

ASSOCIATE

# Michael Russo

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📍 San Diego



Best Best & Krieger LLP (BBK) Associate Michael Russo practices within the firm's Business practice group, primarily focusing on real estate and business transactions. He has experience handling real estate matters including commercial leasing (office, industrial, retail, special purpose, and ground leases), license agreements, purchase agreements, estoppel certificates, due diligence, and title and survey review. Michael represents both landlords and tenants, as well as buyers and sellers in complex real estate transactions. He aims to ensure that each deal proceeds smoothly from negotiation to closing and focuses on aligning legal strategies with business objectives to help clients achieve their goals efficiently.

Michael also advises clients on business entity formation, contracts, dispute resolution, and litigation. In these capacities, he represents individuals, privately owned and closely held businesses, and large companies with national operations. He brings a varied transactional background to his practice, with previous experience in bankruptcy and litigation matters.

Before joining BBK, Michael clerked for several San Diego law firms, where he represented healthcare practitioners and clients dealing with bankruptcy, business, injury, insurance, real estate, and transactional matters.

A San Diego native, Michael enjoys watching soccer and the Padres, playing chess, cooking, traveling, and concerts.

## Notable Experience

- Represents tenants of all sizes in negotiating office, industrial, and retail leases throughout California.
- Advises private developers on leasing, acquisition, and disposition of office and retail projects.
- Curated master lease templates for mixed-use and office developments for both landlords and tenants.
- Handles leasing of multi-use and specialty properties, including shopping centers, public facilities, airports, and sports arenas, for private and municipal clients.
- Represented hospital district in negotiating industrial lease.

## CORE PRACTICES

Business  
Business Litigation  
Business Transactions  
Real Estate  
Trusts & Estates

## EDUCATION & ADMISSIONS

### Education

University of San Diego School of Law, J.D.

University of San Diego, B.S.,  
business administration

### Bar Admissions

California

- Assists public entities and cities with easements, licenses, rights of way, and real estate agreements, including ground leases and acquisitions.
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## **Professional & Community Involvement**

- San Diego County Bar Association
- Consumer Attorneys of San Diego