Michelle A. Schaap

Chair, Tech, Privacy and Data Innovations
CSG Law

Michelle Schaap practices cybersecurity, privacy, construction, and corporate law. She counsels clients on cyber mindfulness, incident preparedness, the privacy and cyber laws to which they are subject, and breach response. Michelle negotiates construction and professional services agreements for complex commercial and industrial projects.

Cybersecurity

Combining her technology and corporate experience, Michelle has spearheaded and developed CSG's cybersecurity practice. She regularly advises clients on cybersecurity preparedness, counsels clients when data security incidents arise and trains companies on best practices for security procedures addressing both their business operations and their customers' concerns. Michelle assesses her clients' risk management practices and security incident preparedness to develop a proactive response and recovery plan enacted to recover from security breaches. Additionally, Michelle works with clients in contract review, drafting and negotiation in critical areas of privacy and security.

Michelle is a Certified Information Privacy Professional, awarded from the International Association of Privacy Professionals, with a concentration on U.S. private-sector law (CIPP/US) and is Co-Chair of the IAPP New Jersey KnowledgeNet Chapter. Ms. Schaap is an adjunct professor at Fordham University, teaching Privacy & Cybersecurity.

Construction

Within the construction industry, Michelle negotiates complex agreements – including construction management, architect and design-build agreements. Her extensive experience includes multimillion-dollar biotech research facilities, design-build agreements for amusement rides, and working with various clients to develop form agreements for planned expansion. Complementary to Michelle's construction work is her experience negotiating solar facility agreements – including power purchase agreements and engineering, procurement and construction agreements.

Technology

Michelle works closely with both technology developers and companies seeking to acquire technologies – whether by custom development, license, subscription or otherwise. Michelle's experience overseeing these transactions enhances efficiency and ensures that the agreement appropriately protects her clients. She educates her clients on potential risks and liabilities, and provides best practices to help manage and mitigate such exposure.

Education

- Harvard in association with HarvardX (Certification on Cybersecurity: Managing Risk in the Information Age, 2020)
- International Association of Privacy Professionals (Certified Information Privacy Professional, 2019)
- Mitchell Hamline School of Law (Cybersecurity and Privacy Law Certificate, 2016)
- New Jersey Institute of Technology (Certificate in Construction Management, 2009)
- Rutgers University School of Law – Newark (J.D., 1987)
- Cornell University (B.A., *cum laude*, 1984)