HUSCH BLACKWELL

Blake Hansen

ASSOCIATE

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OVERVIEW

Blake is a service-minded professional who assists clients with real property needs for renewable energy projects.

After earning his undergraduate degree, Blake embarked on a career in public service as a legislative aide to a U.S. senator. He enrolled in law school with the intention of pursuing a legal career with community service at its heart and, to that end, worked in a D.A.'s office and interned with the Environmental Protection Agency during law school. However, his strong belief in service led him to defer his legal career following graduation and instead he earned a commission in the United States Marine Corps, where he served as an infantry officer for four years, which time included overseeing combat operations for an infantry company of nearly 200 Marines first in Afghanistan and later in Yemen.

Blake continues to bring the service ethos honed in the military and the public sector to his law practice. Enthusiastic about the positive impact real estate development has on communities, he began his legal career at a real estate-focused firm, where he gained experience with real property acquisitions and dispositions, leasing, financing, title review, complex purchase and sale agreements, and franchise work. However, his early political service had left him with a strong interest in renewable energy: Blake had previously worked for a senator on the forefront of the renewable energy transition, and he joined Husch Blackwell in order to focus his real estate practice on the renewables sector.

Today, Blake represents developers of wind, solar, and battery storage projects across the country, from initial siting all the way through investment and financing, property rights acquisition, and

Industry

Energy & Natural Resources

Services

Construction & Design
Energy Storage
Solar Energy
Wind Energy

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construction. He loves serving clients who are leading the way toward a sustainable future and regularly performs title and survey review; assists with landowner negotiations; and drafts and negotiates purchase and sale, leasing, interconnection, site control, financing, distribution, and joint operating agreements.

Clients appreciate not only Blake's dedication to service, but also his transparency and his communication skills. Blake's time in the Marines taught him how essential information sharing is, and his goal is to always be up front with clients, keep them fully informed, and do whatever it takes to get the answers they need.

Experience

- Represented Swift Current Energy as project development counsel in the multi-year development and sale of the Steel River solar and storage project to Cypress Creek Renewables.
- Provided legal representation in real estate and related corporate matters, including acquisitions and dispositions, leasing, and real estate finance transactions.
- Drafted and negotiated terms of purchase and sale agreements on behalf of buyers and sellers of commercial space, vacant land intended for development, and residential apartment complexes.
- Drafted and negotiated terms of commercial leases on behalf of landlords and tenants of office and retail space.
- Reviewed and negotiated terms of real estate finance agreements on behalf of borrowers, including mortgages, promissory notes, guarantees, and related agreements.
- Performed review of title and survey matters in connection with acquisitions and dispositions, and real estate finance transactions, including drafting title and survey objection letters and negotiating revisions to title commitments and surveys.
- Managed matters including real estate acquisitions and dispositions, leasing, title review, revolving lines of credit, operating agreements, franchise agreements, and entitlement for large franchisees of national quick-service restaurants.

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Experience

- Supported high-growth technology start-ups in negotiating and drafting master service agreements, as well as consulting, technical services, employee separation, financing, and non-disclosure agreements.
- Served as development counsel for Jupiter Power, a leading developer and operator of energy storage infrastructure, in its recently closed $286 million project financing to support the construction of two standalone battery energy storage systems (BESS).

Education

- J.D., University of Denver Sturm College of Law
    - *Transportation Law Journal*, Staff Editor
- B.A., Colorado College

Admissions

- Colorado

Community Leadership

A veteran himself, Blake volunteers with Service to School, a program that helps active-duty military prepare university applications and successfully transition to college or graduate school. Blake regularly counsels servicemembers on what graduate school, especially law school, can mean after military service and advises on potential career paths.

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