

# Legal500

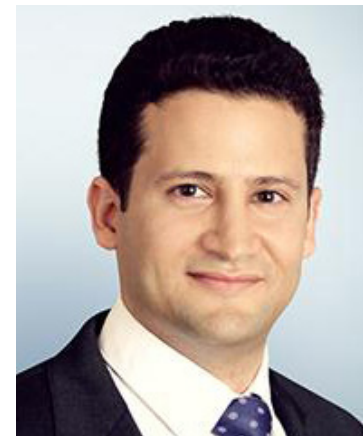
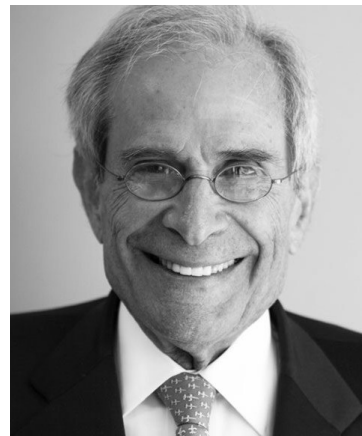


PRIVATE PRACTICE POWERLIST 2024  
M&A | UNITED STATES

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For over 30 years, *Legal 500* has been analysing the capabilities of law firms and sets across the world. In the research team, we constantly track which sections are used most by clients, and this often matches up with an increase in that section from submissions, client referees, requests for interviews and feedback – all of which make up the research process. The corporate/M&A rankings are consistently one of our most used and read editorial sections and one of the most competitive areas for law firms, sets, lawyers and barristers. This very much chimes with what we constantly hear anecdotally in the market.

The *M&A Powerlist: United States 2024* showcases the leading practitioners working in the various states in the United States of America. Mergers and acquisitions in the US are characterized by a dominance of technology sector activities, with a notable focus on software, cloud computing and artificial intelligence. The healthcare industry has also recently experienced a significant consolidation, driven by factors such as the pursuit of economies of scale and changes in healthcare policies. Cross-border transactions, private equity involvement, and the importance of resilience and adaptability are notable features in the dynamic M&A landscape, and highlight the continuous growth of the region.

M&A practitioners in this publication highlighted the importance of a

multidisciplinary approach in a successful practice, given the intricate nature of the process. The complexity of M&A transactions necessitates collaboration across various disciplines, including strategic, financial, technological and operational perspectives, to provide comprehensive solutions. US companies are particularly well positioned to take advantage of strategic M&A opportunities among distressed companies in other regions, for example in Europe. As such, the legal teams that currently thrive the most seem to be those that have a solid understanding of both the local culture and laws but also can bring in expertise and be open to ideas from cross-border.

As with any publication of this nature, we were faced with the dilemma of including as many worthy candidates as possible without diluting the significance of their listing. After lengthy discussions across the editorial team, we decided that a larger selection was necessary to provide sufficient nuance and balance across so many different markets.

To collate the list of leading practitioners we have of course drawn on our research team's expertise. We have also approached leading M&A practitioners and general counsel active in the market to help create a definitive list of the leading M&A counsel in the US today. As such, we think the listing reflects those practitioners that are deemed the gold standard by businesses. ■



Elena Lewis | Senior research analyst for the  
*M&A Powerlist – United States*

# M&A POWERLIST US 2024 – INCLUSIONS

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William Wood II, Foulston Siefkin  
Issaku Yamaashi, Foulston Siefkin

## KENTUCKY

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Edward Glasscock, Frost Brown Todd  
Franklin Jelsma, Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs  
James (Jim) Seiffert, Stites & Harbison  
Jameson (Jack) Seiffert, Stites & Harbison  
Cynthia Young, Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs

## LOUISIANA

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Scott Chenevert, Fishman Haygood  
Louis Fishman, Fishman Haygood  
Mark Fullmer, Phelps Dunbar  
Curtis Hearn, Jones Walker  
Lee Kantrow, Butler Snow

## MAINE

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Christina Berkow, Pierce Atwood  
John Carpenter, Bernstein Shur  
David Champoux, Pierce Atwood (retired)  
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 Victor Lewkow, Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton  
 Martin Lipton, Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz  
 James Morphy, Sullivan & Cromwell  
 Daniel Neff, Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz  
 Jeffrey Rosen, Debevoise & Plimpton  
 Faiza Saeed, Cravath, Swaine & Moore  
 Carl Sanchez, Paul Hastings  
 Tyler Savage, Nixon Peabody  
 David Schwartz, Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe  
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**Michael Aiello**  
Weil, Gotshal & Manges

**Job title:** Partner

**Location:** New York

**Number of years in practice:** 30

**Number of years of M&A experience:** 30

**Main areas of M&A expertise:** Complex domestic and international mergers and acquisitions, including carve-outs, spin-offs, Reverse Morris Trust transactions and comparable complex transactions, shareholder activism preparation and defense

**Main sectors covered:** Aerospace and defense, automotive, banking and financial services, casinos and gaming, chemicals, consumer, energy, healthcare, infrastructure, insurance, life sciences, media and entertainment, real estate, REITs, retail, technology and telecommunications, among others

**Admissions:** New York state

**Geographical areas of focus:** United States, global

**Languages:** English

Michael Aiello is chairman of the over 600-lawyer corporate department of Weil, Gotshal & Manges and a member of the firm's management committee. Michael regularly represents companies in connection with mergers, acquisitions and divestitures involving public companies. He also advises clients on corporate governance issues. Michael regularly represents acquirors, targets, buyout groups, boards of directors, special committees, investment banks, investors and shareholder groups in complex domestic and international negotiated and unsolicited merger and acquisition transactions. Michael has also counseled clients on a broad range of corporate, securities and business-related matters, including directors' duties and responsibilities and other aspects of corporate governance, disclosure issues and compliance matters, as well as defensive measures and takeover tactics.

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