

Michael Riela

Michael Riela advises clients in complex data privacy, cybersecurity, corporate restructuring, M&A, financing, and litigation matters. He is also an experienced business attorney, advising both clients in general corporate, finance and litigation matters, including negotiating and drafting complex commercial contracts.

Creditors' Rights & Business Reorganization and Insolvency Litigation:

Michael has in-depth experience in advising clients on corporate and real estate workouts, Chapter 11 and Chapter 7 bankruptcy cases, debtor-in-possession (DIP) and bankruptcy exit loan facilities, secondary market trading of distressed debt and trade claims, M&A transactions, insolvency-related litigation, and bankruptcy retention and fee agreements and disputes. Michael focuses on helping clients minimize cost, delay and risk by developing and implementing out-of-court strategies when possible.

Michael's clients primarily include companies and boards of directors, indenture trustees, hedge funds, private equity firms, landlords, professional services firms (including major accounting firms), trade creditors, contract counterparties, plaintiffs and defenses in insolvency-related litigation, and shareholders.

Cybersecurity and Data Privacy:

Michael assists clients identify, evaluate and manage risks associated with their data privacy and security practices. He advises clients on various U.S. federal and state privacy and data security laws and rules, including the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (and the rules promulgated by the SEC and other regulators), the New York State Department of Financial Services cybersecurity regulation, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018 (CCPA), and data security breach notification laws. Michael also advises clients in the US and overseas with respect to the European Union's *General Data Protection Regulation* (GDPR) and with respect to cross-border data transfers.

Michael helps clients evaluate their data security risks, and prepares and helps clients implement security documentation, including written information security programs, systems access policies and incident response plans. After a data breach occurs, Michael assists clients in addressing legal, operational and reputational risks arising from the breach.

Michael is a Certified Information Privacy Professional / United States Private Sector (CIPP/US), a Certified Information Privacy Professional / Europe (CIPP/E) and a Certified Information Privacy Manager (CIPM), which are designations awarded by The International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP).