

Joe DePapa Receives Master of Laws in Taxation

Written By **C. Joseph DePapa** (cjdepapa@wardandsmith.com)
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Joe DePapa has earned his Master of Laws degree in tax law from the University of Florida, one of the top LL.M programs in the country.

He completed the one-year program while maintaining a full practice as a corporate, securities, and tax attorney.

"Joe is easily one of the most driven and hard-working individuals I've ever met," remarked Ward and Smith's Business Section Practice Leader Lee Hodge. "His ability to balance full-time school with a full-time career emphasizes his dedication to not only the legal profession, but also his passion for helping clients deal with very complex tax and corporate matters. Joe's deep tax expertise will add value to our clients' businesses as we help them navigate corporate and securities transactions."

Joe's practice experience encompasses a broad range of business law issues, including structuring and negotiating all aspects of corporate mergers, stock and asset acquisitions, corporate reorganizations, tax matters, and debt financing and equity funding transactions. Additionally, he assists clients in joint venture arrangements, divestitures, liquidations of corporate assets, and consolidation transactions.

He also works with emerging companies and private businesses to develop creative legal strategies to address their legal challenges and achieve their business goals. His mission is to ensure that every client, from start-up companies to international corporations, is on the right path to success.

Joe is a Certified Public Accountant.