

David J. Kim

PARTNER

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Office: Kansas City



A former successful entrepreneur, David's business experience enables him to provide more insightful and useful legal advice to companies in the U.S. and abroad.

David's practice focuses primarily on corporate formation and governance, mergers and acquisitions, capital markets, private equity and venture capital investments and securities law compliance. He also routinely serves in a general counsel capacity to private companies, providing strategic legal advice to senior management and boards on various general corporate and risk management matters.

Serving as the co-chair of the firm's Venture Capital and Emerging Companies practice group, David represents venture capital funds, family offices and VC-backed emerging companies in connection with their fundraising, governance and investment activities. This work includes private equity sponsors, their portfolio companies and strategic investors in complex leveraged buyouts, acquisitions, dispositions, carve-outs and other investments.

Additionally, David works with early-stage companies developing blockchain technologies and tokenization models, counseling them on securities, broker-dealer, transactional, privacy and intellectual property matters.

PRACTICES & INDUSTRIES

- Animal Health & Nutrition
- Corporate Finance
- Digital Assets & Blockchain
- Esports, Sports Technology & Wagering
- Governance, Risk & Compliance
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Private Business
- Private Equity
- Public Companies, Securities & Capital Markets
- Venture Capital & Emerging Companies

ADMISSIONS

- Missouri, 2003
- Kansas, 2004

EDUCATION

- University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, J.D.
- Harvard University, M.A., East Asian Studies

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David's work in the firm's Governance practice includes routinely advising boards of directors and senior executives on a full range of corporate governance issues that confront both nonprofit and for-profit companies. He regularly provides strategic legal advice on board structure and composition, self-evaluations for boards and committees, senior executive and director compensation policies and planning, best practices, and corporate risk identification and management. He has a developing ethical, social and governance practice and is currently working with an early stage company in the blockchain space to draft an ESG policy within its corporate governance structure.

Cornell University, B.A., Economics

David is active in the community, having served as counsel to a nonprofit organization in Kansas City that offers programs for the young survivors of abuse, neglect and trauma, and to the Kansas City Asian Chamber of Commerce, advising on its formation and chapter organization.

EXPERIENCE

Served as local counsel to affiliates of a global consumer products company in connection with a tender offer to purchase outstanding senior notes with an aggregate principal amount of \$285 million, and solicited consents to amend the indentures governing those notes.

Represented a major beer and premium beverage distributor in the acquisition of a competitor in an adjacent territory to expand its dominant market share in the region.

Served as counsel to a closely held company in the sale of its outstanding stock to a subsidiary of a publicly-held waste management services company.

Served as counsel to a company in its acquisition of multiple properties, corporate infrastructure and leadership as part of its strategy to enter the motion picture industry.

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Served as lead counsel in the sale of a billing and collection software company in the healthcare industry.

Represented management in the purchase of assets and operations of a leading national search and recruiting firm.

Represented an investment group in the negotiation and purchase of the parent holding company's stock in a subsidiary community bank.

Served as lead counsel to a financial technology company in its issuance of Series A Preferred Stock.

Served as lead counsel to a mobile app developer in its issuance of Series A Preferred Units.

Represented an EB-5 regional center for the purpose of raising immigrant investor capital for the development of a mixed use facility.

Served as lead counsel to a purchaser in the acquisition of the assets of an agricultural equipment distributor.

Served as lead counsel to a purchaser in the hybrid acquisition of the assets and stock of an edible oil processor.

Served as counsel to one of the largest nonprofit medical research enterprises in the world, assisting in the restructuring and organization of its various affiliate entities.

Represented numerous startup and early-stage companies in private offerings of equity and debt securities, enabling such companies to establish and maintain recognizable local businesses and restaurants, redevelop or repurpose major shopping centers, build or renovate several apartment complexes, develop and exploit innovative technologies in the medical, fashion and financial industries, and experience accelerated growth either organically or by acquisitions.

RECOGNITIONS

Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America*® list 2025

Missouri and Kansas *Super Lawyers*, 2014-Present

Super Lawyers Rising Star, 2010-2013

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Asian-American Chamber of Commerce of Kansas City, Board Member

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David J. Kim

American Bar Association, Business Law

Kansas City Metropolitan Bar Association

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

Asian American Bar Association of Kansas City, a Founding Member

Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce, Centurions Leadership Program, Class of 2020

Asian American Chamber of Commerce

Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador Network

Cornell Club of Mid-America

Harvard Club of Kansas City

ALS Association, Mid-America Chapter

Alzheimer's Association, Heart of America Chapter

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

"Board Considerations in Approving an M&A Transaction", M&A Boot Camp, Stinson Webinar, September 2022

2023 M&A Boot Camp

09.14.2023

Venture Capital Webinar

12.08.2022

2022 M&A Boot Camp

09.15.2022

Business Law Update

03.03.2022

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