

2025 Ones To Watch - Industry Leaders: Scott Vetri, Katten

April 22, 2025 - Spotlights



Scott Vetri Chair, RE Investment & Finance "Scott Vetri is an exceptional real estate attorney, and industry leader. With over thirty years of experience, he has an in-depth understanding of the law and pragmatic business judgment allowing him to deliver balanced, insightful guidance. Scott's timely responsiveness and constant availability reassures clients, making him one of the best in the field." - Susanne Lieu, Senior Vice President, Chief Counsel, Real Estate, Empire State Realty Trust.

Recent goal and impact:

Leading the department through the unprecedented commercial real estate cycles caused by COVID reshaped my management approach. From the shutdowns to a boom driven by low interest rates, followed by a downturn due to rate hikes and the work-from-home trend, the demand for legal services fluctuated rapidly. This required swift adjustments in resource management, including hiring and retention. I learned the importance of balancing immediate needs with building a team that is resilient in the face of an uncertain future and poised for long-term success.

Giving Back:

I consider the Urban Land Institute (ULI) one of the most influential organizations in commercial real estate. I've been involved with ULI through the New York Mixed-Use Council and the ULI New York Awards Committee and Annual Gala. ULI's diverse membership has provided opportunities to connect with senior leaders across the real estate community, including developers, lenders, architects, engineers and government administrators. ULI's programming also includes site tours of new projects and presentations by industry leaders.

Best advice for new leaders:

A successful leader leads by example, valuing the input and experiences of mentors and predecessors.

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