

## J. Mitchell “Mitch” Barton

Associate



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**I enjoy tackling challenges head-on, leveraging creativity and ingenuity to solve problems and deliver desirable outcomes for my clients.**

Mitch Barton represents health care, nonprofit, and corporate clients, where he frequently provides counsel on matters involving corporate governance, policy development, commercial contract negotiation, and risk management. In addition, clients seek his counsel on a range of health care matters, such as regulatory compliance, fraud and abuse, HIPAA compliance, licensing, reimbursement, and corporate documentation. His experience extends to statutory and regulatory compliance, economic development, and nonprofit formation. Some of his notable projects include managing complex organizational changes for a municipal energy company, spearheading local housing incentives, facilitating leases, supporting the implementation of tax increment financing for a regional development, and ensuring ongoing compliance with industry regulations across various sectors. Mitch's goal is to leverage his knowledge to provide comprehensive legal solutions and strategic guidance to clients across multiple industries.

Drawing on his background as in-house counsel, Mitch understands the complexities and challenges clients face from a legal perspective and also from a managerial standpoint. This unique perspective allows him to provide holistic representation tailored to each client's specific needs. He tackles challenges with a team-first approach and is known for his unwavering loyalty and reliability. He's passionate about making a difference in his clients' lives, offering practical solutions with a friendly demeanor.

### Experience

Managed the reorganization and transition of the Board of Public Utilities for Erwin, Tennessee, from a municipal electric system organized under the Municipal Electric Plant Law of 1935 to a municipal energy authority incorporated under the Municipal Energy Authority Act

### Services

- Business
- Business Organizations and Planning
- Charitable and Public Purpose Organizations
- Commercial Contracts
- Corporate Governance and Risk Management
- Fraud, Compliance, & Reimbursement
- Health Care
- Health Care Facilities
- Physician Practices
- Revenue Cycle Management

### Industries

- Charitable and Public Purpose Organizations
- Communications, Technologies, and Utilities
- Energy, Solar, and Renewables
- Municipal and Government

### Admissions

- Tennessee

### Education

- J.D., The University of Tennessee College of Law, summa cum laude, 2016

Developed local incentive program for single-family housing in Tier 3 and 4 counties in conjunction with local economic development board

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Negotiated, drafted, and executed long-term lease of utility watershed property to town government for development of the Unaka Bike Park

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Drafted charter documents for Friends of the O'Brien Watershed nonprofit organization formed to assist with fundraising and trail maintenance. Also assisted with ongoing fundraising and grant administration as park reached maturity

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Assisted with implementation of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) for development of a regional grocer and ongoing administration associated with the TIF

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Oversaw ongoing compliance with industry regulations, including TVA regulations for local power companies, TDEC regulations for water distribution and wastewater collection systems, and FCC requirements for broadband and phone providers

## Noteworthy

- 2020 Honoree 40 Under Forty, The Business Journal of Tri Cities Tennessee/Virginia
- Master Examiner, Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence, 2021–2023
- TVA Economic Development Rural Leadership Institute, 2019
- Frank Benson Creekmore Memorial Award, UT College of Law
- CALI Award for Highest Grade in Land Finance Law
- CALI Award for Highest Grade in Family & Privacy Seminar
- CALI Award for Highest Grade in Legal Profession

## Community

- Friends of the O'Brien Watershed, Secretary, 2019-Present
- Tennessee Center for Performance Excellence, Board of Examiners, 2017-2023

## Sidebar

Mitch enjoys traveling, cooking, and eating (and traveling to eat), watching University of Tennessee athletic contests, Braves games, and reading. He is a novice mountain biker who, through pure luck, has yet to sustain any significant injuries. Most of all, he enjoys quality time and a quality cup of coffee with his wife, Betsy, and their two black Labs, Deacon and Daisy.

- B.A., Carson-Newman College, magna cum laude, 2011