



Michael (Mike) Patterson

Partner

Contact

Phoenix

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Overview

Mike Patterson helps businesses navigate corporate, compliance, and securities matters. He has extensive experience in domestic and international mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, strategic alliances, equity and debt offerings, foreign direct investment, distribution, agency and licensing matters, and market entry strategies. He efficiently resolves legal matters by identifying key issues, focusing resources, and executing on a plan.

Mike also regularly advises U.S. and foreign clients in connection with the establishment, structuring, and compliance for international operations, including the establishment of international distribution networks. Also known as “Miguel” after a decade-long stint living and working in Central America, he reads, writes, speaks, and negotiates in Spanish. In addition, he has done legal work for clients in Canada, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Education

- Arizona State University – Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, 1995 (J.D.), *cum laude*
- Arizona State University, 1984 (B.A.), *summa cum laude*

Bar Admissions

- Arizona, 1995

Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona, 1995

Community Involvement

- Governor’s Arizona–Mexico Commission

- Governor's Solar Energy Advisory Task Force, 2013

Distinctions

- *Best Lawyers in America*, 2019–2026

Presentations and Publications

- "[AI-Powered M&A: What Bankers Need to Know Now](#)," *The Missouri Banker*, April 2026
- "AI-Powered M&A: Transforming Dealmaking in Banking and Fintech," Spencer Fane Webinar, January 2026
- "Small Business Trade Opportunities & Prosperity," Panel Em-Cee, 4th United States–Mexico–Canada Agreement Small and Medium Enterprise Dialogue, November 2025
- "Navigating the Complexities of Today's Legal Landscape: A Federal Executive Order Update," Spencer Fane Advantage CLE, June 2025
- "Export League Session 1: Get Ready to Export," Global Chamber Globinar, February 2025
- "CHIPS Act, Tariffs and Setting Up," 4th Annual Semiconductor Summit, Thunderbird Graduate School of Global Management, February 2025
- "Prepare for a Once-in-a-Lifetime Exit and Secure Your Legacy," Scottsdale Founders Forum, November 2024
- Scottsdale REALTORS Tech Summit, Speaker, April 2024
- "Considerations When Selling Your Business," Founders Guide Post Podcast, October 2022
- "Commercial: Issues with International Asset Sales," Midwestern Bankruptcy Institute, October 2022
- "Access Public Venture Capital," Arizona Technology Council, October 2022
- "Global Success," Global Chamber, part of Global Is Good initiative, August 2022
- "The Ultimate Guide to Starting Your Business," Arizona Commerce Authority Small Business Boot Camp, January 2022
- "XBorder Mexico Real Estate Issues," College of Estate Planning Attorneys, January 2019
- "Qualified Opportunity Zones," Southern Arizona Mayors and Arizona Regional Economic Development Foundation, November 2018

Related Experience

- Represented a company through its lifecycle of product development, consulting with an international nuclear giant, and selling to that international nuclear company. Handled the successful resolution of disputes over earn-outs in the years following.
- Successful corporate representation of a distribution company in preparation for a coming offering. Managed corporate clean up and due diligence. Preparation of the first SEC "plain English" pilot prospectus for an initial public offering.
- Worked with Italian owners of a manufacturing company to address their many questions about cost, timing, U.S., and international legal, cultural, and business issues, to planning and budgeting to formation of an entity and coordination of services to get them quickly into business in Arizona.