



# Christopher J. Bondra

Associate



Chris Bondra provides a wide range of legal, business and finance expertise across several core disciplines.

He serves an array of clients including political subdivisions, financial institutions, private developers and special purpose districts such as special improvement districts and new community authorities. Chris' experience with economic development tools, like tax increment financing (TIF), special assessments, community redevelopment area (CRA) abatements and new community authorities, is diverse.

Chris serves as counsel to PACE administrators and energy special improvement districts throughout Ohio and the Midwest, and as bond counsel and lender's counsel to Ohio port authorities and other financial institutions that finance energy efficiency and clean energy projects through PACE.

In addition, Chris drafts and negotiates significant agreements on behalf of businesses, energy suppliers, municipalities and entertainers. He has experience before state and federal courts representing businesses and organizations in various complex civil litigation matters, as well as in mediation, and is knowledgeable in the areas of business law, construction law, environmental law, higher education, and intellectual property. He has handled construction cases with design defects, delay damages, surety bonds and unforeseen conditions during and after construction and is also a regular presenter at the firm's construction claims and bidding seminars.

As a former college athlete, Chris understands the complicated and personal issues of athletics in the age of Title IX and has addressed client concerns in relevant and timely presentations. Chris recognizes the intricacies of athletic culture and is able to anticipate risks and alleviate threats before they become problematic. He empowers his clients to navigate difficult situations, leading them to a reasonable and compliant resolution.

---

## CONTACT INFORMATION

216.523.5483  
cbondra@bricker.com

## CLEVELAND OFFICE

Bricker & Eckler LLP  
1001 Lakeside Avenue East  
Suite 1350  
Cleveland, OH 44114-1142

216.523.5405 main  
216.523.7071 fax

---

## INDUSTRIES & PRACTICES

Public Finance  
Public Sector  
Economic Development

## Bar Admissions & Activities

- Admitted, State of Ohio, 2013
- Admitted, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio, 2014
- Member, Ohio State Bar Association, 2013-present
- Member, Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, 2013-present

## Education

- Cleveland-Marshall College of Law (J.D., *cum laude*, 2013); Entertainment and Sports Law Association, President; Research Assistant to Associate Dean Mark Sundahl



# Christopher J. Bondra

Associate

- Mount Union College (B.A. in Accounting, 2010); NCAA Division III Soccer and Baseball

## Awards & Recognition

- Ones to Watch, *Best Lawyers in America* (Tax Law), 2021–2022
- Rising Star, *Ohio Super Lawyers* (Government Finance), 2021

## Presentations & Published Works

- Presenter, "Project Delivery Methods Available to Public Owners – Figuring out what works best for your project," *Selecting Project Delivery Methods & Bidding Public Construction Contracts*, May 2019
- Presenter, "2019 Infrastructure Funding: How to get it and spend it wisely," CLE event for public entities, May 2019
- Presenter, "Ohio Public Construction Contracting 101," April 2019
- Presenter, "Dispute Resolution," *Top Gun Construction Claims Seminar*, October 2018
- Presenter, NCAA training for athletics department on Title IX and the Clery Act, April 2018
- Presenter, "Utilizing RUMAs Across Ohio," *Ohio Township Association Winter Conference*, January 2017

## Professional & Community Activities

- Football Official, Ohio High School Athletic Association, 2012-present
- Assistant Tournament Director, Mentor Baseball League, 2010-present

## Experience

### Long-term care certificate of occupancy issue

---

On behalf of a large long-term care client, kept a multi-phased renovation project involving long-term care and assisted living beds on schedule, solving a complex certificate of occupancy issue for an older nursing home facility.



# Christopher J. Bondra

Associate

## Negotiation of a \$1 billion electricity supply contract

---

The Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) is the largest public retail energy aggregation in Ohio, serving about 900,000 electric and gas customers across 14 counties. NOPEC's electric supplier abruptly notified NOPEC that it was terminating its contract, thus leaving NOPEC's nearly half-million electric customers to return to utility service at higher rates. Bricker attorneys sprang into action to prevent NOPEC's customers from paying these increased rates. The team negotiated a new complex electricity supply contract with NOPEC's replacement supplier (worth approximately \$1 billion); and, within 10 days, our client had signed a new three-year contract. With our assistance, NOPEC obtained two waivers from the PUCO to meet the expedited enrollment timeline. Meanwhile, within two weeks, our litigation team settled a TRO and injunction case involving the original supplier, which resulted in a multi-million-dollar settlement payment to NOPEC. In addition, our energy litigation team dissolved an ex parte TRO issued against NOPEC to a competitor regarding the NOPEC customer enrollment process. We also obtained a complete dismissal of the competitor's lawsuit on the basis that the PUCO had exclusive jurisdiction over the matter.

## Water infiltration issues

---

Retained by a city to help identify the cause of the water infiltration issues over the natatorium area of its recreation center. Destructive testing was scheduled, and based upon the forensic report prepared by a consultant, it was determined that sections of the roof needed to be replaced. We prepared contract documents and assisted the city with the bid process for a contractor to perform the remedial work and are working with the city to schedule mediation with the design professional and original contractors.