

## Donna L. Brooks

Partner

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Hartford

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Donna Brooks acts as a trusted advisor and outside general counsel to clients in diverse industries, including agri-business, education, manufacturing and services. Donna's clients include cooperatives, colleges, universities and independent schools, and emerging-growth and middle market companies.

Donna assists her clients "in the business of doing business." She provides advice with respect to business organization, business operations and contracting, entity governance, asset and endowment management, finance (including tax-exempt conduit public finance through the Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority/CHEFA), bank borrowing, capital raising, securities offerings, securities law compliance, equity compensation, joint ventures, and mergers and acquisitions. Donna strives to learn about the business and industry of each of her clients so that she may provide practical and relevant advice. Her clients often call her so that she may be a sounding board to help them think through an issue and offer pragmatic approaches to address the matter at hand.

Throughout her career, Donna has also represented institutional investors, venture capital funds, mezzanine funds and other private investment funds, as well as governmental and quasi-governmental entities in their programmatic and financial assistance activities. Donna has advised private investment funds in making numerous portfolio investments in diverse industries, including retail and consumer goods, manufacturing and health services. Donna has also represented institutional investors in making alternative investments with varying investment objectives, which have included channel finance, credit default obligations, low-income housing and historic rehabilitation tax credits and real estate, both in the United States and internationally.

## Distinctions

- Listed in The Best Lawyers in America<sup>®</sup>: *Corporate Law* (2020-2026)
- Listed as a Connecticut Super Lawyer<sup>®</sup>: *Securities & Corporate Finance* (2006, 2008-2010, 2012)
- BV Peer Review Rated, Martindale-Hubbell
- Chair of the Connecticut Department of Banking, Securities Advisory Council

## Professional Affiliations

- National Association of College and University Attorneys
- American Bar Association
- Connecticut Bar Association
- Hartford County Bar Association

## Credentials

### *Education*

- College of William and Mary, B.A., 1982, Phi Beta Kappa
- University of Virginia School of Law, J.D., 1985

### *Bar Admissions*

- Connecticut, 1985