



## → David I. Sunkin

**Partner**  
1901 Avenue of the Stars  
Suite 1600  
Los Angeles, CA 90067

T: +1.310.228.2279  
dsunkin@sheppardmullin.com

David Sunkin is a partner in the Corporate Practice Group in the firm's Century City office and is the Co-Leader of the firm's Sports Industry Team.

### Areas of Practice

David practices general corporate and securities law, with an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions, public offerings, SEC related matters and frequently advises boards on corporate governance. He advises clients ranging from start-ups to large public companies, including representing purchasers, sellers, and financial advisors in various public and private transactions.

As Co-Leader of the firm's Sports Industry Team, David has extensive experience in representing clients involved in all aspects of sports related matters. David represents owners of sports franchises, including owners of MLB and NFL teams in various transactional matters that include the sale of controlling and noncontrolling ownership interests. David also represents clients involved in providing venues and services for the upcoming 2028 Los Angeles Olympic and Paralympic Games, such as UCLA, USC, the City of Santa Monica and the City of Pasadena/Rose Bowl Operating Company.

Before joining Sheppard Mullin and for 10 years, David was vice president and general counsel of a publicly traded national automotive service retailer, where he was responsible for all of the company's legal and business affairs, strategic planning and acquisitions and divestitures. In light of this experience, David acts as outside general counsel to many of his clients in a wide variety of industries.

### Honors

Martindale-Hubbell® AV Preeminent Rating, 2022-2023

Mergers and Acquisitions, *Legal 500*, 2015-2016

Recognized by *Daily Journal* as "Top 100 Lawyers in California," 2014

### Experience

Certain Representative Sports Industry Transactions:

- Sale of a significant minority interest in the Los Angeles Chargers to Tom Gores.
- Represented SGP USA in a capital raise and acquisition of the U.S. Team for SailGP from Larry Ellison.

- Represented Frank McCourt and the Los Angeles Dodgers in various matters including the sale of the Los Angeles Dodgers.
- Represented the LA Marathon in its sponsorship and strategic partnerships.
- Represented an investor group in the acquisition of the assets of Golf Gear International in Nevada Bankruptcy Court.
- Represented Relativity Sports in its acquisition of a professional sports management agency.

#### Certain Other Representative Transactions:

- Represented Guardion Health Sciences in all of its material corporate transactions including its initial public offering and all related equity financings, the acquisition of Activ Nutritional from Adare Pharmaceuticals and subsequent sale to Doctor's Best.
- Represented Gnomon School in its sale to GEDH.
- Represented Relativity Media and its affiliates in a variety of domestic and international debt and equity financings.
- Represented Relativity Media in separate joint venture transactions with B4U, a leading Bollywood film and television network, and EuropaCorp Films USA, Inc.
- Represented a shareholder in the redemption of her shares in The McGraw Company and Western Service Co.
- Represented Douglas Steel Supply Company in the sale and leaseback of real property and the acquisition of all of the outstanding capital stock of H&R Sales, Inc.
- Represented Morley Builders, Inc. in the repurchase of shares of its common stock from its majority shareholders.
- Represented Bio Cybernetics International, Inc. in its sale to Ottobock Healthcare North America, Inc.
- Represented the successful bidder of the assets of Syntax-Brilliant (Olevia brand electronics) in Delaware Bankruptcy Court.
- Represented The Viamedia Group of Companies in its sale to Lake Capital Partners.
- Represented the City of Pasadena/The Rose Bowl in the negotiations of long term revenue contracts with the Regents of the University of California and the Tournament of Roses, and the media rights agreement with IMG/Legends in support of the City's 2010 \$156 million bond offering, as well as in its follow-on \$30 million private bond offering in 2013.
- Represented ARTISTdirect, Inc.(OTC: ARTD) in its acquisition of MediaDefender, Inc.
- Represented Ventura Distribution, Inc. in its Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors and the sale of substantially all of its assets to First Look Studios.
- Represented Ashley Furniture in its acquisition of Furniture Home Stores in Southern California.
- Represented Arrowhead Brass & Plumbing, LLC and Alhambra Ave. Real Estate, LLC in the purchase of assets from California Assignment, LLC.
- Represented Bio Cybernetics International in the sale of its military division to Pyng Medical.
- Represented Vision Capital Advisors as the lead investor in a PIPE investment in BPO Management Services, Inc. (OTCBB:BPOM.OB).

