



STEPHEN J. KNERLY, JR.

PARTNER



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Stephen J. Knerly, Jr. focuses his practice on matters involving art transactions, nonprofit corporate law, closely held and family-owned businesses and international commercial transactions.

Josh serves as Co-Chair of the Firm's Non-Profit Institutions section.

In his art law practice, Josh has represented museums, foundations, trusts and collectors in the acquisition, disposition, lending and borrowing of and estate planning for works of art, including domestic and international transactions, claims and dispute resolution involving antiquities and the Nazi era.

Josh has been a frequent speaker on art-related matters before meetings of the ALI-CLE Museum Law Conference, the American Alliance of Museums, the Association of Art Museum Directors, the American Bar Association (Section of International Law), the Institute of Art and Law and the Federal Cultural Property Advisory Committee. Josh is a former adjunct professor of art law at the Case Western Reserve University School of Law. He has been a guest lecturer at the Case Western Reserve University School of Law, University of Akron School of Law, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and DePaul University College of Law.

Josh also represents nonprofit corporations, trusts, foundations and museums on formation issues, general business and corporate matters, governance issues, conflict of interest policies, accessions, deaccessions, contracting, outsource agreements, executive compensation and employment agreements, tax planning, international transactions and construction projects.

Josh counsels closely held and family businesses on various matters, including mergers, acquisitions and dispositions, financings, generation transfers and recapitalizations.

Publications & Speaking Engagements

- Author, *AAMD Relaxes Restrictions on Uses of Certain Funds During Pandemic*, American Bar Association Section of International Law Art & Cultural Heritage Law Newsletter, Spring 2020.
- Testimony before the 301 Committee (U.S. Trade Representative) concerning proposed imposition of tariffs on Chinese origin art, June 2019.
- Panelist, *20 Years, Washington Principles: Roadmap for the Future*, German Lost Art Foundation, Berlin, Germany, November 2018.
- Presenter, *United States: Foreign Sovereign Immunity and Immunity From Seizure*, St. Petersburg International Legal Forum, St. Petersburg, Russia, May 2015.
- Presenter, *After the Monuments Men: Nazi-Era Art, Modern Legal Problems*, Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., January 2015.



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- Presenter, *Currently Important Issues for the Museum Community*, American Exhibition Organizers Conference at the Cleveland Museum of Art, November 2014.
- Presenter, *Immunity for Art Works on International Loan: Immunity from Seizure or Immunity from Jurisdiction?*, American Bar Association Section of International Law, London, October 2013.
- Panelist, *Fair and Just Solutions? Alternatives to Litigation in Nazi-looted Art Disputes: Status Quo and New Developments*, Netherlands Restitution Committee Meeting, November 2012.
- Presenter, *International Trade in Ancient Art and Archeological Objects: Controversies over U.S. Implementation of the 1970 UNESCO Convention on Cultural Property*, American Bar Association CLE Spring Conference, April 2010.
- Author, *Selected Issues for American Art Museums Regarding Holocaust Era Looted Art*; Presenter, *Holocaust Era Assets – Restitutions*, Prague Conference on Holocaust Era Assets, June 2009.
- Presentations before the Federal Cultural Property Advisory Committee on behalf of the Association of Art Museum Directors in connection with the renewal of Memoranda of Understanding between The United States and Bulgaria, July 2018; The United States and China, May 2018; The United States and Cambodia, October 2017; The United States and Guatemala, the United States and Mali, March 2017; The United States and Cyprus, the United States and Peru, October 2016; The United States and Italy, April 2015.
- Presenter, American Law Institute - American Bar Association together with The Smithsonian Institution, Legal Issues in Museum Administration.
 - *Deaccessioning Proceeds, Legal Requirements, Ethical Responsibilities and Best Practices*, April 2016;
 - Panelist, *Cultural Property Roundtable: Update and Case Studies and Foreign Lenders and Risk Management: Immunities and Cultural Property and Provenance: What's New About What's Old?*, April 2013;
 - Panelist, *Exhibition Loans: Immunity*, March 2012.
 - Panelist, *Healthy Tension: Roles and Responsibilities of the Board and Management and Developing and Implementing Conflict of Interest and Other Governance Policies*, March 2011;
 - Panelist, *Drafting and Interpreting Pledge and Gift Agreements and Deaccession Developments: Does Self-Regulation Still Work? The New York Brodsky Bill and Other Trends*, March 2010; and
 - Panelist, *Loans: Domestic and International Issues*, April 2009.

- Presentation before the Institute of Art and Law in association with the Foundation for International Cultural Diplomacy, Blackwall Green and Withers LLP, State Immunity, Anti-Seizure and Customary International Law, Transparency, Integrity, Mobility and Security under Cross-Border Loans and other Sharing Transactions affecting Cultural Objects, London, July 2008.

Professional History

- Partner, Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP, 1984-present; CEO and Managing Partner, 1993-2008; Member, Board of Directors, 1993-2008; Member, Management Committee, 1989-91; Associate, 1976-83; Law Clerk, 1975-76.

Admissions

- State of Ohio, 1976.
- District of Columbia Court of Appeals.
- U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio.

Education

- Case Western Reserve University School of Law, J.D., 1976.
- Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Boston, Massachusetts, A.M., 1973.
- Bowdoin College, A.B., History and French, *summa cum laude, magna cum laude in historium*, 1972.
 - Honors & Activities: Cyrus Hoover History Prize; Phi Beta Kappa, Member; James Bowdoin Scholar.
- University School, 1968.
 - Honors & Activities: *Cum Laude* Society, Member; Sherman French Prize.
- Hawken School, Lyndhurst, Ohio, 1964.

Memberships & Affiliations

- International Council of Museums, Legal Committee, Past Member.
- International Bar Association, Art, Cultural Institutions and Heritage Law Committee, Member.
- American Bar Association, International Law Section, Art and Cultural Law Heritage Committee, Steering Committee.
- Institute of Art and Law, Member.

Awards & Distinctions

- Chevalier of the Legion of Honor (France).
- American Bar Foundation, Fellow.
- Society of Benchers, Case Western Reserve University School of Law.
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Non-Profit/Charities Law, 2007-22, Art Law, 2017-22.
- *Chambers and Partners HNW Guide*, Art and Cultural Property Law, 2021.
- Working Group, Reproduction of Art and Cultural Heritage (ReACH) Project.



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Languages

- French.

Community Involvement

- Former Consul Honoraire de France, Cleveland, Ohio.
- The Holden Arboretum, Director.
- French American Chamber of Commerce, Trustee and Secretary.
- The Cleveland Museum of Art, Assistant Secretary.
- Leadership Cleveland, Class of 2001.