



Financial Advisors Practice

Alston & Bird is among the leading counsel to investment banks acting as financial advisors in M&A transactions. Alston & Bird has advised large and midsized financial advisors on more than \$1 trillion of M&A transactions. The firm is consistently ranked in the top 10 by *The American Lawyer* and *Corporate Control Alert* among U.S. law firms representing financial advisors in M&A transactions. In 2022, Alston & Bird ranked #6 in the representation of financial advisors on deals with a value of \$100 million or more.

Representative Matters

Alston & Bird regularly represents financial advisors in connection with mergers and acquisitions and other transactions. Among others, Alston & Bird has represented financial advisors to the following:

- Advance Publications Inc., a significant stockholder in Discovery, in Discovery's \$43 billion combination, via a Reverse Morris Trust transaction, with AT&T's WarnerMedia.
- Healthcare Realty Trust in its \$7.75 billion business combination with Healthcare Trust of America.
- Altus Midstream Company in its \$9 billion acquisition of EagleClaw Midstream Services LLC.
- Scientific Games in the \$6.05 billion sale of its lottery business to Brookfield Business Partners, a business services and industrials company of Brookfield Asset Management.
- Realty Income Corp in its \$11 billion acquisition of VEREIT.
- BA Sports Nutrition LLC in its \$5.6 billion sale of the remaining 85% stake in the company to The Coca-Cola Company.
- Sitio Royalties Corp. in its \$4.8 billion merger with Brigham Minerals Inc.
- Churchill Downs Inc. in its \$2.485 billion acquisition of Peninsula Pacific Entertainment.
- Hexion in its \$2 billion sale to private equity firm American Securities.
- Independence Energy in its \$5.7 billion business combination with Contango Oil & Gas.
- Altria on the \$1.2 billion sale of Ste. Michelle Wine Estates to Sycamore Partners Management LP.
- Special purpose acquisition company CM Life Sciences II in its \$1.23 billion acquisition of SomaLogic.
- Special purpose acquisition company CM Life Sciences III in its \$1.8 billion acquisition of pharmaceutical company EQRx.
- Special purpose acquisition company Marquee Raine Acquisition Corp. in its \$1.2 billion acquisition of Enjoy Technology Inc.
- Special purpose acquisition company Legato Merger Corp. in its \$1.7 billion acquisition by Ontario-based Algoma Steel.
- Griffin-American Healthcare REIT IV Inc. in its \$4.2 billion merger with Griffin-American Healthcare REIT III Inc.
- Special purpose acquisition company Reinvent Technology Partners Y in its \$11 billion acquisition of Aurora Innovation.
- The special committee of the board of directors of State Auto Financial Corporation in its \$2.29 billion sale to Liberty Mutual Holding Company.
- Special purpose acquisition company Motive Capital Corporation, in its \$2 billion acquisition of Forge Global.
- Special purpose acquisition company Novus Capital Corporation II in its \$1.1 billion acquisition of energy storage startup Energy Vault.
- Special purpose acquisition company Tailwind Two Acquisition Corp. in its \$1.58 billion acquisition of Terran Orbital.

Leadership

Alston & Bird's Financial Advisors Practice is led by Stuart Rogers and Aaron Dixon, members of the firm's Corporate Transactions & Securities Group. Before joining Alston & Bird, Stuart had previously served as the head of Credit Suisse's legal group for the Americas covering investment banking. Stuart is a member of the Mergers, Acquisitions & Corporate Control Contests Committee of the New York City Bar. Aaron serves on the boards of the Atlanta Bar Association's Business and Finance and Corporate Counsel Sections. Charles Cox, a seasoned M&A litigator with substantial experience in Delaware, provides litigation support and counseling to the team and its clients.