

# Michael Sly

## Partner

[sly.michael@dorsey.com](mailto:sly.michael@dorsey.com)

Minneapolis – 612.492.6938



Michael is a Minneapolis-based finance partner who provides practical legal and strategic counsel to businesses, private credit funds, banks and other investors across the U.S. and abroad in complex financing and other commercial transactions.

Michael has represented corporate and cooperative borrowers, private credit funds, banks and sponsors on varying structures including syndicated credit facilities, mezzanine and junior capital finance, unitranche and direct lending, private placements, sponsor-backed finance, project finance and workouts. Michael's experience spans several industries including data centers and infrastructure, agribusiness, energy, manufacturing, healthcare, cross-border transactions and beyond.

Michael approaches transactions with a focus on value creation, structural advantage and intentional risk management. Clients rely on his practical, solutions-oriented advice through structuring, negotiation, closing, modification and restructuring. Michael draws on the full Dorsey platform to leverage its best experts to address specialized legal issues and to assemble efficient multidisciplinary teams in demanding situations.

Michael is active in the community, among other activities serving as a board member for Northern Star Scouting. He also represents clients pro bono through Children's Law Center of Minnesota. He regularly presents on finance and legal matters in commercial transactions, especially involving private credit, agricultural lending and cooperative finance.

## Select Experience

Selected transactions Michael has led include the following. Transaction amounts are approximate.

**Private Credit and Sponsor-backed Finance.** Michael advises senior- and junior-capital holders (including many SBICs) on direct, unitranche and sponsor-backed

## Education

- University of St. Thomas School of Law (Juris Doctor, 2015)  
– *cum laude*
- Julius-Maximilians Universität Würzburg, Germany (LL.M., Eur. (Master's in European Law), 2015)
- Concordia College, Moorhead (B.A., 2011)  
– *cum laude*

## Bar Admissions

- Minnesota
- North Dakota
- New York

transactions involving debt financing arrangements. His primary focus is on lower-middle-market and middle-market deals involving secured and unsecured commercial finance transactions and equity co-investments.

- Represented a private fund as agent in a \$100 million term loan unitranche investment with equity co-investment supporting a sponsor-backed HVAC platform and numerous add-on acquisitions, including subsequent workout matters.
- Represented a bank as senior lender in an \$85 million term loan, \$10 million revolving loan syndicated facility to an industrial gases business involving an acquisition, a delayed draw facility and a preferred investor counterparty.
- Represented an SBIC as administrative agent on a \$35 million secured credit and term loan facility involving split collateral, an agreement among lenders, significant acquisition activity, a sponsored borrower, equity co-investment, and titled collateral.

## Clerkships

- United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of North Dakota, Honorable Shon Hastings, 2015–2017

## Accolades

- *Best Lawyers®* Ones to Watch in America, 2021-2026

## Court Admissions

- U.S. District Court for the District of Minnesota
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Minnesota
- U.S. District Court for the District of North Dakota
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of North Dakota

## Languages

- German