



Benming Zhang
Associate

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Benny's practice focuses on commercial, estate planning, and real estate. A past elected member of the Williamsburg City Council, Benny leverages his unique experiences, his entrepreneurial acumen, and his legal skillset in assisting his clients accomplish their objectives and challenges. His clients range from domestic and international public corporations to privately-held businesses to individuals.

Benny's commercial practice includes the formation of entities and joint ventures, contract development, initial public offerings (IPOs), SEC compliance issues, private equity, securities offerings and regulation, counseling small businesses, and general corporate governance. He is a member of the firm's Securities Team.

Benny is also a member of the firm's Estate, Trust, and Wealth Transfer team where his practice includes advising, preparing, and implementing thoughtful and efficient estate plans for clients, and assisting clients in the probate and administration of estates and the administration, modification, and termination of trusts. He also serves as Assistant Commissioner of Accounts for the Counties of Surry and Sussex.

Benny's real estate practice includes structuring acquisition entities, zoning/permitting, acquisition/development financing, and leasing for commercial, single-family, multi-family, mixed-use, and industrial projects.

Benny currently serves as President of the Williamsburg Bar Association and remains extensively involved in the Hampton Roads region serving on numerous boards. He values the personal relationships involved in assisting clients.

PRACTICE AREAS

- Commercial
- Real Estate Strategies
- Eminent Domain
- Estate, Trust & Wealth Transfer

RECOGNITION AND HONORS

- Taylor Reveley Award; Wiliam & Mary Law School, 2025
- Best Lawyers in America; "Ones to Watch," 2025
- Virginia Rising Stars, Virginia Super Lawyers, 2023-2025
- 15 Under 50, Williamsburg Chamber of Commerce, 2023
- NextGen Award; CoVaBIZ Magazine, 2022

RECOGNITION AND HONORS (CONT.)

- Asian Centennial Commemorative Presidential Citation, College of William & Mary, 2022
- Top 40 Under 40, Inside Business, 2021
- Williamsburg City Council; Council Member, 2016-2020
- Thurgood Marshall Award; William & Mary Law School
- American Bar Association State and Local Government Award
- Center for the Study of Law and Markets Fellowship
- William & Mary Property Rights Fellowship
- l'Anson-Hoffman American Inn of Court
- William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal; Editorial Board
- Brigham-Kanner Property Rights Conference Journal; Editorial Board

ASSOCIATIONS

- Assistant Commissioner of Accounts; 6th Judicial Circuit, Virginia
- Williamsburg Bar Association; President
- Literacy for Life; President, 2017-present
- WHRO; Governing Board of Directors, Director
- Williamsburg Community Foundation; Trustee
- American Planning Association; Virginia Chapter
- TowneBank; Williamsburg Regional Board, Member

PAST LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

- Chesapeake Bank Peninsula Business Advisory Board; Member
- William & Mary Asian Centennial Committee; Member
- Hampton Roads Chamber's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee; Member
- Hampton Roads Alliance; 757 Recovery Placing Making & Marketing, 2020
- Virginia Transit Association; Vice President, 2018-2020
- Virginia First Cities; Board of Directors, 2017-2020
- Greater Williamsburg Chamber & Tourism Alliance – Business Council; Board of Directors, 2018-2020
- Olde Towne Medical & Dental Center; Board of Directors, 2016-2020
- 2019 Commemoration First Representative Assembly Committee, 2016-2019
- Governor-Elect Transition Policy Council on Local Government, 2017
- Virginia Municipal League Legislative Committee; Vice-Chair, 2017-2019
- Greater Peninsula Workforce Development Consortium; Board of Directors, 2016-2018
- City of Williamsburg Public Housing Advisory Committee, 2012-2019

ADMISSIONS

- Virginia

EDUCATION

- The College of William & Mary; B.A., 2016
- William & Mary Law School, J.D., 2020

PRESS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Kaufman & Canoles Attorneys: 13 Named as Super Lawyers & 5 Named as Virginia Rising Stars in Virginia Super Lawyers & Rising Stars 2025
- 55 Kaufman & Canoles Attorneys Named Best Lawyers in America 2025, 7 Named "Lawyer of the Year," and 13 Named "Ones to Watch"
- 15 Kaufman & Canoles Attorneys Named as Super Lawyers and 5 Named as Virginia Rising Stars 2024
- 16 Kaufman & Canoles Attorneys Named as Super Lawyers & 4 Named as Rising Stars
- Benming Zhang Named Top Forty Under 40 by Inside Business
- Credit Union Client Alert – Wells Fargo Must Pay \$250 Million Fine, September 2021
- Credit Union Client Alert – CFPB Technical Specifications for Credit Card Issuers, August 2021
- Consumer Finance Client Alert – CFPB Reasserts its Authority to Oversee/Supervise Lending to Military Personnel, June 2021