

## DETROIT

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## CHICAGO

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## WASHINGTON, D.C.

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## Services

Public Finance

- Airports
- Capital Assets and Infrastructure
- Distressed Municipalities and Debt Restructuring
- Economic Development
- Public-Private Partnerships

## Industries

Government and Public Sector

## Education

University of Michigan Law School,  
J.D., 1982

University of Michigan, Ford  
School of Public Policy, M.P.P.,  
1983

University of Michigan, A.B., 1979



**Michael P. McGee**

Senior Counsel

Mike is a senior member of Miller Canfield's Public Finance group, with primary responsibility for general obligation and revenue bond issues amounting to more than \$3.5 billion. With degrees in economics and public policy in addition to law, he brings a unique perspective to his broad legal experience in structuring transactions. He has served as team leader and responsible principal on a wide range of public finance projects including infrastructure financing and refinancing, restructuring actions, compliance review, intergovernmental agreements and public entity creation, operation, and financing.

He served as the firm's CEO from 2013 to 2021. Under his leadership, the firm renewed and strengthened its commitment to law firm diversity, equity and inclusion, becoming the only Michigan-based firm, and one of only 24 nationwide, to have earned Mansfield Plus Certification for three years in a row. Certification is awarded to law firms that meet high standards for significant representation of women, people of color and LGBTQ+ attorneys in firm leadership roles. Additionally, during McGee's tenure as CEO, the firm expanded capacity in the rapidly growing autonomous and connected vehicles sector and the aerospace and defense industry, and grew its footprint domestically and internationally, forging alliances through North and South America and adding offices in Washington, D.C., California, Ohio and Qatar.

## Representative Matters

Mike has served as bond counsel on behalf of cities, counties, townships, authorities, and governmental entities of all types, and as underwriters' counsel in hundreds of transactions covering all areas of public infrastructure finance. In addition, he has negotiated complex intergovernmental agreements for a wide

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### Bar Admissions

Illinois

Michigan

variety of clients, including major economic development projects and related legislation.

- Represented a Michigan county in both formulating legislation and crafting the public-private intergovernmental agreement between two counties, four cities, and three townships to establish an aerotropolis aimed at attracting logistics, transportation and manufacturing firms to transportation hubs and other regional facilities.
- Acted as bond counsel on a \$1 billion financing for airport improvements.
- Crafted legislation enabling creation and financing of a regional convention authority.
- Represented cities in respect of local government emergency management laws.

### Honors

*Michigan Lawyers Weekly* Leaders in the Law Lawyer of the Year, 2023

Michigan Municipal League, Special Award of Merit, Outstanding Service Award

Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, Regional Ambassador Award

Best Lawyers in America, Public Finance Law, 2010-present; 2025 Lawyer of the Year; 2022 Detroit Public Finance Lawyer of the Year

Michigan Super Lawyers, Bonds/Government Finance, 2006-present

*DBusiness Magazine*, Top Lawyers:

Banking & Financial Service Law

Municipal Law

Public Finance

Leading Lawyers, Governmental, Municipal, Lobbying & Administrative Law; Public Finance Law, 2014–present

### Professional Activities

American Bar Association

National Association of Bond Lawyers

State Bar of Michigan, Government Law Section, Board Member

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Michigan Municipal League

Michigan Townships Association

Michigan Government Finance Officers Association

Michigan Association of County Administrative Officers

Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners

Law360 Michigan Editorial Advisory Board

### **Civic, Cultural & Social Activities**

U.S. Naval Institute

Michigan Municipal League Foundation, Board of Directors, 2019-present; Chair, 2025-present

The Right Place, Board of Directors, 2017-2022

Detroit Regional Chamber, Board of Directors, 2013-2021; Executive Committee, 2016-2021; Chair, Nominating & Governance Committee, 2016-2021; Member, 2016-2021

Citizens Research Council of Michigan, Chair, 2021-2022; Vice Chair, 2017-2021; Board of Directors, 2011-2023; Trustees Council, 2023-present; Chair, Nominating Committee, 2018-2021

Turnaround Management Association, Michigan Chapter, Board of Directors, 2011

Detroit Regional Chamber, Leadership Detroit XIV Graduate

Rotary International Foundation, GSE Member

Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), Past vice-chairman

Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, Past Alumni Board member

Livonia City Council, 1992–1998

### **Speeches**

"Local Government Fiscal Stress Management—The Michigan Experience," UM Taubman School, Urban Planning, Guest Lecturer, 2013-present

"Leadership," St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce, November 17, 2025

"Leadership," Michigan Municipal League Convention, September 17, 2025

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"Leadership," National League of Cities State League Executive Directors & Deputies Workshop, August 5, 2025

"City Management Ethics in an Era of Division," 2024 Michigan Municipal Executives Winter Institute, January 30, 2024

"Voting Rights & Racial Justice: What's at Stake and What Law Firms and Companies Can Do," Panelist, Law Firm Antiracism Alliance webinar, May 12, 2021

"The Way Forward: A Plan for Boosting Diversity and Inclusion in Law Firms," Michigan Lawyers Weekly webinar, Oct. 20, 2020

"Emergency Management as an Alternative to Bankruptcy," 2013 ABA Annual Convention, San Francisco, Calif, August 10, 2013

"Emergency Manager Law - Rules of Emergency Managers, Public Sector Accounting Issues and Update of the Status of Emergency Manager Legislation," Turnaround Management Association, March 1, 2012

"Climate Law and Policy Mid-Year Briefing," Miller Canfield Cappuccino with Council Series, September 14, 2010

"Understanding Tax Increment Finance: The Legal Basics," 2010 Economic Development Finance Conference, Detroit, Mich, March 30, 2010

## Publications

Interview with Michigan Radio, "Michigan cities team up to offset 'fundamentally unsustainable' municipal finance system," July 19, 2016

"PACE programs, growth of green building due diligence take spotlight," (Co-authors Mark J. Bennett and Eric M. Jamison), Michigan Lawyers Weekly, April 19, 2010

"Intergovernmental Cooperation—Myths and Realities," Michigan Municipal Review, July/August 2010

"Brave New World: The Changing World of Municipal Finance," Public Corporation Law Quarterly, State Bar of Michigan, Spring 2010

"The Lawyer and the Bridge: How a Public Corporation Lawyer Saved the Mackinac Bridge," Public Corporation Law Quarterly, State Bar of Michigan, Summer 2007

"Government Entities Brace for an Accounting Tidal Wave," Hot Points, Fall 2006

"Financing Stormwater Facilities – or - Through the Looking Glass, Again," Michigan Municipal Review, July/August 2003

"Ethics," a chapter within the Michigan Municipal League's Handbook for Municipal Officials, most recently published in 2003

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**Articles**

Michigan Legislature Passes Package of Bills Implementing Proposal 2

Supreme Court Upholds State Courts' Power of Judicial Review Over Election Matters

The Miller Canfield Michigan Election Law Guide is Here

Michigan Election Law Reform: Status of the 2021 Michigan Election Reform Package