



Russell L. Brown



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Russell Brown concentrates his practice in the areas of:

- Real Estate Law
- Zoning and Land Use
- Governmental Services
- Business and Commercial Services
- Estate Planning and Probate

Russell regularly represents clients before zoning boards and planning commissions throughout the State of Indiana and has successfully navigated numerous clients through corporate and real estate transactions, including advising on corporate formation strategies, negotiating complex asset, stock or real estate purchase or lease agreements and assisting clients in completing requisite transactional due diligence. Russell's work before zoning and planning boards includes representing wireless communication providers and infrastructure providers, single family and multi-family developers, big box commercial users, non-profit entities and small businesses. In his career, Russell has provided representation and counsel to municipalities, municipal corporations, redevelopment commissions and community development corporations and has served as counsel to developers engaging in public private partnerships with municipal entities for commercial and residential developments. Russell also provides representation to individuals in estate planning and probate services.

Prior to joining the Firm, Russell worked in various public sector roles including as a member of the Governor's Office staff under the late Frank O'Bannon. Russell also served as the Director of Policy of the Department of Workforce Development and as lobbyist before Indiana's General Assembly for the trade organization for Indiana's paid circulation newspapers. During law school Russell served as a member and vice chairperson of the Board of Zoning Appeals for the City of Lawrence, Indiana.

From September 2009 through December 2014, Russell served as the elected Township Trustee of Lawrence Township, Marion County, before choosing not to stand for re-election in 2014. Under Russell's leadership the Township transitioned from a deficit budget to a surplus budget, merged the township fire department with the Indianapolis Fire Department, renovated the Morris Settles Township Center and created the Lawrence Township Hunger Coalition, Inc., a 501(c)(3) not for profit community organization which started and operated The Cupboard of Lawrence Township, a food pantry serving citizens of Lawrence Township, until July 2016.

In 2010-2011, Russell was a member of the Indianapolis Bar Association's Bar Leader Series Class VIII and was named one of *Indiana Lawyer's* "Up and Coming Lawyers" in 2012. Russell serves on the Board of Directors for the Fort Harrison Reuse Authority, serving since February 2012, first as an appointment of the Indianapolis City-County Council and now as an appointment of the Lawrence Common Council. Throughout his time on the Board he has served as the Secretary/Treasurer.

Russell is a December 2006 *cum laude* graduate of the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law where he served as an Associate Editor of the *Indiana Law Review*, participated in pro-bono work and was a member of the Dean's Student Advisory Board. Russell earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Administration from Harding University in Searcy, Arkansas in 1999.

Russell has coordinated a twice a month intake session for the Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic at Southeastern Church of Christ in Indianapolis since November 2007. Since 2011 Russell has served on the Board of Directors of the Neighborhood Christian Legal Clinic, where he currently serves as the Vice Chair of the Board.

He is father to a son, Jeb, and together they are avid "Ballpark Chasers", regularly visiting major league baseball parks, of which they have visited more than two thirds of active MLB stadiums. Since college Russell has also served several stints as a youth baseball coach, most recently with the Oaklandon Youth Organization where he currently serves as a coach for the Oaklandon Bombers and served for three years as the Rules and Training Chair.

Russell is admitted to practice in the State of Indiana as well as the Northern and Southern District Courts of Indiana. Russell is also a Registered Civil Mediator in the State of Indiana. In July, 2018, Russell was admitted to practice in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. He is a member of the Indianapolis Bar Association's Real Estate/Land Use Division, of which he is a past chair, and is a member of the Indiana State Bar Association and the Kentucky Bar Association.