



Phil Cole

ASSOCIATE

KANSAS CITY, MO

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OVERVIEW

Phil helps clients with corporate matters, including business formation, transactions, and mergers and acquisitions.

Before law school, Phil spent years advising corporate leaders, managing large-scale federal initiatives, overseeing multimillion-dollar budgets and contracts, and designing solutions to organizational and operational challenges. He also taught leadership in federal law enforcement and coached private sector business leaders. He came to law school to pair his grounding in organizational management with formal legal training.

Phil's interest in corporate law stems from a fascination with the architecture of organizations. Throughout his career, he has seen how decisions about ownership, governance, incentives, capital, talent, and culture influence whether a business thrives through growth and change. Law school gave him a framework for understanding how those moving pieces fit together and how legal structures can either create opportunities or constraints for an organization. He is particularly interested in the moments when businesses transform themselves, whether through a merger, acquisition, or strategic growth initiative.

As a summer associate at Husch Blackwell, Phil built a menu of indemnification clauses to give senior associates a baseline of buyer- and seller-friendly options for purchase agreement review, drafted a settlement agreement and consent order for a bankruptcy proceeding, and prepared a loan amendment package for a \$15 million loan.

Services

Corporate

Mergers & Acquisitions

Securities & Corporate Governance

Phil's background prepared him to evaluate legal questions in the context of clients' business objectives, stakeholder needs, financial constraints, implementation risks, and long-term strategies. Known for listening closely to understand what clients are trying to accomplish, Phil is good at asking the right follow-up questions to surface challenges and opportunities before they become problems. Clients can expect someone who connects the practical and legal sides of a transaction to deliver guidance that is thorough and usable.

Education

- J.D., University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law
 - *summa cum laude*
 - CALI Awards: Torts, Client Interviewing, Lawyering Skills I, Civil Procedure I, Corporate Tax, Secured Transactions, Partnership Tax
 - President/Magister, Phi Delta Phi Honor Society
- B.A., Colgate University
 - Alumni Memorial Scholar

Admissions

- Missouri