



SpencerFane®

James R. (Jim) Dankenbring

Partner

Contact

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Overview

Jim Dankenbring represents businesses in mergers and acquisitions, securities matters, complex contract negotiations, and executive compensation.

He helps buyers and sellers, including senior management and investors, in connection with the acquisition, sale, and recapitalization of businesses in industries such as health care, manufacturing, and technology. He also guides issuers and investors in public and private debt and equity financings, credit facilities, and other complex financing transactions.

Through his active participation in [TAGLaw](#), Jim has developed personal relationships with lawyers around the world. As a result, he often represents parties in cross-border joint ventures and strategic alliances, including distributor agreements, product distribution and marketing agreements, franchise agreements, licenses, and other complex agreements.

Jim is also a frequent speaker at CLE seminars on topics such as M&A, limited liability companies, choice of business entity, and legal ethics.

Before beginning his legal career in the early 1980s, Jim practiced as a certified public accountant in the tax department of Ernst & Young.

Education

- University of Missouri – Columbia, 1974 (B.A.)
- University of Missouri School of Law, 1977 (J.D.)

Bar Admissions

- Missouri, 1977

Community Involvement

- Lutheran Senior Services, Former Board of Directors Member
- Lutheran Foundation of St. Louis, Former Board of Directors Member
- Lutheran Indian Ministries, Former Board of Directors Member
- The Foundation for Called Workers, Former Board of Directors Member
- Open Sky Education, Former Board of Directors Member
- The Missouri Bar Board of Governors, Former Board of Directors Member
- Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch Foundation, Former Board of Directors Member
- St. Louis Bar Foundation
- Westborough Country Club
- Missouri Athletic Club.

Distinctions

- Martindale-Hubbell, AV Preeminent, 1989–2024
- *Best Lawyers in America*, 2012–2025
 - Corporate Compliance Law
 - Corporate Governance Law
 - Corporate Law
 - Mergers and Acquisitions Law
 - Securities / Capital Markets Law
 - Securities Regulation
 - Tax Law
- *Best Lawyers in America*, Lawyer of the Year
 - Corporate Governance Law, 2023
 - Corporate Compliance Law, 2017
- *Missouri & Kansas Super Lawyers*

Memberships

- American Bar Association
- The Missouri Bar
- Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis