

Francesca M. Schiavone

Partner

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Francesca Schiavone regularly provides legal advisory services to businesses in all stages of their lifecycle.

Francesca has served as lead counsel on significant M&A transactions in a multitude of industries including life sciences, financial services, healthcare, technology, automotive, media, and manufacturing. Her skillset extends to both strategic transactions, as well as private equity deals. Francesca has extensive experience representing a private equity-backed pharmacy platform in more than fifteen add-on acquisitions. She also represented the founders of an autonomous vehicle start-up in connection with a multi-billion dollar joint venture with an industry-leading global automaker.

In terms of capital markets, Francesca regularly assists middle market and emerging growth companies in private securities offerings and, particularly, private placements under Regulation D, including through the utilization of general solicitation exemptions authorized under the JOBS Act. Representative transactions include the issuance of equity securities in connection with the acquisition of multi-family and medical office building assets in select U.S. markets, as well as the issuance of equity and debt (PIK) securities in connection with the scale-up of a global luxury champagne brand.

Francesca devotes a substantial amount of her practice leading several teams of lawyers in the drafting, negotiation, and interpretation of a wide range of complex commercial agreements for publicly traded companies, some of which are in highly regulated industries, including biotech and financial services.

She also regularly counsels both startups and seasoned companies alike on all aspects of corporate governance.

As a passion, Francesca leverages her corporate legal skills to provide niche advice to women-owned businesses and has much experience guiding qualifying candidates through the WBE certification process.

Capabilities

Corporate
General Counsel (Co-Leader)
Life Sciences
Mergers & Acquisitions
Capital Markets
Start-Up Services (Leader)
Commercial Contracts (Co-Leader)
Women/Minority-Owned Business (Leader)

Admissions

Pennsylvania

Academics

J.D., *cum laude*, Duquesne University School of Law
B.A. in Communications and English, *magna cum laude*,
Duquesne University

Experience

Judicial Intern for The Honorable Terrence F. McVerry
of the U.S. District Court, Western District of
Pennsylvania

Professional Memberships

American Bar Association
Pennsylvania Bar Association
Pittsburgh Women Leaders Association
Allegheny County Bar Association
Pittsburgh Cultural Trust

Professional Accolades

Best Lawyers

Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch, Corporate Law (2024), *The Best Lawyers in America*
Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch, Corporate Law (2023), *Best Lawyers Pennsylvania*
Best Lawyers: Ones to Watch, Corporate Law (2022), *Best Lawyers Pittsburgh*

Super Lawyers

Pennsylvania Rising Star, *Pennsylvania Super Lawyers Magazine* (2021-2023)

Publications

Duquesne Law Review

Speeches & Presentations

"Mergers and Acquisitions," Duquesne University School of Law (2024)

"Risk Mitigation Considerations for Corporate Transactions and Other Agreements," Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl, LLC and Lockton Companies, Inc. (2021)

"Mergers and Acquisitions," Duquesne University School of Law (2019)

"Wine, Wisdom & Women," Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, Leech Tishman Fuscaldo & Lampl, LLC and Lally & Co., LLC (2018)

"Entrepreneurial Start-ups: Understanding the Legal Side of Business," Pennsylvania State University (2018)

"Contracts," Duquesne University Business School (2018)

Community Involvement

Carnegie Collective (Member)

Girls Hope of Pittsburgh (Young Leadership Board)