

Simpson Thacher Expands Bay Area Presence with New San Francisco Office

Atif Azher Named Managing Partner



New York and San Francisco—January 5, 2026—Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP announced today the opening of its new office in San Francisco, marking a significant expansion of the Firm's Bay Area platform to better serve clients and attract exceptional legal talent in one of the world's most dynamic markets. Atif Azher, who was recently named “Corporate Attorney of the Year” by *The American Lawyer* and has deep roots in the San Francisco business community, has been named Managing Partner of the Firm's Bay Area presence. Atif advises on significant M&A and private equity transactions across several industries including technology, healthcare and consumer products.

“Opening an office in San Francisco enhances our ability to serve clients in one of the world's most innovative and influential business centers,” said Alden Millard, Chair of Simpson Thacher's Executive Committee. “Atif's exceptional experience advising on transformative transactions, along with his proven leadership within the Firm, make him ideally suited to guide this next chapter of our Bay Area growth.”

The San Francisco office builds on the success of Simpson Thacher's Palo Alto location, which opened in 1999 and has become a hub for leading companies seeking counsel on complex corporate, regulatory and disputes matters. In addition to advising leading clients across the private funds, registered funds and financial services industries, the Firm advises companies across the full spectrum of the technology sector—from artificial intelligence, data centers and digital infrastructure to software, semiconductors and telecom—and delivers strategic, commercially focused counsel to trailblazers in biotech, healthcare and consumer products. The Firm has more than 115 lawyers based in the Bay Area.

“The Bay Area is home to many of our clients and an extraordinary concentration of innovation and capital,” said Atif. “Opening an office in San Francisco expands our ability to serve clients, gives our teams flexibility, and places us in closer proximity to exceptional talent based in the city. We look forward to deepening relationships and continuing to help clients navigate their most critical and transformative matters.”

Atif, recently recognized as “Corporate Attorney of the Year” by *The American Lawyer* and an “MVP” in Private Equity by *Law360*, advises on multi-billion-dollar mergers, acquisitions and private equity transactions across industries including technology, healthcare and consumer products.

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.