

PRACTICE AREA

Municipal Law

Trusted counsel for Arkansas municipalities, public entities, and private businesses navigating government, finance, and regulatory challenges.

Friday, Eldredge & Clark is a recognized leader in municipal law and public finance in Arkansas. Our attorneys represent municipalities, counties, school districts, public facilities boards, and private businesses that engage with state and local government. We deliver practical, solutions-driven counsel in matters involving municipal bonds, taxation, economic development, education, employee benefits, and permitting.

With a deep understanding of Arkansas's legislative, regulatory, and administrative landscape, we help clients structure financing for public infrastructure, challenge local tax assessments, secure government permits, and develop economic incentives that drive community growth. Whether advising public entities or private companies working with them, our team combines legal skill, strategic insight, and decades of proven results in shaping Arkansas's governmental environment.

Key Contacts



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PARTNER

LITTLE ROCK

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Areas of Focus

Municipal Finance

If you have financing responsibilities for municipal finance for assistance with bonds sold by underwriters, bonds placed with governmental agencies and local banks, bonds offered in public sales, bonds rated by national rating agencies, and insured bonds, your bond issue will be handled with the same effectiveness that we have brought to the financings of major municipalities and counties and the State of Arkansas.

Whether your organization's needs relate to new money issues, refunding, or a combination of the two, you can rely on our transactional experience with state and local bonds, general obligation financings, water and sewer bonds, municipal utility financings, airport financings, and numerous similar transactions. When you engage us as counsel on any issue, you can count on us to draft all documents relating to authorization, sale, and delivery. We also offer full assistance on sales and property tax elections, and when a bond issue requires voter approval. This includes the preparation of the necessary ordinances, ballot, notices, and other documents required under state law, and we also offer advice on election and bond procedures.

SUMMARY

- **Comprehensive Public-Entity Representation:** Counsel for municipalities, counties, school districts, and special purpose boards in governance, finance, and compliance matters.
- **Public Finance & Bond Counsel Leadership:** Decades of experience structuring, authorizing, and executing municipal and state bond financings for infrastructure, education, and public utility projects.
- **Economic Development Guidance:** Advising public and private clients on incentive programs, financing strategies, and tax-exempt bond structures that promote business and community growth.
- **Tax & Regulatory Counsel:** Representing clients in local and state tax assessments, property valuation appeals, and other municipal tax controversies.
- **Experienced Government Advisors:** A core group recognized by Chambers USA and The Best Lawyers in America for excellence in municipal and public finance law, supported by the state's top-ranked employee benefits and tax teams.

Related Practice Areas

[Bonds](#)

[Public Finance](#)

Taxation

In the highly competitive real estate market, our tax law expertise positions our firm as a key player at the local tax level. We excel at helping clients with tax issues that particularly relate to real estate transactions, such as reducing tax burdens through the use of like-kind exchanges. When necessary, we can challenge local tax assessments on your behalf, particularly if there is a need to challenge a contingency ad valorem property tax assessment. Other state or local tax controversies that we can assist you with include sales and use tax audits and disputes.

Economic Development

Economic development financing is a complex undertaking that combines tax incentives with government tax-exempt bond financing for infrastructure projects, including roads, sewers, and public utilities. We play a central role in facilitating economic development bond financing for business and government throughout Arkansas. You benefit from our experience in hundreds of millions of dollars in economic development financing transactions. That includes work as counsel to issuers and underwriters on various financing vehicles, such as industrial development revenue bonds, special assessment bonds, and special source revenue credits and bonds. Businesses rely on our expertise in working with municipalities, and we are particularly effective at developing incentive vehicles that combine financing from multiple public and private sources.

Education

Our firm is a leader in bond financing for Arkansas school districts, representing underwriters and issuers as fiscal agents on behalf of the districts themselves. Much of our work is oriented to bond issues to finance school construction. We also offer a wide range of services to district administrators and boards of education, including employee benefits advice and courtroom representation in employment, desegregation, and other litigated matters.

Meet the Team

Ryan A. Bowman

James M. Saxton

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Sarah Giammo

Thomas P. Leggett

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