



KENNETH P. FRIEDMAN

Family Business & Succession Planning Leader,
Corporate Trust Practices Leader; Hotel, Hospitality &
Lodging Industry Leader

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Before his retirement, Ken led the firm's Business Practice and its Corporate & Securities, Hospitality, and Family Business & Succession Planning Practices. He concentrated his practice in mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, business planning, nonprofit law, project finance, and securities, and he handled a broad range of general business matters.

Ken's community service has earned him many awards for philanthropy and commitment.

Honors

- Listed, *Best Lawyers in America* (Corporate Law, Mergers and Acquisitions) 2005 - 2023
- Listed, *Upstate New York Super Lawyers* (Business / Corporate) 2007 - 2022
- Listed, *Best Lawyers in America: Lawyer of the Year* (Corporate Law) 2019
- *Best Lawyers'* Buffalo Mergers and Acquisitions Law "Lawyer of the Year," 2014, 2017
- Listed, Notable Practitioners, *Chambers USA*, 2016
- Elected to the Society of the Buffalo, 2014
- National Federation of Just Communities of Western New York Citation Award, 2013
- Order of the Coif
- Former executive editor, *University of Pittsburgh Law Review*

Experience

Hodgson Russ attorneys represented an industrial ferrosilicon company in connection with its \$200 million-plus sale to an Eastern European conglomerate.

The Guaranty Building
140 Pearl Street
Suite 100
Buffalo, NY 14202

Toronto
Practice restricted to U.S. law
22 Adelaide Street West, Suite 2050
Toronto, ON M5H 4E3
416.595.5100

Admissions

New York
Pennsylvania
Licensed Foreign Legal Consultant
(Ontario)

Education

University of Rochester, B.A.
University of Pittsburgh Law School,
J.D., cum laude

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A team of Hodgson Russ attorneys represented an international hotel operator in the closing of a highly complex financing package involving \$226.6 million in new CMBS mortgage and mezzanine debt. The transaction involved 17 hotels in 11 states and included the defeasance of \$100 million of existing CMBS indebtedness, a major restructuring of the existing hotel owner and management companies, the formation of 20 new entities, the movement of 11 hotel franchises and 7 management agreements, and the buyout of a strategic partner.

Hodgson Russ helped a France-based, publicly traded manufacturer of automotive fluid transfer parts complete the acquisition of a Michigan-based automotive parts manufacturer from one of the largest private equity firms in the United States, including handling all employment-related legal aspects of the transaction. As a result of the deal, the French manufacturer now employs 8,000 people in 11 countries with annual projected sales of €620 million, up from €410 million in 2010. Hodgson Russ was the lead firm for the U.S. aspects of this transaction, including advising on the U.S. aspects of a multimillion-dollar acquisition financing package from a consortium of French lenders.

Hodgson Russ attorneys represented France-based Cegedim, a leading provider of databases and software solutions for the health care industry, in a deal reached in March to acquire Dendrite International, a former rival in the pharmaceutical marketing solutions sector. The \$751 million deal was expected to result in a combined company with operations in more than 75 countries throughout Europe, North and South America and Asia Pacific, and with annual revenues of approximately \$1.1 billion. Hodgson Russ assisted with all employment-related legal aspects of the transaction.

Hodgson Russ has represented numerous hospitality, entertainment, and sports clients, including restaurants, bars, hotels, sports arenas, ski resorts, golf course clubhouses, and other venues that serve or want to serve alcohol, on all aspects of New York State liquor licensing. Our attorneys understand the legal, business, and practical issues involved with the technical NYS legal regime governing the sale of alcohol and, more importantly, how to avoid the potential pitfalls and roadblocks a client risks encountering when dealing with the New York State Liquor Authority. With an eye toward obtaining a license efficiently so as not to impede business objectives, our attorneys counsel clients on the types of liquor licenses they require, new application submissions, remedying suspended and disapproved applications, license renewals, corporate changes, license alterations, and additional bar applications. Whether a client is applying for a full on-premises liquor license, a temporary/special event catering permit, or an outdoor patio approval, Hodgson Russ has the experience to deliver the desired results.

Hodgson Russ formed a \$100 million private real estate investment trust (REIT) to acquire assets in the hospitality industry and then structured and completed the trust's first hospitality investment.

Coordinated directly with high-level officials at the New York State Liquor Authority (SLA) and appeared before the SLA to obtain liquor licenses for various sports entertainment venues and hotels.

