



## RICHARD B. DOPKINS

Retired Partner

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Dick represented many Western New York family-owned businesses. He concentrated his practice in commercial real estate transactions, family succession, and estate planning.

### Honors

- Phi Delta Phi
- Kent Court

### Experience

Hodgson Russ assisted client Community Action Organization of Erie County, Inc. (CAO) on a \$16.25 million development project that turned a long-vacant orphanage on Buffalo's East Side into St. Martin Village, a low-income housing project comprising 60 housing units and related facilities and grounds. The project involved rehabilitating three architecturally significant buildings, demolishing eight other buildings, and constructing six new buildings. Hodgson Russ attorneys assisted CAO in securing \$1.32 million annually in low-income housing tax credits from the New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal, with a total of \$13.2 million in tax credits anticipated. The firm also provided project-financing assistance, negotiating a construction loan not to exceed approximately \$9.5 million from KeyBank National Association; a permanent loan of \$1 million from Community Preservation Corporation; and secondary loans in varying amounts from the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation, the City of Buffalo, and CAO. The firm also assisted St. Martin Village in obtaining, through CAO, a grant from the New York State Urban Initiatives Program Fund and an approximately \$1 million federal home loan grant.

Hodgson Russ served as lead counsel to the City of Buffalo in conjunction with the construction of a minor league baseball stadium. This representation included nearly every legal aspect associated with the construction of the 20,900 seat stadium,

The Guaranty Building  
140 Pearl Street  
Suite 100  
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### Admissions

New York  
U.S. Supreme Court

### Education

University at Buffalo, B.S., highest honors  
Columbia University School of Law, L.L.B.

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ultimately culminating in the lease agreement between the City of Buffalo and the resident team, the Buffalo Bisons. In the course of this representation, Hodgson Russ played a key role in structuring the multi-lender, \$37 million financing for this project.

## **Publications**

Tax Cuts and Jobs Act Ushers in Big Changes to the Estate and Gift Tax  
*Estates and Trusts Alert*, December 27, 2017

New York's Estate Tax System Undergoes Major Overhaul  
*JD Supra*, April 4, 2014

## **Community & Pro Bono**

Dick is past chairman of the board of managers of the Buffalo Society of Natural Science (Buffalo Museum of Science). He is also a member of the boards of directors of several closely held local businesses.