

PRACTICE AREA

## Finance & Commercial Transactions

Trusted advisors structuring innovative, cost-effective financing solutions for lenders, borrowers, and issuers across all industries.

Friday, Eldredge & Clark represents lenders, borrowers, and issuers in complex and routine financing transactions of every size. Our attorneys structure commercial loans, real estate financings, mergers and acquisitions, venture investments, and private placements with a focus on efficiency and long-term client value. We advise on debt and equity financing, multistate transactions, and non-bank financing arrangements, helping clients access capital markets and negotiate favorable terms. With a multidisciplinary team—including attorneys trained as CPAs and recognized by Chambers USA and Best Lawyers in America—we deliver practical, results-driven guidance that protects our clients' interests and positions their businesses for growth.

### Key Contacts



**Robert T. Smith**

**PARTNER**

📍 LITTLE ROCK

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### Areas of Focus

#### Capital Markets & Corporate Finance

When companies of all sizes look for new financing sources, we help them obtain the capital market access they need. Our lawyers have handled numerous debt and equity financings and are typically involved in every phase of capital raising transactions, from structuring and documentation to closing. We also frequently serve as local counsel on multistate loans, providing document review and formal legal opinions to ensure transactions are properly authorized, enforceable, and compliant with applicable law.

#### Real Estate Finance

Few law firms in Arkansas surpass our ability in handling complex transactions such as Section 1031 like-kind exchanges, which we structure to help clients close on replacement property without incurring negative tax consequences. You can also get our help with creative variations, such as reverse like-kind exchanges and deferred like-kind exchanges.

#### SUMMARY

- **Comprehensive Financing Counsel:** Advising lenders, borrowers, and issuers on commercial loans, debt and equity financing, and capital access strategies.
- **Real Estate Finance Expertise:** Structuring complex transactions, including Section 1031 like-kind exchanges, reverse exchanges, and deferred exchanges to maximize tax benefits.
- **M&A and Venture Financing:** Securing and documenting financing for acquisitions, private equity, and early-stage capital formation.
- **Regulatory and Non-Bank Finance Insight:** Guiding clients through Arkansas lending laws, interest rate limitations, and constitutional reform efforts impacting commercial lending.
- **Experienced, Multidisciplinary Team:** Combining legal, tax, and accounting knowledge to ensure each transaction is structured efficiently and strategically.

#### Related Practice Areas

[Agricultural Law](#)

[Antitrust](#)

[Banking & Finance](#)

[Business, Corporate & Commercial](#)

[Construction Law](#)

[Health Law](#)

[Mergers & Acquisitions](#)

[Real Estate](#)

### **Merger & Acquisition Finance**

If your organization is acquiring a public, a private, or non-profit entity, rely on our lawyers to help secure and document the financing that's right for your deal. We help both public and private acquirers secure access to the necessary capital and can negotiate the terms of conventional bank debt, mezzanine financing, and seller-provided financing. Other financing mechanisms that we can assist you with as your unique needs require include private placements, public equity, and convertible debt or equity issues.

### **Venture Finance**

We have represented equity investors and companies raising private capital, and assisted with early-stage and emerging company capital formation and buyout transactions. No matter what side of the table you are on, we understand what is important to each participant and can develop alternate approaches and structures to achieve the results you want.

## **Meet the Team**

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**Jason N. Bramlett**

**Price C. Gardner**

**Erin A. James**

**W. Taylor Marshall**

**Matthew D. Mitchell**

**James M. Saxton**

**Robert T. Smith**

**Jay T. Taylor**

**Madeline McElhanon**

**Vaughan**