Howard & Howard
law for business

Howard J. Countryman

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“ I help clients navigate the tax complexities of business transactions with practical, solution-oriented advice.”

Howard focuses his practice on federal, state, and local tax matters, with an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions, transaction structuring, tax due diligence, and tax controversy matters. He advises clients on the tax implications of complex business transactions, prepares technical tax analyses, and assists with the review and negotiation of tax provisions in transaction documents. His experience includes advising businesses, private equity sponsors, and other investors on the tax considerations arising from acquisitions, divestitures, reorganizations, and other strategic transactions.

Prior to entering the practice of law, Howard was a senior associate in the M&A Tax group of a Big Four accounting firm, where he advised clients on tax due diligence and transaction structuring for domestic and international deals ranging in value up to $7 billion. In that role, he evaluated federal, state, and international tax considerations, identified potential tax risks and exposures, and developed tax-efficient structures tailored to clients’ business and investment objectives.

Following his time at the Big Four, Howard served as a senior associate at an advisory firm, where he focused on drafting technical tax memoranda, advising on transaction structuring, and addressing tax controversy matters. This experience included analyzing technical tax issues and developing practical solutions to complex tax matters for clients.

Business & Corporate

- Business and Corporate Tax
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Trust and Estate Planning

During law school, Howard served as a judicial intern to Justice David F. Viviano of the Michigan Supreme Court, where he conducted legal research and prepared memoranda addressing complex legal issues.

Howard earned his Juris Doctor and LL.M. in Taxation from Northwestern Pritzker School of Law and his Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from Michigan State University.

Education

- Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, 2022
  - J.D.
  - LL.M., Taxation
- Michigan State University, 2018
  - B.A.

Memberships

- State Bar of Michigan
  - Taxation Section

Admissions

- Michigan, 2022
- U.S. Tax Court, 2026

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