



Colleges & Universities

Our skilled team of lawyers effectively manages both common and unique legal challenges today's colleges and universities face. For decades, we've built lasting partnerships with numerous higher education clients, providing solutions that allow them to focus on their educational missions.

Institutional governance, nonprofit exempt status, educational services, Title IX, and campus preservation and expansion are just a few of the matters our attorneys frequently address.

Types of clients we represent:

- State universities
- Independent colleges and universities
- Community colleges
- Non-traditional education providers
- Career/technical schools

Areas of Focus

Education Law

We partner with higher education administrators to help them understand and comply federal and state laws related to civil rights, disabilities, collective bargaining, campus safety and more. Our attorneys frequently handle statutory and constitutional issues, such as access to student records, student discipline, student civil rights and discrimination. We also assist with accreditation disputes, governance issues and other concerns unique to institutions of higher education.

Title IX & Sexual Misconduct

Due to the Department of Education's recent spotlight on the Clery Act pursuant to the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and Title IX, we help administrators protect their employees and students in the areas of sexual harassment, pregnancy discrimination, athletic discrimination and more. Our team is experienced in Title IX and sexual misconduct proceedings, and we work with educational institutions to prevent violations and handle these cases effectively. [Visit our Title IX Resource Center >>](#)

Employment & Labor

From providing guidance on executive and faculty compensation to assisting with union negotiations, our employment attorneys collaborate with our education team to build proactive plans and creative solutions for administrators.

Public Finance

We work with higher education leaders to provide viable options for their institution's development. For many years, we have served as bond counsel in numerous higher education financings for large public universities, private colleges and universities, and community colleges. Our experience specifically includes tax-exempt bond financings, taxable financings for private-use facilities, post-issuance compliance, bank financing and construction loans.

Construction

We represent public and private higher education institutions on all aspects of construction projects — from the preparation of contract documents through litigation, when necessary. Our experience includes multiple prime contractor, general contractor, construction manager at risk and design-build delivery models that are now available to public as well as private institutions.

Litigation

Whether the solution is an aggressive motion practice, mediation, arbitration or trial by jury, our goal is to deliver results while preserving resources and protecting the relationships that help institutions succeed. Some of the common areas in which we practice include discrimination, harassment, date-rape, wrongful expulsion, toxic mold liability and ERISA.

Real Estate

We understand the pressure for colleges and universities to preserve, expand and modernize their campus facilities. Our real estate team assists educational clients in obtaining bank financing and construction loans, acquiring real estate, zoning variances and conservation easements, and handling eminent domain and appropriation actions.

Intellectual Property

Our attorneys work with institutions to protect trademark, copyright, internet, domain name, unfair competition, joint venture and corporate intellectual property rights. We also help institutions acquire and license proprietary assets and technology.

Government Relations

Our team of lawyer-lobbyists frequently advocate legal changes on behalf of higher education institutions. We constantly monitor legislative activity for issues impacting higher ed and help our college and university clients take advantage of legislative and regulatory opportunities.

People



Joshua Nolan
216.523.5405
jnolan@bricker.com



Laura G. Anthony
614.227.2366
lanthony@bricker.com



Amy S. Bartemes
614.227.2379
abartemes@bricker.com



Melissa Martinez Bondy
614.227.8875
mbondy@bricker.com



Erin E. Butcher
614.227.2303
ebutcher@bricker.com



Kimball H. Carey
614.227.4891
kcarey@bricker.com



Melissa M. Carleton
614.227.4846
mcarleton@bricker.com



William T. Conard II
614.227.2351
wconard@bricker.com



Kate Vivian Davis
937.535.3902
kdavis@bricker.com



Nicole M. Donovsky
614.227.4866
ndonovsky@bricker.com



Jessica L. Galanos
614.227.2341
jgalanos@bricker.com



Dane A. Gaschen
614.227.8887
dgaschen@bricker.com



Warren I. Grody
614.227.2332
wgrody@bricker.com



Joseph Hall
216.523.5481
jhall@bricker.com



Robert T. Kent
517.208.1460
rkent@bricker.com



Jeff Knight
614.227.2346
jknight@bricker.com



David J. Lampe
513.870.6561
dlampe@bricker.com



Sean R. Lehman
614.227.7712
slehman@bricker.com



Robert F. McCarthy
614.227.2308
rmccarthy@bricker.com



Beverly A. Meyer
937.224.1849
bmeyer@bricker.com



Austin W. Musser
513.870.6569
amusser@bricker.com



Kasey Nielsen
216.523.5473
knielsen@bricker.com



Susan L. Oppenheimer
614.227.8822
soppenheimer@bricker.com



Karen "Katy" W. Osborn
937.535.3905
kosborn@bricker.com



Richard W. Ross
614.227.4873
rross@bricker.com