



Christopher J. Bellavia

Partner

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OVERVIEW

Christopher Bellavia is a partner in the firm's Seattle office. He is a member of the corporate/M&A practice group. Chris has over 20 years of experience as a corporate, securities and transactional attorney working with companies at all stages of development in a variety of industries. Chris' practice includes strategic and private equity M&A transactions (both sell-side and buy-side), general corporate advice, and drafting and negotiating complex commercial contracts. Chris also represents startups and emerging growth companies on general corporate matters and seed and venture capital financings.

Additionally, Chris has significant experience advising private and public companies on corporate governance, securities disclosure and compliance issues, and he represents founders, investors and senior executives on general corporate and finance matters.

Chris has worked with companies in a number of industries including software and technology, consumer packaged goods, entertainment, shipping, forest and wood processing products, food and beverage, media and entertainment, and financial services.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Chris' experience includes both senior executive-level in house legal work for public and venture-backed companies and work as a corporate, securities, and M&A lawyer for several other national law firms.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Corporate Counsel of the Year Award Finalist, Puget Sound Business Journal

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Washington State Bar Association
- Business Law Section of the WSBA
- Advisory Board Member, Sammamish Community YMCA

- Judge at the 2021 Dempsey Startup Competition organized by the Buerk Center for Entrepreneurship at the University of Washington
- Leadership Council on Legal Diversity, First-Year Law Student Mentor, 2020-2021

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Moderator and Panelist at the Association for Corporate Growth Seattle Chapter Monthly Meeting: COVID's Impact on M&A Deals - What's Changed and What's Here to Stay?
- Speaker at The Seminar Group 19th Annual CLE Bootcamp: Corporate and Business Law Amid a Pandemic
- Speaker at E8 Angels Convertible Notes Term Sheets Webinar
- Speaker and Panelist at National Association of Corporate Directors Northwest Chapter Dealing with Activist Investors: Perspectives for Independent Directors Program
- Speaker and Panelist at Seattle Women Corporate Directors Quarterly Meeting: Shareholder Activism and Proxy Contests
- Guest Lecturer at University of Washington Foster School of Business: Shareholder Activism Graduate Student Program

EDUCATION

- J.D., Cornell Law School
- B.A., St. John Fisher College, *summa cum laude*

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Washington

NEWS & EVENTS

- 24 February 2020, K&L Gates Adds Experienced Corporate Partner in Seattle Office

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Capital Markets
- Corporate Governance
- Emerging Growth and Venture Capital

- Public Companies

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Represented ProbablyMonsters Inc. in the sale of its subsidiary, Firewalk Studios LLC, to Sony Interactive Entertainment LLC. Firewalk Studios is developing an original AAA multiplayer game for Sony Playstation®5 and PCs.
- Represented The SEER Group LLC in a series of acquisitions of companies in California, Oregon, and Washington providing heating and air conditioning equipment and related products and services. Seattle, Washington-headquartered SEER is a provider of home services that include heating, ventilation, air conditioning, electrical, and plumbing.
- Represented The SEER Group LLC in its sale to Genstar Capital Partners, a San Francisco-based private equity group. SEER is a Seattle-based multi-state provider of home services that include heating, ventilation, air conditioning, electrical, and plumbing.
- Represented the parent company of several independent companies in the transportation, mining, shipbuilding, and construction industries in consortium deal to acquire a leading global asset management company focused on infrastructure assets in the maritime and energy sectors, in a US\$10.9 billion going-private transaction.
- Represented global supplier of equipment and technologies for the wood processing industry, USNR, LLC, in its acquisition of Arkansas-based provider of custom engineering equipment, controls, and optimization systems and services, Timber Automation, LLC.
- Represented Beijing-based Dalian Wanda Group in Legendary Entertainment's recapitalization and US\$760 million preferred equity interest investment by Apollo Global Management.
- Represented healthcare technology company, Office Ally, Inc. in its sale to Francisco Partners.
- Represented global supplier of equipment and technologies for the wood processing industry, USNR, LLC, in its sale to One Equity Partners.
- Represent Seattle-based investment fund in a series of venture capital investments in early stage technology companies.
- Represent Florida-based investment fund in a series of acquisitions of e-commerce consumer businesses.
- Represented Seattle-based publicly-held broadcast-media company in its US\$375 million sale to a strategic buyer.
- Represented Seattle-based publicly-held broadcast-media company in its acquisition of NBC television affiliate in Oregon, sale of multi-station Montana radio group, and sale and leaseback of multi-building commercial and office complex in Seattle, WA for US\$160 million.

- Represented Fortune 100 financial institution in its acquisition of a credit card issuer for US\$6.5 billion, acquisition of a consumer bank for US\$983 million, and sale of mortgage servicing rights to strategic buyer for US\$2.8 billion.
- Represented Seattle-based maritime company in the sale its U.S. shipping and logistics operations to strategic buyer.
- Represented Fortune 100 financial services company in US\$7.2 billion private equity financing, US\$3 billion registered convertible preferred stock offering, and US\$500 million registered preferred stock offering.
- Represented publicly-held internet software service provider in its US\$2.7 billion strategic merger.
- Represented companies in a variety of industries on SEC, NYSE, and NASDAQ regulatory compliance matters.
- Advised public broadcast media company in its defense against activist hedge fund proxy contest and hostile takeover attempt.
- Represented underwriters for medical device company's IPO.
- Represented CPG company in US\$40 million Series C and US\$19 million Series B financings.
- Represented ethernet products and solutions provider in US\$26 million Series B financing.