

Nathan Canova

Partner

canova.nathan@dorsey.com

Salt Lake City – 801.933.4005

Minneapolis



Nate structures and negotiates complex debt financing transactions to help clients fund capital projects for nonprofits, governments and corporate borrowers.

Operating at the intersection of institutional lending and public debt offerings, Nate advises underwriters on public debt offerings and lenders on direct loan, direct purchase (private placement) and large credit facility transactions. He also represents borrowers, issuers, trustees, advisors and others involved in financing transactions and the municipal market. Nate regularly serves as bank counsel, lender's counsel, underwriter's counsel, placement agent counsel, borrower's counsel, bond counsel, disclosure counsel, special federal tax counsel, and issuer's counsel. In every role, Nate collaborates with clients and deal teams to provide practical advice and move transactions to successful closings.

His practice centers primarily on nonprofit finance matters, including tax-exempt and taxable conduit revenue bond financings, with particular depth in 501(c)(3) healthcare, senior living, higher education, charter and private school, and housing projects, and financings for Indian tribes and qualified volunteer fire departments. He is also recognized nationally for his work on tax-exempt installment purchase, lease-purchase, and other municipal lease financings used to finance the acquisition, construction, equipping, and installation of essential government buildings, facilities, equipment, and other real and personal property.

Beyond conduit revenue and lease financings, Nate counsels with clients and works on traditional revenue bond and general obligation bond financings for state and local government projects and New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) financings. He also has experience supporting clients engaged in real estate development projects that leverage public funding—including professional sports stadiums, hotels, and convention centers.

Education

- Drake University Law School (J.D., 2013)
 - *High Honors*
 - Drake Law Review
 - Business Law Certificate
 - CALI Awards – Securities Regulation and Nonprofit Entities
- Drake University (M.B.A., 2013)
- Weber State University (B.A., 2009)
 - *Dean's List*

Bar Admissions

- Minnesota
- Iowa
- Utah

Nate also enjoys counseling with nonprofit organizations on a pro bono basis.

Nate serves as General Counsel of the Association for Governmental Leasing & Finance and is a member of and regular presenter at the meetings of the National Association of Bond Lawyers.

Select Experience

- Served as bank counsel in connection with the issuance of \$27,000,000 Arizona Industrial Development Authority Economic Development Revenue Obligations (Zenith STAR Project), Series 2026.
- Served as issuer's counsel in connection with the issuance of \$71,105,000 Utah Charter School Finance Authority Charter School Revenue Bonds (Utah Charter Academies Project), Series 2026A.
- bond counsel in connection with the issuance of \$55,800,000 City of Lino Lakes, Minnesota, Senior Housing Revenue Refunding Note, Series 2026 (Lyngblomsten at Lino Lakes Project).
- Served as borrower's counsel in connection with the issuance of \$78,200,000 Utah Charter School Finance Authority Charter School Revenue Refunding Bonds (Syracuse Arts Academy Project), Series 2026.

Languages

- Spanish

Professional Affiliations

- Member, National Association of Bond Lawyers
- General Counsel, Association for Governmental Leasing & Finance

Accolades

- *Chambers USA*, Public Finance, Utah, 2025-2026
- *Best Lawyers® Ones to Watch in America*, Public Finance Law, 2025-2027
- Consistently providing pro bono legal assistance to those in need through Dorsey's Pro Bono program
- MSBA, North Star Lawyer, 2015-2016

Legal Writing

- *Greening the Traditional Commercial Lease: Building a Case for Sustainable Commercial Real Estate through Economically Profitable Green Leases*, 61 Drake L. Rev. 883 (Spring 2013)