



PLDW

PANNONE LOPES DEVEREAUX & WEST LLC

counselors at law

JEFFREY J. THOMAS
Of Counsel

jthomas@pldw.com

PRACTICE AREA
Municipal Infrastructure



Jeffrey J. Thomas is Of Counsel with Pannone Lopes Devereaux & West LLC and a member of the firm's Municipal Infrastructure Team. Attorney Thomas has over a decade of legal experience related to shaping government relations strategies, regulatory compliance, and public-private partnerships in the areas of sustainable land use and real estate development, community disaster recovery, energy and utility management, and natural resource and environmental protection. His expertise in these areas of law is due to his experience working directly with senior level federal, state and local government officials and entities, nationwide, to craft legislation, regulations, programs, and innovative funding streams. Attorney Thomas' proven track record includes helping public and private sector clients structure and administer public-private funding, incentives, and other policy-based solutions, while also assisting clients meet regulatory mandates and harness public resources to assure more sustainable business ventures and development projects.

Attorney Thomas has vast experience in urban revitalization and large real estate development projects, providing legal and strategic counsel to maximize project funding and community support, while also ensuring a project meets all regulatory and contractual requirements. In addition to traditional real estate legal services, Attorney Thomas advises clients on site selection, uses, partnerships, community benefit structures, and public-private funding sources and incentives that can be essential to project success. Since 2011, Attorney Thomas has helped secure and structure public-private financing and community support for over \$50 million in commercial blight revitalization projects in some of the most disinvested neighborhoods within the city of New Orleans, LA.

Attorney Thomas also provides legal counsel to public and private sector clients on a variety of governance and regulatory matters related to rebuilding communities following major disasters. After Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Region, Attorney Thomas oversaw policy development to advance the City of New Orleans' long-term disaster recovery, including helping shape governmental operations and programs to coordinate the use of over \$1 billion in federal funds from FEMA, U.S. HUD, the U.S. Department of the Treasury, and other sources. His practice includes advising communities on governance and implementation strategies, along with providing regulatory compliance, relative to using public-private funding and other resources to spur reinvestment in post-disaster housing, economic and commercial development, public infrastructure, community resilience, and environmental protection.

Attorney Thomas earned his J.D. from Tulane Law School in New Orleans, LA, and his undergraduate degree in biology from Millersville University in Pennsylvania. He is admitted to practice law in Louisiana and is a member of the Louisiana Bar Association and the New Orleans Bar Association.

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS AND MEMBERSHIPS

- Louisiana Bar Association
- New Orleans Bar Association