



Katriina McGuire

Partner

Chicago
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EDUCATION

- Loyola University Chicago School of Law, J.D., 1996
- University of Washington, B.A., 1991

ADMISSIONS

- Illinois

AFFILIATIONS

- Illinois State Bar Association

EMPLOYMENT

- Thompson Coburn LLP Partner, 2014-Present
- Schain, Banks, Kenny & Schwartz Ltd. Partner, 2010-2014
- Schain, Burney Ross & Citron 1996-2009

Katriina helps clients navigate challenging land use and zoning issues throughout the City of Chicago and surrounding suburbs, paving the way for successful developments. She is the Managing Partner of the Firm's Chicago office.

As a dedicated and highly motivated business partner to a diverse range of clients, Katriina cares deeply about her clients' success. She shares their passions and concerns, and works proactively to build successful development strategies and anticipate roadblocks in the development approval process.

She combines a deep understanding of highly technical and constantly evolving regulations with the strong relationships she's built with zoning and economic development departments across the Chicago region. With this unique focus – on process and on people – Katriina guides clients through complex regulatory, community and political frameworks and provides a clear pathway to municipal land use approvals.

Katriina is particularly sought out for her mastery of land use entitlements in the City of Chicago and surrounding suburbs. From single-family homes to large-scale mixed-use master planned developments, Katriina advocates for a broad range of clients before the City of Chicago and suburban plan commissions, zoning and economic development committees, zoning boards of appeals and village boards in all matters related to land use and zoning. She has represented clients in a broad range of industries, including commercial and residential real estate, banking, wireless telecommunications, hospitality, manufacturing, education, health care and entertainment.

Katriina also provides zoning analysis and entitlement due diligence on properties across the country.

She negotiates development agreements related to TIF, development incentives, special service areas, special assessments, right-of-way agreements and utility services.

Katriina counsels cannabis-related businesses with respect to zoning and land use approvals in Chicago and its surrounding suburbs. She has spoken at cannabis business conferences about zoning and land use issues specific to cannabis dispensaries. She also participates in Mayor

Lori Lightfoot's Cannabis Industry Working Group.

The daughter of a Finnish government employee, Katriina is fluent in Finnish and spent her childhood in Finland, Romania, the Philippines and Austria before moving to the U.S. to attend college.

Katriina is chair of Thompson Coburn's Women's Initiative Steering Committee. She also sits on the Loss Prevention Counsel of the Firm's AI Task Force.

Languages

- Finnish

Recognitions

- Listed in "Chambers USA" for Real Estate: Zoning/Land Use in Illinois, 2023 (by Chambers & Partners)
- Listed in The Best Lawyers in America (by BL Rankings) for Land Use and Zoning Law, 2024

Publications

- Quoted, "Missing-Middle Housing Comes Into Focus," *American City Business Journals*, November 13, 2023

Experience

- **Land use entitlements**

Successfully represented clients in various zoning matters, including planned developments, zoning amendments, special uses, variations and subdivision issues.

- **Development incentives**

Served as counsel for municipalities, developers and underwriters related to TIF, SSA and special assessment and alternate revenue source bond financing transactions.

- **Litigation and commercial disputes**

Represented clients in the circuit and appellate courts of Illinois regarding land use disputes as well as general commercial matters.