

# Hogan Lovells Adds REIT Tax Lawyer in San Francisco

Josh Scala has joined Hogan Lovells' San Francisco office as a corporate partner in the U.S. Real Estate Investment Trust (REIT) Tax Practice.

Prior to joining the firm, Scala was a principal at Ernst & Young. Before that he worked as a transactional tax attorney at Arnold & Porter in Washington D.C. and San Francisco.

In a release, the firm said Scala's practice is primarily focused on the ownership, development, and disposition of commercial real estate and related federal income tax issues. He has experience in representing both publicly traded and private REITs with respect to debt and equity capital raising activities, mergers and acquisitions, qualification requirements under the REIT tax law, and structuring transactions with developers, property owners, and institutional investors. He has also advised clients in both the real estate and private equity industries in all aspects of complex real estate development transactions, including negotiating joint venture agreements and property acquisitions, structuring ownership vehicles and transactions in a tax-efficient manner, and securing debt and equity financing.

Earlier in his career, Scala served as managing member of a private real estate development company with a focus on the development of planned communities and mixed-use urban infill projects. He also previously worked for a publicly-traded REIT with an investment focus on retail shopping malls. Scala received his JD, summa cum laude, Order of the Coif, from the University of Pennsylvania Law School and graduated from Amherst College.

