

Erika Weiss brings a unique perspective to corporate clients in transactions and other business matters when it comes to risk mitigation, having previously practiced as a commercial litigator. A descendant of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Erika is co-founder of the firm's Native American Law and Policy group, focusing on providing organizational and strategic guidance and legal services to tribal businesses.

Erika's experience is diverse and includes American Indian Tribal law ranging from government services such as ordinance, code and regulatory drafting and enforcement, to both gaming and non-gaming economic development.

Having experience in both the tribal government and tribal economic development sectors allows Erika to offer tribal business clients comprehensive counseling on organizational structure and strategic economic development. She is able to bridge the gap between tribal and non-tribal businesses seeking to work together so that non-tribal businesses understand the complexities, nuances, and benefits of working with tribal businesses.

Erika also has experience in commercial and business litigation as well as securities litigation. She is able to utilize her litigation experience to advise and counsel corporate clients on risk mitigation across an array of matters, from entity formation to merger, acquisition, and disposition transactions.

As the daughter of an entrepreneur, Erika understands the operational pressures of running a business. It is with this understanding that she is able to advise corporate clients to assist in achieving both their legal and professional goals.

Erika frequently represents the firm at national conferences and on panel discussions regarding economic development in Indian Country. She has also recently launched a firm-supported podcast discussing tribal economic development. Together with her co-host, Erika discusses tribal economic development organizational structure, strategic planning, and transaction due diligence with more to come.

## Honors

The Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch, 2021

# **Erika Weiss**

#### Associate

171 Monroe Avenue N.W. Suite 1000 Grand Rapids, MI 49503-2694

P616-742-3984 F616-742-3999

erika.weiss@btlaw.com

www.linkedin.com/in/ erikapweiss/

# **EDUCATION**

Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D., magna cum laude, 2014 Grand Valley State University, B.A., 2011

#### BAR ADMISSIONS

Michigan

## **COURT ADMISSIONS**

U.S District Court for the Western District of Michigan

Yavapai Apache Nation Tribal Court

## PRACTICES

Construction

Native American Law and Policy

Insurance Recovery and Counseling

Corporate

#### INDUSTRIES

Charter Schools and School Innovation

Education

#### LANGUAGES

English