In the News

Buffalo Business First - Thought Leaders: Funding issues challenge nonprofit leaders
Buffalo Business First, September 28, 2018

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Work/home delineation important for family-run businesses

Buffalo Business First, May 18, 2018

Hodgson Russ Practice Teams Recognized In *America's Leading Lawyers For Business*

June 3, 2016

Peak Resorts Completes Acquisition Of Hunter Mountain For \$36.8 Million

The Street, January 7, 2016

Legal Masters: General Counsel

Buffalo Business First, July 7, 2014

Fifty-Five Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers* 2014

August 28, 2013

Five Questions With Kenneth Friedman, Partner, Hodgson Russ LLP

Buffalo Law Journal, April 1, 2013

Four Community Leaders to be Honored for Contributions

Buffalo News, March 9, 2013

Fifty-Four Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named to *Best Lawyers* 2013

August 30, 2012

Global Law a Booming Practice in WNY

Buffalo Business First, December 12, 2011

Press Releases

Fifty-Nine Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2022 Edition of Upstate New York Super Lawyers

Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 23, 2022

71 Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2023 Edition of *Best Lawyers in America*

Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 19, 2022

Fifty-Four Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2021 Edition of Upstate New York Super Lawyers

Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 20, 2021

55 Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2022 Edition of *Best Lawyers in America*

Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 19, 2021

Sixty-Two Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named to 2020 Upstate New York Super Lawyers

Hodgson Russ Press Release, September 8, 2020

55 Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2021 *Best Lawyers in America*

Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 20, 2020

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52 Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named to Various *Best Lawyers* Listings
Hodgson Russ Press Release, August 20, 2019

Sixty Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named to 2019 Upstate New York Super Lawyers
Press Release, August 12, 2019

Sixty-One Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named to 2018 Upstate New York Super Lawyers
Press Release, August 20, 2018

48 Hodgson Russ Attorneys Named to Various *Best Lawyers* Listings
Press Release, August 15, 2018

Publications

New York State Legislative Developments For Tax-Exempt Organizations/Nonprofits
Hodgson Russ Tax-Exempt Organizations Alert, December 15, 2021

Recent Developments For Tax-Exempt Organizations/Nonprofits
Hodgson Russ Tax-Exempt Organizations Alert, November 10, 2021

New Nonprofit Filing Requirements with NYS Department of State
Hodgson Russ Tax-Exempt Organizations Alert, May 14, 2021

Recent COVID-19 Developments for Tax-Exempt Organizations/Nonprofits
Hodgson Russ Tax-Exempt Organizations Alert, May 13, 2021

Congress and the President Approve \$284 Billion Second Round of Paycheck Protection Program Loans In Support of Struggling Small Businesses
Hodgson Russ Corporate & Business Alert, December 30, 2020

IRS Recognizes the Issuance of Erroneous Tax-Exempt Status Revocations Due to COVID-Related Computer Issue
Hodgson Russ Tax-Exempt Organizations Alert, November 2, 2020

Update on CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants to Higher Education Students
Hodgson Russ College & University Alert, July 31, 2020

Women on Corporate Boards Study – New Corporate Reporting Requirements Now in Effect in New York
Hodgson Russ Corporate Governance & Compliance Alert, June 30, 2020

COVID-19 Response Update for Industrial Development Agencies
Hodgson Russ Public Authority Alert, June 9, 2020

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SEC Updates Rules on Financial Disclosures for Business Acquisitions and Dispositions
Hodgson Russ Securities Regulation & Corporate Compliance Alert, June 5, 2020

Presentations & Events

Lumsden McCormick's Exempt Organizations Conference
Buffalo, NY, November 6, 2013

How the U.S. Election May Affect Cross-Border Business in 2013 and Beyond
Toronto, ON, November 15, 2012

How the U.S. Election May Affect Cross-Border Business in 2013 and Beyond
Hodgson Russ, Calgary, AB, November 13, 2012

Agreement Among Stockholders, Family Businesses, Succession Planning: Why Can't We All Just Get Along?
August 1, 2011

New York State Courts Law Clerk Seminar: Mergers & Acquisitions and Buying & Selling Businesses
Buffalo, NY, July 20, 2011

New York State Bar Association Panel: Accounting for Lawyers (and What Part Did Accounting Play in the Current
Financial Meltdown)
Rochester, NY, June 11, 2008

New York State Bar Association Seminar: Buying or Selling a Small Business
Buffalo, NY, October 27, 2006

Professional Affiliations

- National Association of Bond Lawyers
- American Bar Association
- New York State Bar Association
- Bar Association of Erie County
- Allegheny County Bar Association (Pennsylvania)

Community & Pro Bono

Ken is a member of the board of governors, on the Executive Committee, and secretary of the Shaw Festival; a former member of the board of trustees of the Buffalo History Museum (he is a past president of the organization); a member of the board of directors and secretary of the Western New York Technology Development Center, Inc. (Insyte Consulting) and the TDC Foundation, Inc.; a member of the board of directors of the JB Griffin Memorial Foundation; a member of the board of directors of the U.S. Friends of the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Inc., and an emeritus member of the board of trustees of the National Federation for Just Communities (NFJC, formerly known as the NCCJ). In addition, he

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continues his activities with Leadership Buffalo and the NFJC, organizations for which he served as president. He formerly served on the boards of the Buffalo Seminary, Temple Beth Zion, the Office of Urban Initiatives, Inc., the Buffalo Alliance for Education, the Friends of the Buffalo Story, Inc., the American Jewish Committee, and the Jewish Community Center of Greater Buffalo. Ken was selected to *Buffalo Business First's* 40 Under Forty, and he contributed many years of service as chairperson of the Citizens Planning Council as a mayoral appointee.