

## **CONTACT**



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## PRACTICE AREAS

Land Use/Real
Estate/Redevelopment
Airport Law

Commercial Transactions
Commercial Litigation

Municipal/Public Bodies Law

#### **EDUCATION**

Rutgers School of Law, J.D. Monmouth University, B.A.

#### **ADMISSIONS**

**New Jersey** 

U.S. District Court, District of New Jersey

U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit

U.S. Supreme Court

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

New Jersey State Bar Association

New Jersey Institute of Local Government Attorneys

New Jersey Aviation Association American Association of Airport Executives

# Steven C. Rother Shareholder

#### Overview

## Land Use Accommodations Blog

Steven Rother brings more than forty years' experience to clients involved in complex transactions involving a broad range of business and property types. He garnered that experience both in the practice of law and by holding executive positions at the highest levels at firms involved in debt and equity finance.

#### Experience

Following law school and a Superior Court clerkship, Steve held positions as Assistant Corporation Counsel for the City of Newark and as General Counsel for the City's Redevelopment and Housing Authority. In those positions he was involved in major redevelopment projects, which included the development/construction by the Rockefeller Group of a new headquarters for New Jersey Public Service Electric and Gas, and numerous multifamily projects financed with tax-exempt securities. Steve left those positions to join Manhattan-based Related Companies, a national real estate developer and syndicator. At Related, Steve formed two affiliates: a commercial mortgage bank and an NASD municipal securities broker/dealer. Steve was a principal in and





served as President of both entities. He had the mortgage banking entity qualified as an FHA project lender and a Ginnie Mae issuer. The firm served both Related and third parties.

After serving Related for fourteen years, Steve purchased the mortgage-servicing portfolio from Related and formed his own mortgage banking firm. Utilizing FHA mortgage insurance and Ginnie Mae securities, the firm created a specialty financing nursing homes and assisted living residences. In addition, the firm engaged in numerous multifamily conduit financings. In four short years, that firm grew its portfolio so that Steve was able to merge his firm with the mortgage banking affiliate of Heartland Bank. In the process, Steve became President of that entity, which had eight offices throughout the country.

In 1999 Steve made a career change and joined a startup healthcare company as its General Counsel. That firm rapidly grew through acquisitions and new construction of nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Steve handled all legal aspects of acquisition and construction, including the financing thereof. In addition, Steve handled land use applications for newly constructed facilities in New Jersey. In so doing he developed a means to secure approvals for the construction of facilities in high-end residential zones by pursuing fair housing claims in the federal courts. Since then, Steve has expanded upon that approach to land use and secured approvals for drug and alcohol treatment facilities, AIDS residences and hospices. By the time Steve left in 2003, the company's portfolio had grown to more



than 120 facilities nationwide, including a REIT portfolio that was purchased and taken private.

Steve has now returned to the private practice of law at Post Polak, where he brings his wide-ranging experience to benefit the firm's clients, resolving their problems and advancing their business interests. In addition to practicing law, for the past twelve years he has served as the Chairman of the Essex County Improvement Authority, the public and private financing arm of the county, and the owner/operator of the Essex County Airport. Steve now serves as the Executive Director of that authority.

Steve has been included on the list of 2024 Best Lawyers in America in the area of Municipal Law.