



[Alison M. Mitchell](#)

Partner

CO-LOCATION HEAD, CHICAGO REAL ESTATE PRACTICE

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Alison Mitchell has experience in all areas of real estate finance, acquisitions, dispositions and leasing. She concentrates on representing lenders in the origination of commercial mortgage loans, mezzanine loans and preferred equity concerning real estate around the country. Those loans include numerous hotel financings, portfolio transactions and construction loans. Alison has also represented financial institutions in leveraging their loan positions utilizing various different borrowing structures. Additionally, she has extensive experience with workouts and deed-in-lieu transactions.

Alison also advises real estate owners in acquisitions and dispositions of real estate assets as well as equity partners in real estate joint venture transactions.

Alison is a member of DLA Piper's firmwide Policy Committee.

- Real Estate
- Real Estate Finance
- Corporate
- Finance
- Insurance and Reinsurance Disputes

- Insurance
- Real Estate

Among Alison's transactions in the last several years, she has represented

- A lender in a US\$375 million mortgage loan and \$100 million mezzanine loan secured by an industrial portfolio of 28 properties in 11 states
- A lender in a US\$250 million loan secured by property known as Presidential Towers, Chicago A lender in a US\$180 million loan secured by a mixed-use project known as Washington Center, in Washington, DC
- A lender in a construction loan of up to US\$100 million for the development and construction of a mixed-use project in Orlando, Florida
- A lender in a US\$75 million permanent financing facility secured by the Ponte Vedra Inn & Country Club, a 300-acre luxury hotel and country club resort featuring multiple golf courses, restaurants and a spa, located along the Atlantic Ocean in Ponte Vedra, Florida
- A lender in a US\$335 million loan secured by a hotel portfolio in California, Illinois, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania

- A borrower/original lender in a leveraged loan transaction secured by collateral assignment of mortgage loan documents (whereby the underlying mortgage security is 6 real estate assets)
- A lender in a deed in lieu of foreclosure of a hotel portfolio comprising 8 hotels in 4 states
- A lender in a US\$250 million loan secured by a retail mall referred to as 900 North Michigan Avenue, Chicago
- A lender in a US\$44 million loan secured by the Four Seasons Hotel, Chicago
- A lender in a US\$43.825 million loan secured by the Graduate Hotel, Seattle
- A lender in a US\$44.3 million construction loan secured by The Talbott Hotel, Chicago

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- Illinois

Recognitions

Chambers USA has recognized Alison for her real estate work. Sources noted that she "exhibits a passion for the work and has a great depth of experience with the subject matter. She is good at developing practical solutions when issues arise with a deal." "She is extremely knowledgeable in all aspects of real estate and her ability to grasp issues is definitely a strength." Alison has also been named an Illinois Super Lawyer, as the result of a research project conducted jointly by *Law & Policies* and *Chicago* magazines.

Education

- J.D., Northwestern University School of Law 1990
cum laude
- B.A., University of Michigan 1987

Memberships

- American Bar Association
- Chicago Bar Association
- Alison is a member of DLA Piper's Partner Nominating Committee (2020)

Civic and Charitable

- Pro Bono General Counsel, Greater Chicago Food Depository (1994 – 1996)
- Pantry University Subcommittee, Greater Chicago Food Depository (2003 – 2005)
- Co-Founder, Lynn Sage Cancer Research Foundation's Junior Board
- Board of Directors, Lynn Sage Foundation (present)
- Board of Directors, Chicago Chapter of Commercial Real Estate Executive Women (CREW) (2003 – 2007), Chapter Member (present)

INSIGHTS

Alison has been a presenter before several real estate seminars sponsored by the Young Lawyers Section of the Chicago Bar Association.

Publications

Equity pledges in mortgage lending – examining the "clogging" defense

9 November 2020

Examining the parameters of the doctrine against "clogging the equity of redemption" and the value of an equity pledge.

The lender's playbook in the time of COVID-19 (US)

20 April 2020

How should secured real estate lenders be approaching their loan portfolios?

Inspirational Women in Real Estate 2020

11 March 2020

The Real Estate Industry sometimes suffers from a lack of female Role Models. For this reason, we are proud to present, in honour of International Women's day, the third edition of our Inspirational Women in Real Estate booklet. By continuing to highlight the stories of some of our women in Real Estate around the world, we hope to make our small contribution to engendering a more gender balanced industry.

"Contributing Capital: Preferred Equity is Not So Preferred," *The Real Estate Finance Journal* (Winter 2010)

Events

- Panelist, "Trends that In-House Counsel Should Know About Commercial Real Estate", Association of Corporate Counsel Presentation, October, 2016
- Co-Speaker, "Loan Documents and the Closing Process (Lender's Counsel)," Commercial Real Estate Financing 2015, Practising Law Institute, May 4, 2015

NEWS

Nine DLA Piper lawyers recognized by BTI Consulting Group for superior client service

10 December 2020

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that BTI Consulting Group has recognized nine of its lawyers for providing superior service to clients.
