

Michael Manzi

Partner | New York

Michael Manzi is a Partner in the Real Estate Practice of Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP.

Mr. Manzi has practiced real estate law in New York for 25 years with a concentration on representing cooperative and condominium boards, as well as sponsors. He also has extensive experience in a wide variety of real estate transactions including financing, leasing, sales and acquisitions.

In representing cooperative and condominium boards, he guides them through the many problems that they confront—from daily operations to special matters. He enjoys the unique challenge that these boards face: how to run a business that involves the daily lives of a wide variety of individuals. He's not just a legal advisor but a counselor and diplomat.

His practice has included:

- Advising over 75 cooperative and condominium boards on a wide variety of legal and commercial matters.
- Negotiating over 50 office leases for a Fortune 500 company.
- Handling through closing the acquisition, disposition, financing, and ownership of commercial properties, including the structuring and re-structuring of the ownership entities, and the acquisition and disposition of properties of religious and other non-profit organizations.
- Drafting and negotiating shopping center leases and professional office leases.
- Counseling through closing borrowers of SBA mortgage loans.
- Representing individuals purchasing and selling luxury residential properties.

Mr. Manzi received his B.F.A. and M.F.A. from the Institute of Film and Television at New York University, where he also taught writing courses and served in the administration of the Dramatic Writing Program. He then moved from academia to law and earned his J.D. from Fordham University School of Law where he served as Managing Editor of the Fordham International Law Journal. Upon graduation he joined



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Areas of Practice

Cooperatives and Condominiums
Real Estate Law
Real Estate Leasing
Financing and Commercial Transactions

Bar Admissions

New York

Memberships

Served as Chair of the Committee on Cooperative and Condominium Law of the New York City Bar Association from 2004 to 2007 and Committee Member since 2000.

the firm of Balber Pickard Maldonado & Van Der Tuin, PC where he practiced until joining Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP.

Ever since adopting a greyhound nine years ago, he has been active in the rescue of retired racing greyhounds, and his experience in keeping two dogs and three cats in a Manhattan apartment has made him the go-to person for pet issues in cooperatives and condominiums. When not practicing law or walking dogs, he indulges a variety of other interests, including an inexplicable love of baroque opera.

Speeches & Publications

- Presentations at numerous continuing legal education seminars on a variety of topics of cooperative and condominium law at the New York City Bar Association and New York State Bar Association.
- “Property Managers: Beware FLSA”, *MR Management*, January 2016.
- *Dow Chemical Company v. Castro Alfaro: The Demise of Forum Non Conveniens in Texas and One Less Barrier to International Tort Litigation*, 14 Fordham Int’l L.J. 819, 823 (1990/1991), which has been cited in numerous decisions and law journals, including the *Encyclopedia of International Aviation Law*.

Member of the Condominium and Cooperative Committee of the Real Property Section of the New York State Bar Association since 2000.

Member of The LGBT Bar Association of Greater New York (LeGal).

Member of New York City, New York State and American Bar Associations.