

Sherry L. Harlan

Rockford, IL

☎ 815-490-4934

✉ sharlan@hinshawlaw.com



About Sherry

Sherry focuses her practice on real estate and general corporate law. She represents small and medium-sized businesses in their general corporate needs, including the development, acquisition, and sale of the business and its real estate. She serves as principal counsel to many family-owned businesses and focuses her real estate counsel on contracts, annexation, leasing, and complex zoning matters.

Sherry also represents many nonprofit entities in the Rockford region in governance, expansion and development, annexation, zoning, construction contracts, and general matters.

Sherry's Affiliations

- Winnebago County Bar Association, Bar Foundation, Past President and Board Member; Real Estate Section, Member and Member at Large
- Rockford Chamber of Commerce, Lead 360, Selected Member

Areas of Focus

Industries: Construction; Real Estate

Services: Business Formation, Governance & Commercial Contracts; Corporate & Transactions; Real Estate Transactions & Lending

Experience

- Served as co-counsel for the asset/stock sale of three family-owned businesses ranging from \$4 million to \$24 million in assets, including real estate.

Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Real Estate Law, 2025 – 2026
- *Rockford Register Star*, 75 People You Should Know, 2018
- Martindale-Hubbell, Distinguished® Peer Review Rating

Credentials

Education

University of Wisconsin Law School, JD, 1987

Illinois Wesleyan University, BA, 1983

Bar Admissions

Illinois

Court Admissions

US District Court for the Northern District of Illinois

Interests

Did you know...

Sherry enjoys botany and landscape design and is an avid skier and cyclist.

Community/Civic Activities

- Rockford Garden Club, Communications Board Member
- Transform Rockford 815 Choose Civility, Co-Founder
- Dean's Action Council for the University of Illinois Rockford School of Medicine, Board Member
- Rockford Public Library Foundation, Former Board Member; Vice-President
- Klehm Arboretum & Botanical Gardens, Former Board Member
- Stepping Stones of Rockford, Inc., Former Board Member

Thought Leadership

In The News

- Sherry Harlan Profiled in the Rockford Register Star: “75 People You Should Know in Rockford”, Apr 13, 2018

Press Releases

- 102 Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2026 Editions of *The Best Lawyers in America*® and *Ones to Watch*™, Aug 21, 2025
- 105 Hinshaw Lawyers Recognized in 2025 Editions of Best Lawyers in America and Ones to Watch, Aug 15, 2024
- Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP Announces Election of 7 New Partners, Jul 2, 2012