



2025 Woman of Distinction

Debt Finance Law



Penny E. Zacharias
Partner
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Penny Zacharias serves as the office managing partner in the McGuireWoods LLP Pittsburgh office. She is an accomplished lawyer with over two decades of experience representing financial institutions, private credit funds, and borrowers in a broad range of lending transactions.

Penny focuses her practice on debt financing and secured transactions, including the structuring and origination of asset-based and acquisition financing, leveraged finance, mezzanine finance, and large syndicated transactions. Secured lenders, as well as companies in the security alarm, medical alert, and other industries with a recurring revenue model, rely on Penny's expertise in those sectors.

Penny also advises domestic and international banking clients and investment firms in the areas of microfinance and impact investing. Notably, McGuireWoods was "Highly Commended" in Financial Times' Accessing New Markets and Capital category for Penny's representation of developing world markets in connection with the origination, placement, and investment of proceeds from a first-of-its-kind off-grid, renewable, and climate action note (ORCA).

Penny's leadership roles at the firm include co-chairing the firm's Women in Private Equity & Finance initiative, co-chairing the firm's Asset Based Lending team, and serving on the Board of Partners and the ESG Executive Committee. Penny previously chaired the Women's Lawyers Network and previously served on the National Recruiting Committee.