

Simpson Thacher Deepens Market-Leading M&A Bench



Alison Z. Preiss
+1-212-455-3416
alison.preiss@stblaw.com

New York—January 20, 2026—Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP today announced that Alison Z. Preiss—a go-to strategic M&A advisor—has joined the Firm’s Mergers and Acquisitions Practice as a Partner in the New York office.

“Clients are navigating unprecedented complexity—transformative market forces, heightened activist pressure and evolving regulatory considerations, all of which require sharp, creative and pragmatic counsel,” said Alden Millard, Chair of Simpson Thacher’s Executive Committee. “Alison is a star. She’s dynamic, exceptionally commercial and known for delivering solutions that advance business objectives. We’re excited to welcome her to the Firm.”

“Alison is an outstanding addition to our powerhouse bench that covers the entire M&A landscape,” said Eric Swedenburg, Global Head of Simpson Thacher’s Mergers and Acquisitions Practice. “Her addition reflects our continued investment in our preeminent transactional team focused on strategic M&A, corporate governance and activism defense. In addition to Alison, we’ve made several other impactful moves in this space, both through lateral hires and internal elevations, across our global platform.”

Alison is a trusted advisor to boards of directors and senior executives navigating their most consequential strategic and governance decisions. She is widely recognized for delivering innovative, commercially grounded advice in complex, high-stakes situations. Alison brings deep experience counseling public and private companies on mergers and acquisitions, takeover preparedness and defense, shareholder activism and other corporate governance matters. She has guided clients in many of the market’s most significant transactions, advising on multibillion-dollar deals across the technology, healthcare, industrials and financial services sectors. She joins Simpson Thacher from Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz.

“Simpson Thacher is synonymous with excellence in M&A,” Alison said. “I’m thrilled to join such a talented and collaborative team that sets the bar for how firms partner with clients to deliver thoughtful solutions and seamless execution.”

Repeatedly recognized around the world by *Chambers*, *Legal 500*, *The American Lawyer*, *Law360* and many others, Simpson Thacher’s Mergers and Acquisitions Practice is an industry leader unrivaled in its reputation and unique in its breadth. The team has advised on many of the most prominent U.S. and international transactions of the past several decades as well as on deals with an aggregate value of nearly \$2 trillion since 2020 (*Bloomberg*).

About
Simpson Thacher

Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP (www.simpsonthacher.com) is one of the world’s leading international law firms. The Firm was established in 1884 and has approximately 2,000 lawyers. Headquartered in New York with offices in Beijing, Boston, Brussels, Hong Kong, Houston, London, Los Angeles, Luxembourg, Palo Alto, San Francisco, São Paulo, Tokyo and Washington, D.C., the Firm provides coordinated legal advice and transactional capability to clients around the globe.