

Daniel A. Cotter

Chicago, IL

☎ 312.456.3674

📱 312.502.7480

📠 312.939.5617

✉ dcotter@howardandhoward.com



“I am an attorney and counselor who advises my clients on how to successfully navigate everyday business hurdles.”

Dan is an experienced attorney who has served in a variety of legal roles in his career, including as general counsel of a large life insurance company, as well as extensive experience in private practice. Dan's mix of clients includes insurance companies and other financial institutions, IT and consulting companies, and nonprofits. He has been working on privacy and cybersecurity issues since 1996, including development of terms and conditions and disclaimers on Fortune 500 websites in the late 1990s. He has been the chief privacy officer of several companies and law firms, and has extensive experience as in-house counsel. Dan is experienced in dealing with complex insurance regulatory issues and transactions, and substantial reorganizations of holding company systems. Throughout his career, he has negotiated thousands of contracts from simple to complex, including outsourcing. He also has substantial experience with internal investigations and employment-related issues.

Business & Corporate

- Financial Institutions
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Data Privacy & Cybersecurity
- Intellectual Property
- Labor, Employment, & Immigration
- Real Estate
- Securities

Representative Matters

- Advised Illinois Department of Insurance regarding first two insurance company demutualizations approved under the Illinois Insurance Code.
- Advised standby purchaser on first life insurance demutualization in Illinois and obtained approval of transaction by Illinois Department of Insurance.
- Represented buyer in purchase of a Massachusetts-domiciled insurer and redomestication to Nebraska.
- Obtained certificates of authority for client to expand to more than forty jurisdictions.
- Advised non-profit entities on complex dissolutions, mergers, and conversions.
- Conducted an internal investigation of alleged sexual harassment at a non-insurance related entity by a board member.
- Acted as regulatory counsel on sale of an Illinois-domiciled life and annuity insurer to an Arizona-domiciled insurance group, including regulatory filings and approvals.

Education

- The John Marshall Law School, 1995
 - J.D., *summa cum laude*
 - *Law Review*, 1992-1995; Staff Editor, 1994
 - ABA National Criminal Justice Trial Advocacy Competition, Participant, 1994
- Monmouth College, 1988
 - B.A., *magna cum laude*, Accounting
 - Departmental Honors, Accounting, 1988
 - Blue Key Senior Man of the Year, 1988
 - Mortar Board of Honor Fraternity, President, 1986-1987

Memberships

- The American Law Institute
- LexisNexis
 - Insurance Advisory Board for Practical Guidance, Board Member, 2021
- Association of Insurance Compliance Professionals
 - General Counsel, 2020
- American Bar Association
 - House of Delegates, 2015-present
 - National Conference of Bar Presidents
 - Metropolitan Bar Caucus Committee, Chair, 2012-present
 - Board Member, 2015-2018
- Chicago Bar Association
 - Media and Civic Education, Inc., Board Member, 2021
 - Insurance Law Committee, Co-Chair, 2019-present
 - President, 2014-2015
 - Board of Managers, 2003-2004; 2005-2007; 2010-2016
 - Young Lawyers Section, Chair, 2003-2004

- Chicago Bar Foundation
 - Board of Directors, 2004-2011; 2013-2016
 - Treasurer, 2009-2011
 - Justice Entrepreneurs Project, Advisory Board Chair, 2021
- National Conference of Bar Presidents
 - Secretary, 2021

Admissions

- Illinois, 1995
- Law Division Arbitration Program, Personal Injury and Commercial, Arbitrator, 2021
- Certified Information Privacy Professional-United States (CIPP/US), 2016
- Supreme Court of the United States, 2011
- U.S. Court of Appeals, Seventh Circuit, 1996
- U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois, 1995
- Successfully completed the Certified Public Accountant exam, 1989

Professional Achievements

- Illinois *Super Lawyers*, 2017-2022
- Illinois *Leading Lawyers*, 2016-2021
- Monmouth College, Moot Court Judge, 2011-2020
- "Professional and Medical Corporations." *Illinois Business Law: Choice of Entity*, Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education, 2020 Ed., 8-1—8-33.