

JAMES J. CHESTER

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James J. Chester was born in Columbus, Ohio on April 22, 1962. He graduated from the Columbus Academy in 1980 and received a Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, from Amherst College, in 1984, majoring in American Studies. Mr. Chester attended Case Western Reserve University School of Law and received his Juris Doctorate in 1987.

Since his admission to the Ohio Bar in 1987, Mr. Chester has been engaged in the private practice of law, concentrating in the areas of business and corporate law, commercial real estate development, motor vehicle auction, dealer and title law, and related litigation. He serves as outside general counsel to closely held businesses, and advises clients in connection with the organization, finance, control, acquisition and disposition of businesses, including corporation, partnerships and limited liability companies, as well as general business and contract matters. In the real estate area, Mr. Chester advises clients in the purchase, finance, development, construction and leasing of apartments, office buildings and shopping centers where he represents owners, developers and tenants. Mr. Chester advises businesses in the motor vehicle industry, including motor vehicle auto auctions, dealers and floor plan finance companies. Mr. Chester has appeared before the Ohio Supreme Court, Ohio Courts of Appeals, the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Ohio, the Sixth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, and is also admitted to practice in Wyoming. Mr. Chester has received the highest rating in the respected Martindale-Hubbell® Law Directory.

Mr. Chester is a member of the Columbus, Ohio, Wyoming, and American Bar Associations, American Judicature Society and Columbus Bar Foundation. He has served on numerous public and private boards, including the City of Columbus Board of License Appeals (Member and Chairman), Black Tie Ball (Benefit for Children's Hospital) (Trustee), Charity Newsies (Member and Volunteer General Counsel), The Columbus Zoo Young Professionals (Co-Founder and Trustee), The Wellington School (Trustee), The Association Board of the Columbus Zoological Park Association (Trustee), Upper Arlington Community Foundation (Trustee), and CF Bank (Member Advisory/Development Board). Mr. Chester is a member of the Columbus Athletic Club, Scioto Country Club, Gyro Club, and Van Darby Club.

Mr. Chester resides in Upper Arlington, Ohio with his wife, Karen. They have four children: Kara, Abigail, Julia and James.