



## Anthony F. Vernace

Partner

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Anthony Vernace is a Partner in the Firm's Corporate Department, where he specializes in the representation of private equity firms and public companies in mergers and acquisitions, investments, joint ventures and other corporate transactions. Anthony also regularly counsels clients on corporate governance, shareholder activism and securities law matters. His clients span a wide range of industries and include leading technology, transportation, healthcare, industrial, financial services and consumer products companies. In addition to being profiled by *Business Insider* for his work as a private equity deal lawyer, Anthony has received recognition for his work on numerous marquee M&A transactions on behalf of both private equity firms and public companies, including being named among *Crain's* 2025 "Notable M&A Dealmakers," by the *New York Law Journal* as one of the 2023 "Dealmakers of the Year," *The American Lawyer* as a 2023 "Dealmaker of the Year," *The Legal 500* as a "Next Generation Partner" in both M&A: Large Deals and Private Equity Buyouts, and by *Law360* as an "MVP" in M&A (2022) and Private Equity (2014). Most recently, Anthony was recognized among *Variety's* Dealmakers of 2023 for his representation of Microsoft in its \$75 billion acquisition of Activision Blizzard. Anthony is recognized by *Chambers USA* which reports that he is identified by clients as "incredibly smart, responsive and experienced. He has a great communication style and is always calm under pressure." In addition to his legal practice, Anthony regularly serves as a panelist and guest lecturer on corporate and M&A-related topics, including at Harvard, Duke and University of Pennsylvania law schools, and Anthony is a member of the board of advisors of the Institute for Corporate Governance & Finance at NYU School of Law. Anthony currently serves as a member of the Firm's Executive Committee, and he was formerly Co-Chair of the Finance Committee and a member of the Recruiting Committee.

### Practice Focus:

- Corporate
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Corporate - M&A
- Corporate Governance
- Shareholder Activism

### Industries:

- Data Centers
- Education

Selected public company M&A transactions include advising:

- ADT in its \$15 billion sale to Apollo Global Management
- Apax Partners led consortium in their \$6.8 billion acquisition of Kinetic Concepts, Inc.
- Apria in its \$1.6 billion sale to Owens & Minor
- Blackstone in its \$10 billion acquisition of QTS Realty
- Blue Buffalo Pet Products in its \$8 billion sale to General Mills
- Cisco Systems in its \$28 billion acquisition of Splunk
- CSG Systems in its \$2.9 billion sale to NEC Corporation
- Genesee & Wyoming in its \$8.4 billion sale to affiliates of Brookfield Infrastructure and GIC
- Genesee & Wyoming in its acquisitions of RailAmerica (\$1.4 billion), Providence and Worcester Railroad Company (\$126 million) and its proposed majority investment by Grupo México Transportes in its CG Railway joint venture
- Intuitive Machines in its \$800 million acquisition of Lanteris Space Systems
- Microsoft Corporation in its acquisitions of Activision Blizzard (\$75 billion), LinkedIn (\$28.2 billion); and Nuance Communications (\$19.7 billion)
- TeamHealth in its \$1.6 billion acquisition of IPC Healthcare and \$6.1 billion sale to funds affiliated with Blackstone and certain co-investors
- TRW in its \$13.5 billion sale to ZF Friedrichshafen
- TD Bank Group in its \$668 million acquisition of Epoch Holding

## Corporation

- Twitter's Board of Directors in its sale to Elon Musk

Other strategic M&A transactions on which Anthony has worked include the representation of:

- American Family Insurance in its acquisition of Bold Penguin
- Ameriprise Financial in its \$1 billion acquisition of the long-term asset management business of Columbia Management from Bank of America
- ARKA (f/k/a AMERGINT) in its acquisition of the space-based precision optics business of Raytheon Technologies
- ARKA Group in its \$2.6 billion sale to CACI
- Ascend Learning in its acquisition of Laudio
- Bending Spoons in its \$500 million acquisition of Eventbrite
- Big Heart Pet Brands in its \$5.8 billion sale to The J.M. Smucker Company
- Chamberlain Group in its acquisitions of MFP-Nova and Arrow Tru-Line
- Genesee & Wyoming in its acquisitions of the west end of the Dakota (\$210 million), the Minnesota & Eastern Railroad from Canadian Pacific, the Arkansas Division of Pinsky Railroad Company and its investment in Cargomatic
- GFL Environmental Holdings in its acquisition of Waste Industries
- Microsoft Corporation in its acquisitions of Skype (\$8.5 billion), ZeniMax Media, Inc. (\$7.5 billion), Nokia Corporation's phone business (\$7.2 billion) and GitHub (\$7.5 billion), its announced \$1.5 billion strategic investment in G42 and its \$300 million investment in Barnes & Noble's NOOK business
- Netflix in its acquisition of InterPositive
- Special Committee of the Board of Directors of Nakamoto in its acquisition of BTC and UTXO
- The Bank of Nova Scotia in its \$5.6 billion FDIC-assisted acquisition of R-G Premier Bank of Puerto Rico
- Vungle in its acquisitions of JetFuel, Inc. and GameRefinery Oy

Selected private equity M&A transactions include the representation of:

- Blackstone in its acquisitions of, and investments in, Advarra, Air Control Concepts, Applecart, Array Technologies, Ascend Learning, AZZ, Bumble, Buyers Edge Platform, Chainalysis, Chamberlain Group, Clari, Crocs, Cryoport, First Eagle Investment Management, FireEye, Gates Corporation, International Data Group, LifeScience Logistics, Liftoff Mobile, Medline, NetBrain Technologies, Patria, Phoenix Tower International, QTS Realty, Rowan Digital Infrastructure, Shield AI, Simpli.fi, Smartsheet, TaskUs, Travelport, VoltaGrid, Vungle, Walker Edison and 7 Brew, and joint venture with Google to create a new TPU cloud
- BC Partners in its investment in EAB; its acquisitions of NAVEX Global (and subsequently NAVEX in its sale of a majority stake in NAVEX to a consortium led by Goldman Sachs Alternatives) and

- GFL Environmental; PetSmart's acquisition of Chewy, Inc.; and its sale of Teneo
- Certares in its \$325 million purchase of 8% Series A Cumulative Redeemable Preferred Stock in Liberty TripAdvisor and TripAdvisor's merger with Liberty TripAdvisor
  - The Invus Group in its investment in Cava Group, Inc.
  - Atairos Group in its acquisition of General Atlantic's approximately 26% ownership stake in TriNet Group, Inc. for approximately \$440 million
  - Apax Partners and ALM Media in ALM Media's sale to Wasserstein & Co.
  - Emerson Electric Co. in the sale of a majority interest in its Embedded Computing & Power business to Platinum Equity
  - Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co., Vestar Capital Partners and Centerview Partners in their \$5.3 billion acquisition of Del Monte Foods Company
  - Hellman & Friedman in its \$640 million acquisition of Internet Brands, Inc.
  - Corsair Capital as the lead investor in National City's \$7 billion capital raise
  - TPG Rise Climate in its acquisitions of AmSpec and MIRATECH

Anthony received his J.D. in 2005 from Columbia Law School, where he was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar. He received his B.S., *summa cum laude*, from Fordham University in 2002. Anthony is admitted to practice in New York.