



|| General Counsel

For a business to have sustained success, trustworthy legal direction is essential. Foster Swift serves the role of general counsel for many small and mid-size businesses and associations whose present business model doesn't support a full-time in-house lawyer.

Clients call on us to address the complete range of legal issues facing their business. Our involvement level can vary depending upon the entity's needs and goals. As the legal advisor to the management team, we offer proactive strategies that minimize risk, counsel on matters of corporate governance as well as regulatory issues and develop creative solutions when problems arise. Recognizing the profitability goals and financial parameters of our clients, we constantly strive to be as cost-efficient as possible. Foster Swift business and tax attorneys are able to tap other legal issue experts within the firm as the situations require, which expedites our response and often reduces the cost to the client.

The bottom line is that by providing a comprehensive team of attorneys, we are able to build long term relationships with our clients that focus on success in every phase of the business cycle. Some of the matters we routinely handle when serving as general counsel include:

- Entity selection, formation and organization planning
- Drafting start-up documentation
- Complying with regulatory requirements and federal and state laws
- Ownership structure
- Establishing corporate records
- Employment contracts and benefits
- Zoning compliance
- Real estate transactions, commercial leases and construction issues
- Taxation
- Intellectual property and information technology issues
- Operating agreements
- Shareholder agreements and dispute resolution
- Corporate bylaws

ATTORNEYS

Shareholder

Jonathan J. David

Joel C. Farrar

Matthew S. Fedor

Taylor A. Gast

Todd W. Hoppe

Matt G. Hrebec

Lynwood P. VandenBosch

Senior Attorney

Bryan Cermak

RELATED PRACTICES

Business & Tax

- Commercial transactions, mergers and acquisitions including asset or stock acquisitions or sales
- SEC reporting requirements, executive compensation issues, disclosure issues and general corporate governance matters
- Contract preparation, compensation plan preparation and general corporate counseling
- Succession and exit planning
- International expansion, joint ventures, immigration and U.S. import/export controls
- Federal and state tax planning

At Foster Swift we recognize that every business is different, and each business will have different legal needs for every stage in the business cycle. For every contract and transaction our attorneys will make sure your business gets the best terms available while minimizing liability.

PUBLICATIONS & ALERTS

Notable Shift in Contract Law Regarding Release Contracts Could Affect Automotive Suppliers and Others, *Business & Tax Law News*, August 3, 2023

Cannabis Law Update, *Ingham County Bar Association BRIEFS*, July 19, 2023

Year End Budgeting and Housekeeping Best Practices for Businesses, *Foster Swift Business & Tax Law News*, October 27, 2022

Scam Targets Corporations, *Business & Corporate Law Report*, September 12, 2012

NEWS

Small Business Month: Foster Swift Highlights Importance of Planning with Legal Resource Advisors, *Globe Newswire*, May 9, 2024

Are You Prepared? New Video Series Exposes Potentially Devastating Legal Challenges for Young Adults & Their Families, *EIN Newswire*, November 21, 2023

Litigator Joins Foster Swift Law Firm in Southfield, *Detroit Legal News*, April 12, 2023

Be Careful on the Biggest Bar Night of the Year, *Global Newswire*, November 21, 2022

Storey Receives 2021 Theodore W. Swift Civility Award, October 1, 2021

Lansing Attorney Named ICBF President, July 28, 2021

Civil Lawsuits In The Wake Of COVID-19, *Michigan Business Network*, September 3, 2020

Foster Swift Attorney Jean Shtokal selected as one of Michigan Lawyers Weekly 2013 "Women in the Law", August 8, 2013

EVENTS

An Overview of Statutory Pooling in Michigan, *Michigan Association of Professional Landmen (MAPL) Mid-Winter Mini Seminar*, February 22, 2024



Why Selecting the Right Legal Counsel is Essential to Your Business, *Foster Swift Collins & Smith - Legal Strategies for Women Leaders*, August 30, 2023

Michigan Supreme Court Decision May Affect Contract Drafting Between Suppliers and Buyers, *Foster Swift Second Wednesday Lunch Break*, August 9, 2023

An Overview of Michigan's Felony Sentencing Guidelines, *Foster Swift Second Wednesday Lunch Break*, May 10, 2023

How do Businesses get Ready for the Upcoming Corporate Transparency Act?, *Foster Swift Second Wednesday Lunch Break*, March 8, 2023

What are the Legal Rights of a Co-op Member?, *Michigan Farm Bureau*, February 22, 2023

Independent Medical Exams: Strategies for Imposing or Preventing Conditions and Limitations, *Strafford Webinars*, January 4, 2023
