

## James R. Kruse

Partner

### Overview

Jim provides clients with a wealth of experience and insight regarding corporate and transactional law and securities law, informed by more than 40 years of practice. He primarily focuses on new equity financings, corporate acquisitions and reorganizations involving publicly traded companies, and broker-dealer and investment adviser representation.

Of particular interest to Jim is understandable and readable disclosure profiles and presentation, including the development of overall communication strategies and the drafting of specific language for sensitive matters. He actively explores new compliance and risk mitigation strategies for securities broker-dealers in the face of ever-changing market conditions to understand and educate them about compliance with securities registration, anti-manipulation and anti-fraud prohibitions, and anti-money laundering requirements.

Jim has strong experience in broker-dealer and registered investment adviser regulatory compliance strategies and procedures, securities liquidation policies and procedures, U.S. Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) periodic reporting and shareholder actions, complex deal structuring, and private placements. He is well-versed in organizing new business entities, coordinating international business ventures, and advising on corporate governance, as well as defending Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and SEC enforcement actions. He represents companies and selling group members in private and public securities offerings and prepares offering documents and for public and private financings.

Jim also represents accounting professionals in Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) and SEC supervision, regulation, and disciplinary matters.

### Honors & Recognitions

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Corporate Law, 2021
- Utah Legal Elite, Securities Law, *Utah Business* magazine, 2005-2015, 2018-present



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#### Practices

Corporate

Securities & Capital Markets

- Martindale-Hubbell® AV Preeminent Rated

## Professional Activities

- Utah State Bar
  - Securities and Corporate Law Sections
  - Securities Advisory Committee to the Utah Securities Division, 1984-1996
  - Chairman of Securities Section, 1982-1983
- Member (appointed by Governor Matheson), Utah State Securities Advisory Board, 1983-1986

## Education

- George Washington University, Juris Doctor (J.D.), with honors; Order of the Coif-Top 10% of graduating class, 1970; Comment Staff, *George Washington Law Review*
- Nebraska Wesleyan University, Bachelor of Arts (B.A.), with distinctions, 1967; Political Science and English

## Admissions

- Utah

## Community Involvement

- Member, Board of Governors, Nebraska Wesleyan University, 1990-2014; lifetime Governor Emeritus
- Former member, Board of Trustees, Realms of Inquiry School

## Related News

### NEWS

August 20, 2020

Ninety-Two Michael Best Attorneys Earn Top Honors in The Best Lawyers in America 2021 List

### NEWS

Twelve Michael Best Attorneys Honored as 2020 Utah Legal Elite

### PUBLICATION

January 22, 2020

Getting Ahead of the Curve: Form CRS Relationship Summary

### PUBLICATION

January 14, 2020

OCIE Announces Examination Priorities for 2020, Emphasizing Emerging Trends, Technologies, and Compliance with New Regulation Best Interest



**NEWS**

March 1, 2019

Twelve Michael Best Attorneys Honored as 2019 Utah Legal Elite

**PUBLICATION**

February 12, 2019

Regulation A Now Available to Public Companies

**PUBLICATION**

January 14, 2019

Navigating Federal Securities Laws as the Federal Government Shutdown Continues

**PUBLICATION**

October 11, 2018

Practice What You Preach: Having Cybersecurity Policies and Procedures That Don't Do What They Are Supposed To Do Can Result in Fines