STITES & HARBISON PLLC



Ellen Gish

Title: Counsel

Phone: 859-226-2252

Location: Lexington, KY

Email: egish@stites.com

Download: vCard

Ellen Gish is an attorney in the Lexington office in the Construction Services Group. She represents public and private owners, contractors, and subcontractors in all aspects of construction, procurement, and operations. Ellen is also a member of the firm's Data Center Service Group, supporting fast-paced, technologically complex construction and procurement for owners of large-scale data centers.

Ellen regularly advises state and local governmental entities on a broad range of legal and operational matters, including regulatory compliance, contracting, procurement, construction matters, open records requests, board governance, ethics and conflicts of interest. She also advises governmental and private entities on federally funded projects and programs.

Before joining the firm in 2025, Ellen served as Associate General Counsel for the University of Kentucky, where she advised on capital projects, real estate, procurement, operations, data privacy, and charitable gifts. Ellen was a member of the University's Economic Development Collaborative and OneUK task force focused on building business partnerships throughout Kentucky. She also served on the University's ADVANCE Committee, providing campus-wide guidance on the use generative AI in instruction, research, healthcare, and institutional administration.

Ellen's legal experience also includes representing clients in a wide range of complex real estate and corporate transactions. Her diverse experience gives Ellen a practical perspective on the day-to-day legal and operational challenges facing both public and private clients and informs her creative and collaborative approach to problem-solving.

Ellen received her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School (2003) and her undergraduate degree from Cornell University (1998).

CAPABILITIES

Practice Areas

- Construction
- Real Estate
- Data Center Service Group
- Drafting, Reviewing & Negotiating Construction Contracts
- Federal, State & Local Public Construction and Procurement
- Airport Law

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Kentucky

RECENT NEWS, ARTICLES & SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Stites & Harbison, PLLC welcomes attorney Ellen Gish to the firm's Lexington office
  by editor, *The Lane Report*, February 14, 2025

MEMBERSHIPS

- American Bar Association,
  - Forum on Construction Law, Member
- Kentucky Bar Association
- Fayette County Bar Association
- National Association of College and University Attorneys (NACUA),
  - Member (2020-25)

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Kentucky Aquatics, Inc., 501(c)(3), Pool Facility Committee (2023-present)
- U.S.A. Swimming Official, Stroke & Turn certification (2022-present)

- SwimLex Corporation, 501(c)(3), President and founding member
- Sunrise Toastmasters Club (2022-2024)

EDUCATION

- University of Michigan Law School J.D., *cum laude* 2003
- Cornell University B.A., with distinction, American Studies with concentration in Business Marketing and Management, 1998

MORE THAN STITES & HARBISON

In addition to practicing law, Ellen also has served in grant writing, development, gift and estate planning, and fundraising roles for UK Philanthropy and the Lexington Philharmonic. Before attending law school, she worked as a Claims Examiner in the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Vaccine Litigation where she evaluated medical case files and life care plans for attorneys representing U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in claims of personal injuries arising from childhood vaccinations.