



## Brent E. Williams

### Partner

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### OVERVIEW

Brent Williams concentrates his practice on corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, leveraged buyouts, private equity/venture capital transactions, cross-border transactions and private and public offerings of preferred and common stock.

Brent represents both strategic and financial buyers and sellers, equity investors and issuers of equity. He also advises clients on general corporate matters, business formation, corporate governance, and commercial contracts.

Brent has worked with clients from a variety of industries, including automotive, financial services, healthcare, manufacturing, technology, food and beverage, agribusiness, sports, and mining, in North America, Europe, Australia, and Asia.

### PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to practicing at K&L Gates, Brent was a corporate associate in the Chicago office of an international law firm, where he concentrated on mergers and acquisitions, securities, and general corporate matters.

### PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Chicago Bar Association
- American Bar Association
- Cycle for Survival, Chicago - Team Captain of Soul Survivor (2011 - present)

### SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- "Special Issues Involved in Acquiring Divisions or Subsidiaries of Larger Companies" - Practising Law Institute's Acquiring or Selling the Privately Held Company, Chicago, Illinois (June 6, 2019, June 7, 2018, May 17, 2017, June 1, 2016 & May 20, 2015)

- Panel Speaker on “Hot Topics in Legal Due Diligence” - Robert Bosch M&A Due Diligence Workshop, Chicago, Illinois (December 8, 2017)
- Carveouts - M&A in 2020 Series (October 19, 2020)

## EDUCATION

- J.D., The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, 2003 (*summa cum laude*; *Order of the Coif*; *Associate Editor, Ohio State Law Journal*)
- B.S., University of Dayton, 2000 (*magna cum laude*)

## ADMISSIONS

- Bar of Illinois

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP POWERED BY HUB

- 24 March 2020, COVID-19: Illinois Executive Order in Response to COVID-19 (*Alerts/Updates*)

## AREAS OF FOCUS

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Corporate Governance
- Emerging Growth and Venture Capital
- Private Equity Transactions

## INDUSTRIES

- Consumer Products
- Financial Services
- Sports
- Technology

## REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advance America, Cash Advance Centers, Inc. (NYSE: AEA), the largest non-bank provider of cash advance services in the U.S, in its going private acquisition by Grupo Elektra, a transaction valued at approximately \$780 million.

- Capitala Group, an asset management firm, in its: acquisition of VisionPoint Marketing, a leading marketing services firm serving institutions of higher learning; acquisition of Peterson Manufacturing Company, a manufacturer of deep drawn metal stampings; sale of Fresh Dining Concepts, an operator of Auntie Anne's, Cinnabon and Carvel restaurants; and sale of Stride Tool, a manufacturer and designer of specialty hand tools.
- Capital One Financial Corporation (NYSE: COF) in its acquisition of Onyx Acceptance Corporation (Nasdaq: ONYX), a specialty automobile finance company, for approximately \$190 million via a public merger.
- CB Richard Ellis Investors in its acquisition of a majority interest in Wood Partners, a national multi-family housing developer.
- Congelados Don Jose, a Mexican-based producer of vegetables, in its acquisition of Birds Eye Foods, Inc., a manufacturer and marketer of frozen vegetables.
- Edgewater Funds, a Chicago-based private equity firm, in its: sale of its interests in an information technology services provider to Snow Phipps Group, LLC; and leveraged stock acquisition and recapitalization of American Piping Products, a steel pipe distributor.
- Elgin National Industries, an industrial equipment manufacturer and engineering/construction services provider, in its sale to GFI Energy Ventures.
- Federated Hermes, Inc., a leading global investment manager, in its acquisition of certain components of the PNC Capital Advisors LLC investment management business for approximately \$56 million.
- Hecla Mining Company (NYSE: HL), a silver and other precious metals mining company, in its acquisitions of: Klondex Mines Ltd. (NYSE American: KLDX), a gold and silver mining company, for approximately \$462 million in a combination of cash and Hecla stock; Mines Management, Inc. (NYSE MKT: MGN), the owner of the Montanore silver and copper project, for approximately \$46 million in Hecla stock via a public merger; Revett Mining Company, Inc. (NYSE MKT: RVM), a silver and copper mining company, for approximately \$19 million in Hecla stock via a public merger; and The Monte Cristo property from Crown Gold Corporation pursuant to an asset purchase.
- Hospira, Inc. (NYSE: HSP) in its acquisition of Physiometrix, Inc. (Nasdaq: PHYX), a developer of non-invasive medical devices, for approximately \$23 million via a public merger.
- Insulation Fabricators, Inc. in its sale of the distribution and fabrication of thermal and acoustical insulation products business to Distribution International, a portfolio company of private equity firm Advent International.
- Jim Beam Brands Co., a subsidiary of Beam, Inc. (NYSE: BEAM), in its acquisition of the Skinnygirl® spirits brand.
- Keenan Development of Washington and Fort Detrick Cogen Partners, a central utility plant services provider, in their sale to First Reserve Corporation.
- Laborie Medical Technologies, Inc., a global manufacturer and developer of medical technology owned by Patricia Industries, a part of Investor AB, on the \$214 million acquisition of Cogentix Medical, Inc. (NasdaqCM: CGNT), a global medical device company.

