Bernice H. Cilley

Senior Counsel

Richmond

bernice.cilley@troutman.com

D 804.697.1462



OVERVIEW

Bernice Cilley focuses her practice on counseling mortgage banking clients in the origination, sale and servicing of loan transactions sold to secondary market investors — primarily Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, as well as other financial institutions and securitization program participants. She is a member of a national team of attorneys and dedicated real estate professionals who provide end-to-end guidance and management for thousands of transactions originated by mortgage lending clients every year. Bernice represents lenders of Fannie Mae's Delegated Underwriting and Servicing (DUS) product line and Freddie Mac's Capital Markets Execution (CME) program. She has significant experience with the full range of agency loan products.

The Multifamily Housing Finance practice is known for its industry-leading knowledge and experience. Clients rely on the team to utilize the experience garnered from thousands of closings to offer fresh insight and creative problem-solving to their most difficult transactions. The team's approach to efficiency and process management has helped it become widely known as the top legal team for multifamily finance in the United States.

AWARDS

- Recognized in Law & Politics' *Super Lawyers, Corporate Counsel Edition* and as a *Virginia Super Lawyer* in Real Estate (2006-2012, 2014-2016)
- *Best Lawyers in America*®: Banking and Finance Law (2023-2024), Real Estate Law (2012-2024)

TOP AREAS OF FOCUS

- Loan Originations
- Multifamily Housing Finance
- Servicing Transactions

PROFESSIONAL/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Mortgage Bankers Association of America
- American College of Mortgage Attorneys

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- Virginia Bar Association
- American Bar Association, Section of Real Property, Probate and Trust Law

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS

EDUCATION

- William & Mary Law School, J.D., 1987
- University of South Carolina, *magna cum laude*, 1979

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Virginia

PUBLICATIONS

- “Shopping Center Leases,” Landlord/Tenant Law and Practice Handbook.
- “Title Insurance,” National Business Institute.
- “Same Rules – New Applications: Ethical Obligations and Practice Technology,” Probate and Property Magazine, March/April 1995.