



Charles R. Schaefer
Senior Partner | Corporate

216.928.2894

cschaefer@whburkley.com

OVERVIEW

Chuck is a Senior Partner in WH Burkley's Corporate Group. Chuck represents privately and publicly held businesses and their owners and executives. He negotiates and counsels clients on mergers, acquisitions, and divestiture transactions. Chuck's transactions involve the sale of businesses for retiring owners to publicly held acquirers, private equity investors and strategic buyers. He also directs multiple financing transactions for clients involving acquisitions, lines of credit, revolvers, equipment loans and term loans. Chuck began his career as a tax and estate planning specialist in the 1970s.

EXPERIENCE

CLOSELY HELD BUSINESS SERVICES

- Counsels on day-to-day business operations
- Advises on and drafts sales and supplier contracts, owner relationships, governance and planning for all types of businesses
- Negotiates borrower-side financing, capital raising, acquisitions, sales and divestitures of businesses, exit planning and retirement

BUSINESS SERVICES

- Counsels on acquisitions, divestiture and mergers of businesses in all industries with specific experience in aerospace, wholesale/distribution and manufacturing

- Represents national, local and regional businesses in negotiating and closing acquisitions and divestitures in many industries
- Advises on strategic planning, contract drafting and negotiation, business expansion, liquefying invested capital, resolving shareholder/partner relations and disputes, and financing transactions
- Counsels on transactions involving the sale of large manufacturers, merger of insurance agencies and acquisitions of distribution and manufacturing businesses
- Counsels on broadcasting, moving and storage, records management, biochemical products, propane gas, precision metal forming, automobile dealerships, printing, wood products, arts and crafts, machine tool, food brokerage, marine engineering, chemicals, plastics, wholesale distribution, software developers and computer services

FINANCIAL SERVICES

- Negotiates and closes on behalf of borrowers, bank loans, venture capital loans, mezzanine financing packages and other public and private financing vehicles from single sources, multiple lenders and private placements of debt and equity securities
- Performs financing activities and bank loan re-negotiations involving buyouts of a deceased party, software business financing, and private placements for software and service businesses

RECOGNITION

- *Martindale-Hubbell* – AV Rated

PRESENTATIONS

- “[How to Legally Organize Your Startup Business](#),” Kent State University's Blackstone LaunchPad Legal Event Series, 2013

ASSOCIATIONS

- Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association | Member
- Baldwin-Wallace College Family and Small Business Institute | Institute Founder

- Ohio State Bar Association | Member
- American Bar Association, Business Law and Taxation Sections, Small Business Committee | Member
- Northeast Technical Services, Inc. | Board of Advisors
- Cleveland Area Development Financing Corporation and its successor, Growth Capital Corporation | Former Vice President and Trustee
- Montefiore Home for the Aged, Finance and Budget Committee | Former Member

EDUCATION

- Case Western Reserve University, J.D.
- Lehigh University, B.A.

FOCUS

- Corporate

LICENSED

- Ohio
- Florida

OFFICE

- Cleveland