



David J. Neill

Partner

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Dave's practice focuses on commercial real estate, finance and land development. His representations span a range of industry clients, and his recent experience includes:

- Buyer's counsel in a multi-phased, land acquisition for redevelopment of a North Carolina municipality's central business district;
- Lender's counsel to private equity lenders in short-timeline, high stakes closings throughout North Carolina;
- Borrower's counsel to nonprofit and governmental institutions including a recent \$26,000,000 mortgage-secured bond refinancing; and
- Developer's counsel in various commercial and residential matters before local governments including a new 1,500-acre championship golf course community in the Sandhills of North Carolina.

Dave is well-versed in legal principles related to real estate finance, industrial incentives and related complex contract negotiations. His two decades of experience in land development, including six years on the economic development team of the Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce, gives him insight into the unique and complex interplay between governmental institutions and private property owners.

Before Fox Rothschild

Dave was a partner at Smith Moore Leatherwood LLP, which combined with Fox Rothschild in 2018.

Honors & Awards

- Named to "The Best Lawyers in America" list for Real Estate Law (2018-2021) and Land Use and Zoning Law (2019, 2021) in North Carolina by *Best Lawyers*
- LEED-Accredited Professional with Building Design & Construction Specialty (LEED AP BD+C)
- *Business North Carolina's* Legal Elite, Real Estate (2013)
- North Carolina *SuperLawyers*, Rising Stars Edition, Real Estate (2009-2011, 2013, 2014)
- *Business Leader Magazine's* "Movers & Shakers" (2010), awarded to executives in leadership positions making a difference in their companies and the community
- *North Carolina Lawyers Weekly*, "Emerging Legal Leaders" Finalist, 2010

Practice Areas



- Real Estate
- Real Estate & Housing Finance
- Zoning & Land Use
- Public Finance
- Energy & Natural Resources
- Renewable Energy & Project Development

Bar Admissions

- North Carolina

Education

- University of North Carolina School of Law (J.D., *with honors*, 2004)
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (B.A., 1995)
 - Political Science, Public Policy Analysis
- Ocean County College (A.A., *summa cum laude*, 1993)
 - Liberal Studies

Memberships

- North Carolina Bar Association
 - Co-Chair, Continuing Legal Education Committee - Zoning, Planning & Land Use Section (2017-present)
 - Chair - Ethics Committee - Zoning, Planning & Land Use Section, NC Bar Association (2016-2017)
 - Professionalism Committee - North Carolina Bar Association Foundation (2012-2016)
 - Member, Real Property and Zoning, Planning & Land Use Sections
- Durham Historic Preservation Commission, Commissioner - (2013-2015)
- Durham Board of Adjustment, Vice-Chair (2004-2012)
- Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce
- Professional Associates Network - Preservation North Carolina
- National Eagle Scout Association
- Holy Infant Catholic Church