

**CHARLOTTE OFFICE**

**PRACTICE AREAS**

**EDUCATION**

Catholic University of America JD

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

BA

**ADMISSIONS**

North Carolina

Michael Chen concentrates his practice on immigration and international business. He represents U.S. and foreign-owned companies, including clients in the biomedical, manufacturing and distribution, commercial sales, information technology, hospitality, and sports and entertainment industries.

Michael has developed corporate immigration policy guidelines for his clients, as well as onboarding and termination procedures. He has advised on the potential immigration consequences of corporate restructurings and other workforce changes. He has also prepared employment-related visa petitions and applications for permanent residence. He has counseled companies on compliance with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, federal and state labor departments, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and

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| Immigration |
| International Business |
| Employment & Labor |
| Business Expansion & Location  Solutions |
| Mergers, Acquisitions & Joint  Ventures |

other government agencies.

International clients have also turned to Michael for help expanding in the United States. He has assisted companies in integrating top management and other teams into new facilities in multiple states. He has also advised on securing incentives and grants, tax credits, and special assessment districts. The projects he has advised on include corporate headquarters and research and development centers.

Michael is a leader in the Charlotte region on Asian American issues, including through his service as president of the Charlotte Taiwanese American Association. He also serves on the leadership team of the North Carolina Bar Association's International Practice Section. He is fluent in conversational Chinese (Mandarin and Taiwanese).

In addition, Michael is an adjunct instructor in Central Piedmont Community College's certified paralegal program.

Prior to joining Parker Poe, Michael led the immigration team at a large national law firm. He is also a former assistant district attorney for Mecklenburg County, serving as the county's first Asian American prosecutor.



# HONORS

* *The Best Lawyers in America* in Immigration Law, Employment Law: Management, 2024



**CHARLOTTE OFFICE**

**PRACTICE AREAS**

**EDUCATION**

Duke University

JD, *magna cum laude*, 2016 Duke University

LLM in International and Comparative Law, *magna cum laude*, 2016

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

BA, with distinction, 2009

**ADMISSIONS**

North Carolina

Dom Lerario focuses his practice on international business, economic development, and mergers and acquisitions. He is a leader within the international business community, serving on the board of directors of the Advisory Board of the Young Professionals of the World Affairs Council of Charlotte and the council of the North Carolina Bar Association International Practice Section. He is also active in the Carolinas Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Business Alliance.

Dom assists companies with investments and expansions in the United States, including site selection and incentives, outbound investments and structuring, and domestic and cross-border M&A. He also counsels corporate venture capital divisions, family offices, and other private investors on investments into startups and emerging companies. In addition, Dom counsels clients on commercial contracting and general corporate law issues.

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| International Business |
| Business Expansion & Location  Solutions |
| Mergers, Acquisitions & Joint  Ventures |
| Startups & Emerging Companies |
| Business Law |
| Contract Services |
| International Trade Compliance |
| Venture Capital |

Dom has particular experience in the manufacturing, retail automotive, fintech, and health care industries. He has represented a variety of public and private companies, including global financial institutions, private equity sponsors, life sciences companies, hospitals, and energy companies.

Dom is fluent in Spanish and highly proficient in Mandarin. He has extensive travel and work experience in Asia and Latin America. He and his wife, Elizabeth, are licensed therapeutic foster parents. In addition to their three “forever” children, they regularly serve as a home for children in long-term foster care. Through this work, he is a member of the board of directors of Foster Village Charlotte, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports children and families involved in the foster care system.

Prior to joining Parker Poe, Dom was an attorney with the Charlotte office of an international law firm. He received his law degree from Duke University, where he was the symposium editor for the *Duke Journal of Comparative & International Law* and a student attorney with the school's Start-Up Ventures Clinic. He received his undergraduate degree from UNC-Chapel Hill, where he was a Morehead-Cain Scholar.



# HONORS

* *The Best Lawyers in America* "Ones to Watch" in Corporate Law, 2024; Mergers and Acquisitions Law, 2024
* UNC-Chapel Hill Morehead-Cain Scholar



**COLUMBIA OFFICE**

**PRACTICE AREAS**

**EDUCATION**

University of South Carolina JD, 2014

University of South Carolina International MBA, 2014 Clemson University

BA, *cum laude*, 2010

**ADMISSIONS**

South Carolina, 2015

Dayton Riddle focuses his practice on corporate transactions and economic development. He advises U.S. and international companies on their corporate legal needs, business expansion projects, and incentive programs in South Carolina and throughout the United States.

Prior to joining Parker Poe, Dayton worked for a large international offshore law firm in its Hong Kong office for three years, where he focused on cross- border insolvency and restructuring litigation. Dayton also worked as a management consultant both in Hong Kong and in the United States. In his management consulting roles, he conducted internal investigations and advised large financial institutions on regulatory compliance, with a particular focus on anti-money laundering, counter terrorist financing, and data privacy.

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| Business Law |
| Business Expansion & Location  Solutions |
| International Business |
| Public Finance |
| Tax Credits & Incentives |

Dayton received a law degree and an international MBA from the University of South Carolina. He received his bachelors' degrees from Clemson University. He enjoys watching Clemson sports, playing rugby, hiking, and scuba diving.



# HONORS

* *Columbia Business Monthly's* "Legal Elite" in International Law, 2022- 2023