



SpencerFane®

Pat Whalen and Shawn Whitney Recognized as NLJ Trailblazers

Spencer Fane attorneys [Pat Whalen](#) and Shawn Whitney were recently selected by *The National Law Journal* (NLJ) as “Trailblazers.” The NLJ recognized Pat as a Crisis Leadership Trailblazer and Shawn as a Real Estate–Construction Trailblazer.

This honor “recognizes professionals who have moved the needle in the legal industry – professionals who are truly Trailblazers.”

As Chair of the firm, Pat was acknowledged for his leadership as Spencer Fane continued to outpace industry growth through the pandemic. Pat shared with the NLJ that “[a]s a part of our long-term strategic plan, we developed a sustainable client-centered growth model in alignment with our firm’s culture and values.”

Shawn was acknowledged for accomplishments in real estate law, including his current leadership as Co-Chair of the firm’s Real Estate practice group and Chair of the Tax Credit Finance and Opportunity Zones team. “In my real estate practice, I continually encountered clients who were unaware of development incentive opportunities applicable to their projects,” Shawn explained in his NLJ profile. “I became passionate about this process, helping clients advance projects of all sizes utilizing tax credits, abatements, and other incentives.”

To read NLJ’s profile on Pat, please click [here](#), and find Shawn’s NLJ profile [here](#).