Cullen | Dykman

Saara J. Pekale

Partner

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Saara J. Pekale is a partner in the firm's Banking and Financial Services department. She represents banks and other lending institutions in commercial real estate finance transactions. Saara's experience includes advising clients in documenting and closing transactions secured by multi-family apartment projects, commercial office buildings, and mixed-use facilities. She has also represented banks in complex multi-state financing transactions.

Saara also has extensive experience in U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) lending. She has represented financial institutions, including national banks, regional banks, and non-bank lenders, in SBA 7(a) and 504 loan transactions and has served as SBA Designated Closing Counsel for certified development companies. Her experience also includes representing purchasers, sellers and institutional lenders in residential real estate matters.

Practices

- Banking and Financial Services
- Commercial Real Estate Finance
- Real Estate Purchase and Sales Transactions
- Lending Documentation & Regulatory Policy

Industries

- Financial Institutions
- Real Estate

Bar Admissions

- Florida
- New York

Education

- J.D., Boston University School of Law, 1994
- B.A., Duke University, 1991

Professional and Community Activities

- Committee Chair, Woodmere Bay Yacht Club
- Member/President (2005), Commercial Real Estate Women (CREW), Ft. Lauderdale/ Palm Beach
- Member, National Association of Development Companies (NADCO)
- Speaker, South Florida Small Business Lenders Forum
- Member, Duke University NY Alumni Association
- Member, Hewlett-East Rockaway Jewish Centre, Youth Education Board
- Volunteer, Bet Tzedek - Holocaust Survivor Ghetto Reparations Project

Honors and Awards

- *American Law Institute Book Award in Federal Taxation*
- *Edward F. Hennessey Scholar; Recipient*
- *Probate and Family Law Journal, Managing Editor*