations in connection with corporate structuring and governance, real estate and real estate finance, and other general business law matters with an emphasis on the acquisition, development and financing of qualified nonprofit facilities using tax-exempt bond structures. During his career, Mr. Gelm has served as borrower's counsel in over 300 tax-exempt bond issuances in five different states, placing over \$3,000,000,000 in tax-exempt and taxable bonds.

In addition, Will acts as general corporate counsel to a number of nonprofit corporations relating to corporate matters including corporate organization, board formation, composition and governance issues, conflicts of interest, tax-exempt qualification and compliance matters, and state and federal regulatory issues. He frequently conducts corporate and governing board training seminars for nonprofit clients regarding individual board member fiduciary responsibilities, board procedures and conflicts of interest taking into consideration limitations imposed upon nonprofit boards by corporate law, tax law and regulations.

Will also serves as lender's counsel when making loans to nonprofit corporations, investment banking firms as special disclosure counsel in bond financing transactions and corporate trustees in connection with bond financing transactions.

Will was recognized as a "Most Admired Leader" by the *Phoenix Business Journal* in 2021.

Mr. Gelm graduated from Case Western Reserve University with his Bachelor of Arts and Juris Doctor degrees and is admitted in Arizona.

Publications

- Buchalter COVID-19 Client Alert: Arizona Charter Schools Planned Re-Opening, July 24, 2020

Presentations

- Speaker, "Law & Public Records," 2012 Arizona Charter Schools Conference, October 31, 2012
- Moderator and Speaker, "The Impact of the Great Recession on Charter School Facilities Financing," Arizona Charter School Association Annual Conference in Tucson, AZ, November 10, 2011

Education

Mr. Gelm earned his J.D. and B.A. at Case Western Reserve University.

Bar Admissions

- Arizona