

Simpson Thacher Strengthens Chicago M&A Practice with Preeminent Dealmaker



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Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP today announced that Francesco A. Castaldi has joined the Firm as a Partner in the Mergers and Acquisitions Practice and will be based in the Chicago office.

“Francesco’s arrival marks another important step in the continued growth of our Chicago office and reflects our commitment to investing in top-tier talent in this market,” said Ryan Harris, Managing Partner of Simpson Thacher’s Chicago office. “His deep market knowledge and transactional expertise will further strengthen our ability to serve clients in Chicago and across the broader private capital ecosystem.”

“Francesco brings seasoned deal judgment and the ability to smoothly and commercially execute on complex middle market and large cap transactions,” said Eric Swedenburg, Global Head of the Firm’s Mergers and Acquisitions Practice. “His experience advising sponsors and portfolio companies across the full transactional lifecycle will add immediate depth to our M&A and private equity capabilities. We are delighted to welcome him to the Firm.”

Francesco concentrates his practice on negotiating and structuring complex business transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, divestitures, leveraged buyouts, private equity and strategic investments, venture capital and growth equity investments, and executive compensation and incentive equity arrangements. He advises private equity sponsors and their portfolio companies across a wide range of industries, handling transactions from middle-market deals to multibillion-dollar engagements.

“Simpson Thacher combines a world-class M&A Practice with a uniquely collaborative culture,” said Francesco. “I am excited to join the growing Chicago team and work alongside talented colleagues across the Firm to deliver exceptional results for clients on their most significant transactions.”

Simpson Thacher’s Chicago office advises clients across private equity, M&A, investment funds, tax, executive compensation and related transactional matters. 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, Dallas, 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.