ArentFox Schiff LLP
Attorneys

Ria M. Williams

SENIOR ASSOCIATE

Ria Williams is a senior associate in ArentFox Schiff's Real Estate practice.



Industries

Hospitality
Public Finance
— Cultural Organizations
— Education
— Public Finance: Health Care
— Umbrella Nonprofits & Think Tanks

Practices

Real Estate
— Acquisitions & Dispositions
— Equity & Joint Ventures
— Real Estate Development
— Real Estate Finance - Borrowers
— Real Estate Leasing
— Data Center Legal Solutions

Education

Georgetown University Law Center, JD
Georgetown University, BA, cum laude

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Ria regularly advises clients in the acquisition, development, leasing, financing, including taxable and tax-exempt municipal and private placement bond financing, and disposition of commercial real estate projects across the United States. Ria has extensive experience representing Fortune 500 clients in ground, in-line and build-to-suit leasing transactions for restaurants, luxury retail stores, and commercial office buildings. Specifically, Ria's leasing work has involved negotiating leases for the development of restaurants in the Mid-Atlantic region for a global restaurant brand, as well as negotiating retail store leases for a global technology company.

Ria's clients range from major publicly traded real estate investment trusts specializing in the acquisition and operation of premium-brand hotels, to nonprofit organizations in the defense, medical, educational and public media industries, seeking to obtain tax-exempt bond financing for their real estate projects, to owners, investors, and managers of retail shopping centers and multi-family residential properties. Ria also represents lenders in large, complex multi-property portfolio financings.

Ria's experience includes advising clients during the due diligence process regarding the risks associated with each transaction, as well as reviewing, negotiating, and preparing purchase and sale agreements, conveyance and loan documents, and other deal-specific instruments, documents, and agreements, as necessary.

Previous Work

Prior to joining ArentFox Schiff, Ria was a pro bono law clerk at a large law firm headquartered in Washington, DC. She practiced pro bono litigation exclusively and provided direct pro bono legal services to indigent clients in the areas of family law, domestic violence, and public benefits.

During law school, Ria worked as a research assistant and was a judicial intern for the Honorable Alexander Williams of the US District Court for the District of Maryland.

Publications, Presentations, and Recognitions

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Ria was recognized by *Best Lawyers*: Ones to Watch, in Real Estate Law (2026-2027) and in Public Finance Law (2027).

- In 2015, Ria was honored with Bisnow's *Trending 40 Lawyers Under 40* Award that recognizes the DC area's top young attorneys who have distinguished themselves with "exceptional performance and potential."

Bar Admissions

California

District of Columbia

Maryland