



Joseph F. Strength
Partner

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PRACTICE AREAS

Bond Transactions
Business Transactions
Commercial Real Estate
Economic Development
Logistics
Real Estate
Zoning / Land Use

INDUSTRIES

Hospitality & Retail
Logistics & Supply Chain
Real Estate

LICENSED IN

Alabama
Georgia

EDUCATION

University of Alabama School of Law: J.D.,
with honors, 1995
University of Alabama: B.A., International
Studies, 1992

EXPERIENCE

Joey Strength is a partner at HunterMaclean, practicing primarily in real estate and development law and business transactions.

He is a trusted advisor for his clients, ranging from individuals to publicly traded companies, and provides them quality legal representation and advice across a broad range of areas. Joey seeks to learn about and understand his clients' personal and business needs and find creative solutions to their legal problems.

Joey represents individuals and large and small corporate clients in a broad range of industries. He is a connector, bringing in other HunterMaclean attorneys when needed to assist clients with a wide variety of legal needs.

Joey regularly represents buyers and sellers in structuring, negotiating, and consummating commercial and residential real estate transactions; advises developers in connection with site selection, due diligence, contract negotiation, zoning and land use regulation, property acquisition, closing, and subdivision and condominium development; represents borrowers and lenders in secured transactions; represents landlords and tenants in leasing transactions; guides clients through conservation projects and like-kind real estate exchanges; and represents property owners in ad valorem tax appeals. Joey's broad real estate experience includes residential, commercial, mixed-use, resort, timber, office, retail, shopping center, hotel, and hospitality projects.

Joey has achieved the highest possible Martindale-Hubbell peer review rating (AV/5.0) and has been recognized by the St. Simons Land Trust for his support of conservation efforts on St. Simons Island and by the Golden Isles Association of Realtors for his exceptional work within the real estate community.

Joey attended the University of Alabama, where he graduated from the College of Arts and Sciences, with Phi Beta Kappa distinction, and the School of Law, with honors. Upon graduation from the College of Arts and Sciences, Joey was awarded the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Medallion, the University of Alabama's premier senior award. Following graduation from law school, he entered the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps and was assigned to Fort Hood, Texas, where he served as a legal assistance attorney, military prosecutor, and a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Texas.

He is a member of the American Bar Association, the State Bar of Georgia, the State Bar of Alabama, and the American Land Title Association.

AFFILIATIONS

American Bar Association

State Bar of Georgia: Real Property Law
Section, Executive Committee, 2021-2024

State Bar of Alabama

American Land Title Association

Southeast Land Title Association

COMMUNITY WORK

Leadership Southeast Georgia: Class of
2016-2017

United Way of the Coastal Empire: Past
Board Member

Brunswick Downtown Development
Authority: Past Board Member

Golden Isles Youth Orchestra: Board of
Trustees, Past Member

St. Simons Land Trust: Past Board
Member

United Way of Coastal Georgia: Past
Board Member

St. Marks Towers: Past Board Member

St. Simons Presbyterian Church: Past
Trustee

Frederica Academy: Past Board Member

City of Brunswick Audit Committee: Past
Committee Member

RECOGNITION

Best Lawyers in America: Real Estate Law,
2020-2026

Georgia Trend Magazine Legal Elite:
2016-2017; 2021; 2024-2025

Martindale-Hubbell: AV Rated

St. Simons Land Trust: Dorothy Gilbert
Award

Joey is married to Rev. Deanie Strength, and they have two children.

REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

- Represented nonprofit land trust in negotiation, due diligence, and drafting of conservation easement related to the purchase of Cannon's Point on St. Simons Island, one of the most significant conservation projects in the United States in 2012.
- Represented a public timber company in multiple purchase and sale transactions involving thousands of acres across Georgia.
- Represented Fortune 400 company in the negotiation, due diligence, and purchase of 90 acre industrial site, including negotiation of a tax abatement with local development authority and county, and negotiation of leases.
- Represented corporate purchaser in the purchase of 700 acre multi-use tract in Savannah, Georgia, including an operating sand mine.
- Represented individual purchaser in the purchase of 10,000 acre quail plantation and club in south Georgia.
- Represented individual seller in the sale of 2,000 acre quail plantation and retreat in south Georgia and north Florida.
- Represented seller in closing of sale of 20,000 +/- acre timber and recreational tract in Glynn County and Camden County, Georgia.
- Represented group of family members in the consolidation, preparation for sale, and negotiation of sale of 17,000 +/- acre timber and development land.
- Member of legal team representing Sea Island Company in the sale of the Cloister Hotel, the Lodge, and all of its related real estate assets.
- Represented buyer in the negotiation of a purchase contract, and carrying out of related due diligence, related to the purchase of a 40,000 +/- square foot office building, and renegotiation of leases.
- Represented buyer in the negotiation, due diligence, and closing of 72,000 +/- square foot office building, including negotiation and assignment of leases.
- Represented buyer in the closing of 100,000 +/- square foot shopping cen-

Golden Isles Association of Realtors:
Extra Mile Award

ter, including negotiation and assignment of leases.

- Represented buyer in the negotiation, due diligence, and closing of 300+ unit apartment complex, including the negotiation and assignment of leases.
- Represented lenders or borrowers in hundreds of residential and commercial loan closings, with loans ranging from several hundred thousand dollars to over \$500 million.
- Represented developers of dozens of residential and commercial subdivisions and condominium developments in Coastal Georgia.
- Represented numerous property owners in connection with land use and zoning ordinance analysis, rezoning actions, site plan approvals, development approvals, and variances.