



HEDGEMAN LAW FIRM



### **Catherine M. Hedgeman Founder, Esq**

A native of Albany, New York, Catherine M. Hedgeman received a Juris Doctorate from Albany Law School in 2000, where she was an associate editor of The Albany Law Review. Hedgeman advises businesses, nonprofits and public authorities on general business and governance matters, real estate development and compliance.

She practices before the courts in the State of New York, U.S. District Courts, Northern District of New York and Southern District of New York. Hedgeman also practices before the District of Columbia Court of Appeals, the U.S District Court, District of Columbia, and the United States Supreme Court. She is a member of the New York State Bar Association and the District of Columbia Bar Association.



### **Stephen Martini**

Martini, the firm's Chief Financial Officer, has an extensive background in finance, risk management, compliance, audits, and corporate and nonprofit governance. Martini advises entities on establishing financial policies, procedures and systems, financial and internal audits, record-keeping and document retention policies, and State and Federal grant financial management reporting.



### **CONTACT**

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The Hedgeman Law Firm, Certified Woman-Owned Business Enterprise (WBE), is a comprehensive law firm located in Albany, N.Y. and Washington, D.C. founded by Albany native Catherine Hedgeman. For over a decade, our firm has provided top-tier solutions paired with cost-effective services to clients.

### **SPECIALTIES**

- Commercial and Residential Real Estate Transactions and Litigation
- Civil Litigation
- Corporate Law
- General Counsel Services
- Nonprofit Law and Finance



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## LITIGATION

No business welcomes conflict, but when disputes arise, it's important that you have an experienced and trusted advocate by your side. Our firm has decades of experience in State and Federal courts and has had clients in cases involving diverse areas of law, including contract disputes and enforcement, real estate litigation, complex commercial issues, business torts, and other business conflicts.

### PRACTICE AREAS INCLUDE:

- Commercial and Business Litigation
- Contract Disputes and Enforcement
- Construction Defect
- Directors and Officers Litigation
- Eminent Domain
- Financial Services Litigation
- Government Enforcement and Investigations
- Labor and Employment Litigation
- Residential Mortgage Lending and Servicing
- Securities Litigation

### Negotiated resolution and litigation prevention:

In order to avoid litigation, the best outcome is to get ahead of the issues at hand. Our firm seeks to resolve matters consistent with a client's business and legal objectives; for example, auditing and reviewing contracts and business practices to prevent exposure and disputes; and when desirable, seeking a negotiated settlement. As seasoned litigators, we are in the best position to work for the most efficient and effective resolution possible.

## NONPROFIT

Since 2007, the Hedgeman Law Firm has provided legal services to nonprofit organizations. Comprehensive legal services help clients navigate State and Federal regulatory frameworks and operate effectively. Our services for nonprofits include:

### Tax Exempt Entities

- Tax exemption, including initial applications; reporting information to the IRS, including Form 990; unrelated business income tax; advising on IRS audits; advising on New York State sales tax and real property tax exemptions; and reporting to the New York State Charities Bureau
- Private foundation issues, including advising on self-dealing, excise taxes, minimum distributions, excess business holdings, and other matters; Hedgeman Law Firm represents private foundations, including some with assets in excess of \$500 million
- Board operation, including best practices relating to governance; director responsibilities and liabilities and D&O insurance; interactions among directors and staff; and adoption of board policies on ethics, conflicts of interest, whistleblowing, record retention, and gift acceptance procedures
- Bylaws and certificates of incorporation, including analysis and amendments to documents, necessary approvals from state agencies, the New York State attorney general, and the New York State Supreme Court
- Joint ventures with other not-for-profits and with for-profits, including service-sharing arrangements among a group of not-for-profits and health care projects between not-for-profit and for-profit providers
- Nonprofit finance policy, accounting system, risk management, internal controls, and audit reviews
- Guidance about the New York Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (NYPMIFA), which governs the investment, spending, and management of endowment funds held by all entities defined as institutions under the act
- Dissolutions, Mergers & Acquisitions



## REAL ESTATE

Hedgeman Law has extensive experience representing real estate developers, including individual entrepreneurs, for-profit developers, nonprofit corporations, municipalities and economic development authorities in conjunction with all types of commercial and residential real estate transactions.

### Real estate practice areas include:

- Rehabilitation and Development of Blighted Properties
- Environmental/SEQRA Review
- Financial Institutions and Lending
- Land Use and Zoning
- Project Development
- Public Finance
- Real Property Tax
- Tax Credits and Opportunity Zones
- Real Estate Title
- Real Property Litigation

## GENERAL COUNSEL

General counsel provides an experienced and trusted legal voice to your organization. Our firm has extensive experience acting as general counsel for municipalities, nonprofits, and businesses. Let us put our years of general counsel experience to work for your organization.

Large businesses and organizations often employ a full-time general counsel, but many small to mid-sized entities do not. As general counsel, our firm adds business acumen and guidance to overall operations.

### General counsel services include:

- Contract review and negotiation
- Labor and Employment
- Managing corporate governance
- Risk management
- Mergers and acquisitions
- Joint Ventures
- Litigation
- Acquisition and Disposition of Real Estate
- Incorporation or dissolution