- LKQ Corporation (Nasdaq: LKQ), a distributor of aftermarket and recycled automotive parts, in its: sale of the automotive original equipment manufacturer glass business to Vitro S.A.B. de C.V. for \$310 million and related carve-out of the retained aftermarket glass distribution business; acquisition of the aftermarket business of Warn Industries from Dover Corporation; acquisition of Pittsburgh Glass Works LLC from Kohlberg & Co. LLC and PPG for \$635 million; acquisition of Keystone Automotive Operations, Inc. from Platinum Equity for \$450 million; acquisition of Stag Parkway Holding Company, a leading supplier of replacement parts for RVs; and its acquisition of The Coast Distribution System, Inc. (NYSE MKT: CRV) for an enterprise value of approximately \$45 million pursuant to a tender offer and second step merger.
- Lydian Capital, a European private equity fund in its majority investment in Trilogy Health Services, LLC, a leading provider of senior care services.
- Mandalay Baseball Properties, LLC, the owner and operator of certain minor league baseball teams, in its sales of The Dayton Dragons to Palisades Arcadia Baseball LLC; The Frisco RoughRiders to a group led by former Texas Rangers CEO Chuck Greenberg; The Oklahoma City RedHawks to a group affiliated with the Los Angeles Dodgers and Mandalay Entertainment Group; its 50% interest in The Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders to SWB Investor LLC; and The Erie SeaWolves to a group controlled by Fernando Aguirre, former CEO of Chiquita Brands International.
- Marconi Corporation plc in its sales of a US Outside Plant, Power and Services and Test System businesses to Emerson Electric Co. for \$406 million; and a North American Access Business to Advanced Fibre Communications, Inc. for \$240 million.
- NewGround International, Inc., a designer and builder of retail and corporate environments in its: acquisition of the Design Iterative business from Acrylic Design Associates; and its sale of Adrenaline, LLC, an experience design agency.
- Nuveen Investments, a leading global provider of investment services, in its: acquisition of Incapital's Unit Investment Trust (UIT) platform; and creation and issuance of preferred share securities in public and private offerings.
- Pennybacker Capital Management, LLC, a real estate private equity firm, in its sale of a minority interest to Pacific Current Group Limited and Kudu Investment Management.
- PharMEDium Healthcare Holdings, Inc., the leading national provider of outsourced compounded sterile preparations to acute care hospitals in the United States, in its sales to AmerisourceBergen Corporation for \$2.6 billion; and Clayton Dubilier & Rice of a controlling interest.
- Richards Building Supply Co. in its building supply asset acquisitions of Jim Waters Co.; and RBK Building Materials.
- Ridge Capital Partners, a private equity sponsor, in its leveraged buyout of a waste management company.
- Robert Bosch in its: acquisition of Seeo, Inc., a Silicon Valley battery-technology startup company; sale of its 50% joint venture interest in Purolator Filters NA, LLC to co-venturer Mann+Hummel GmbH pursuant to an auction transaction; and investments in several early stage companies in the technology and automobile industries.

- Strom Products Ltd., a pasta manufacturer, in its asset sale of pasta brands to New World Pasta, a subsidiary of Ebro Foods for \$50 million.
- THINK Global School, an international traveling boarding school, in connection with its inaugural and subsequent school terms.