



Michelle Rae Heisner

Shareholder

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Michelle Rae Heisner is a shareholder in Baker Donelson's Washington, D.C., office and a member of the Firm's Corporate Group.

Michelle Heisner advises public and private companies, boards of directors, private equity sponsors, and investors on complex U.S. domestic and cross-border corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, strategic investments, joint ventures, carve-outs, roll-ups, and minority equity transactions. She frequently represents strategic acquirers, private equity sponsors, founders, and boards of directors in connection with acquisition transactions, liquidity events, and other significant corporate matters.

Michelle also counsels financial advisors and boards in connection with fairness opinions, solvency opinions, and related transaction governance matters. Her practice includes capital markets and public company advisory work, including IPO readiness, corporate governance matters, and global subsidiary and entity management, including governance frameworks and compliance considerations.

Michelle regularly serves as lead deal counsel on complex transactions, guiding matters from strategic structuring and negotiations through closing and post-transaction integration. She has led transactions spanning more than 70 jurisdictions and has experience representing clients in deals totaling more than \$30 billion and securities issuances totaling more than \$35 billion. Her practice frequently involves advising U.S. companies on cross-border expansion strategies and international acquisition transactions.

She represents clients across a range of sectors, including technology, financial services, consumer, industrials, hospitality, energy, and telecommunications.

Prior to joining Baker Donelson, Michelle practiced at leading global law firms, where she worked in offices in New York, Australia, and Washington, D.C.



Professional Honors & Activities

- Top Women Deal Maker by *Global M&A Network* (2025)
- Women in Business Law (Americas) – Corporate Rising Star Shortlist (2022) and Mergers & Acquisitions Lawyer of the Year Shortlist (2023, 2024)
- Co-chair – D.C. Bar, M&A and Corporate Disclosure Subcommittee
- Member – How Women Lead (HWL), D.C. Executive Board
- Director – Maryknoll Lay Missioners
- Director of Professional Development – D.C. Spartans (Michigan State University Alumni Association)



Education

- Georgetown University Law Center, J.D., 2011
- Michigan State University, B.A., Russian Literature & Language, and B.A., Political Theory & Constitutional Democracy, 2005



Admissions

- District of Columbia, 2013
- New York, 2012