

Jeff Michalczak

Resource Attorney



jmichalczak@cooley.com

+1 212 479 6742

New York

Debt Finance Private Equity Capital Markets Pro Bono

Jeff is a finance lawyer and educator with more than two decades of experience guiding clients through complex lending and investment transactions. His practice spans the life cycle of fund finance, leveraged by acquisition lending and structured credit, with a focus on delivering clear, business-minded counsel to financial institutions, funds and corporate borrowers. Known for his collaborative style and steady leadership, Jeff brings an educator's mindset to his work, mentoring teams, empowering clients and fostering shared understanding to drive successful outcomes.

Jeff focuses on fund finance, leveraged and acquisition lending, net asset value and hybrid facilities, and structured credit, with deep experience across subscription lines, bilateral and syndicated facilities, and cross-border financings. He has served as lead counsel on high-value transactions, guiding clients from term sheet through closing with a focus on clarity, efficiency and practical risk management. His experience includes in-house roles at banking and investment management institutions, as well as a secondment in Mumbai, India, where he advised on project finance matters at a leading Indian law firm.

Before entering the legal profession, Jeff taught high school mathematics and served as a student teacher in Mallorca, Spain. He holds a master of theological studies and certificate in theology, medicine and culture from Duke Divinity School and has pursued a range of service and educational initiatives, including studying civil disobedience with inmates at the Butner Federal Correctional Complex, serving as a hospital chaplain at UNC Medical Center and hosting the weekly radio show "Transmissions from the Mission."

Jeff is deeply committed to pro bono work, particularly in the areas of civil rights and nonprofit development. He has served as a board member and director of legal services for an anti-trafficking nonprofit, a trained community mediator with the New York Peace Institute, and a child advocate with both the Legal Aid Society and the Fulton County Juvenile Court. He also mentors high school and college students and brings an educator's mindset to his legal practice, fostering understanding, mentoring teams and building trusted relationships with clients.

Education

Duke Divinity School Master of Theological Studies, 2017

University of Chicago Law School JD, 2004

The College of New Jersey BA, Mathematics, magna cum laude, 1999

Admissions & Credentials

Texas

New York

New Jersey