



## BRIANNE K. SZOPINSKI

Senior Associate

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Brianne is a member of the Real Estate and Finance Practice, where she represents clients in various commercial and real estate matters, including banking and finance, public-private partnerships, real estate development and real estate leasing.

Brianne's experience includes significant work with renewable energy projects, including large-scale projects permitted under Article 10 and Executive Law § 94-c, and community solar and community wind projects. Her work involves all real estate aspects of projects, including negotiating site control documentation, crossing and easement agreements, reviewing title and title curatives, construction financing requirements, and also includes providing due diligence in support of project and portfolio acquisitions.

Prior to joining Hodgson Russ served as a summer law clerk for U.S. Magistrate Judge Jonathan W. Feldman in Rochester, New York.

### Honors

- Listed, *Upstate New York Super Lawyers* Rising Stars (Real Estate) 2022-2023
- Order of the Coif
- Managing Editor of the *Syracuse Law Review*
- Associate Member of the Moot Court Honor Society
- Member of the Justinian Honor Society
- CALI Excellence for the Future Award Winner: Commercial Real Estate (2018); Real Estate Transactions (2017); Legal Communications and Research III (2016); Legal Communications and Research I (2015)

The Guaranty Building  
140 Pearl Street  
Suite 100  
Buffalo, NY 14202

### Practices & Industries

Banking & Finance  
Construction  
Environmental  
Public-Private Partnerships  
Real Estate Development  
Real Estate Leasing  
Renewable Energy

### Admissions

New York

### Education

State University of New York at Geneseo, B.A.

Syracuse University College of Law:  
J.D., magna cum laude

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## **Experience**

Hodgson Russ represented the Collateral Agent in connection with an approximately \$27 million syndicated construction loan. The transaction involved the construction of a mixed use facility, and the capital stack for the development included brownfield tax credits and various state and local tax incentives.

Hodgson Russ represented a sponsor in connection with a \$40 million dividend recapitalization financing of a group of manufacturing companies. A syndicate of lenders provided term and revolving debt. Existing mezzanine financing was amended to accommodate the transaction.

## **In the News**

Thought Leaders - We are in a better place than we were one year ago  
*Buffalo Business First*, March 26, 2021

Largest Buffalo commercial real estate law firms 2020  
*Buffalo Business First*, September 11, 2020

## **Press Releases**

55 Hodgson Russ LLP Attorneys Named to 2023 *Upstate New York Super Lawyers* List  
August 23, 2023

Fifty-Nine Hodgson Russ Attorneys Ranked in 2022 Edition of *Upstate New York Super Lawyers*  
*Hodgson Russ Press Release*, August 23, 2022

New Attorneys Join Hodgson Russ  
*Press Release*, March 8, 2019

## **Publications**

New York Public Service Commission Commences Grid of the Future Proceeding  
*Hodgson Russ Renewable Energy Alert*, April 23, 2024

Appellate Court Clarifies Scope of Required CLCPA Compliance and Confirms Ripeness Under SAPA for Challenges to Agency Declaratory Rulings  
*Hodgson Russ Renewable Energy Alert*, April 3, 2024

EPA Finalizes Standards Impacting Hazardous Air Pollution Emissions at Gasoline Distribution Facilities  
*Hodgson Russ Environment & Energy Alert*, March 29, 2024

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**Inter-Agency Fire Safety Working Group Releases Proposed Revisions to NYS Fire Code Related to Battery Energy Storage Systems**

*Hodgson Russ Renewable Energy Alert*, February 22, 2024

**Applicant's Partial Loss of Site Control Results in First ORES Denial of Section 94-c Permit Application**

*Hodgson Russ Renewable Energy Alert*, February 20, 2024

**NYSDEC Releases New Draft Guidance Related to Discharges of PFOA, PFOS and 1,4-Dioxane for Public Review and Comment**

*Hodgson Russ Environmental Alert*, January 25, 2024

**FY 2025 Executive Budget: Governor Hochul Proposes to Expedite and Consolidate Environmental Review and Permitting for Major Renewable Electric Generation and Transmission Facilities**

*Hodgson Russ Renewable Energy Alert*, January 23, 2024

**National Grid Petition Seeks Retroactive Cost Increases From Multiple Solar Projects, Ability to Increase Costs on Future Projects**

*Hodgson Russ Renewable Energy Alert*, January 16, 2024

**NYSERDA Reports on the Impacts of the Inflation Reduction Act and Submits Proposal Stretching Funding for Additional Solar Capacity**

*Hodgson Russ Renewable Energy Alert*, January 11, 2024

**2024 Draft Solar and Wind Valuation Model Under Real Property Tax Law § 575-b Released for Public Comment**

*Hodgson Russ Renewable Energy & Municipal Alert*, January 3, 2024

**Presentations & Events**

39th Annual School Client Conference

M-Hotel Buffalo, 2040 Walden Ave, Buffalo, NY 14225, January 12, 2024

37th Annual School Client Conference

Buffalo Niagara Marriott, 1340 Millersport Hwy, Amherst, NY 14221, May 6, 2022

School Client Conference Webinar Series 2021

January 15, 22, and 29

**Community & Pro Bono**

- Listed, *Upstate New York Super Lawyers* Rising Stars (Real Estate) 2022
- Board member, Girls Education Collaborative