- Represented the seller (former Chairman and CEO) in the sale of 10% of the common stock in Obagi Medical Products, Inc. (NASDAQ) to Fundamental Investment Group, a fund managed by UBS AG.
- Represented Earl Scheib, Inc. in its merger with Kelly Capital.
- Represented Earl Scheib, Inc. in the acquisition of certain assets of ElectroBake Enterprises of Florida.
- Represented Innovative Micro Technologies in its going private transaction.
- Represented Riverside Construction in its acquisition of substantially all the assets of Bonadiman McCain.
- Represented the Campbell Companies, in connection with the sale of substantially all of its assets to a subsidiary of Building Materials Holding Corporation (NYSE: BLG).
- Represented Fantatech, Inc. in its SEC deregistration and subsequent sale of substantially all of its assets to Shenzhen Youshun Investment Co. Ltd.
- Represented FreeFi Networks, Inc. in a licensing transaction with Buena Vista Video on Demand, Inc., a subsidiary of The Walt Disney Co.
- Represented Standard Brands Paint Company (NYSE) in its Chapter 11 reorganization and later sale to Corimon S.A.C.A. (NYSE).
- Represented The Art Stores in its sale to an investor group.
- Represented the Special Committee of the Board of Directors of Salick Health, Inc. (NYSE) in its sale to Zeneca Group (NYSE).
- Represented The Cheesecake Factory (NYSE) in its initial public offering.
- Represented The Foothill Group (NYSE) in its acquisition by Norwest Financial (NYSE).
- Represented The Del Monte Group in its financial restructuring.
- Represented The Bank of New York in the foreclosure and later sale of its intellectual property rights to the Skechers and Karl-Kani trademarks to a private investor group.

## Articles

- How High Can It Go? What Private Equity Needs to Know about How Professional Sports Leagues' Rules Impact Sports Franchise Valuations  
10.03.2023
- Franchise Valuations: Is There a Ceiling? How League Rules Affect the Calculus  
*Sports Business Journal*, 09.20.2023
- CA Bill AB 979 Seeks to Increase Board Diversity  
*Diversity Journal*, 11.19.2020
- Winning the Gold: Why Venue Owners Need to Consider the Importance of Flexibility in Sponsorship Agreements  
Event Licensing  
*The Licensing Journal*, 08.2018
- Review D&O Liability Insurance Before Bankruptcy To Ensure Its Adequacy, *Bowne Digest*, February 2004
- Director/Officer Liability in Event of Bankruptcy, *ACC Docket 21, no. 10, November/December 2003*

## Corporate and Securities Law Blog Posts

- "How High Can It Go? What Private Equity Needs to Know about How Professional Sports Leagues' Rules Impact Sports Franchise Valuations," October 4, 2023
- "Coronavirus and Considerations for Publicly Traded Companies," March 6, 2020

## Covering Your Ads Blog Posts

- "Winning the Gold: Why Venue Owners Need to Consider the Importance of Flexibility in Sponsorship Agreements," May 1, 2018

## Media Mentions

Success of Twins Ownership Deal Will Come Down to How the Money is Spent  
*Minnesota Star Tribune*, 08.14.2025

Trump Tariffs: How Big Beautiful Bill could have Bigger Impact on Sport  
*City AM*, 06.06.2025

Trump Once Tried to Buy the Minnesota Twins. His New Budget Bill Could Complicate Team's Sale  
*Minneapolis Star Tribune*, 06.02.2025

The Twins Cost how much? Why Sports Team Valuations have Exploded  
*The Minnesota Star Tribune*, 10.21.2024

L.A. Olympic Organizers about to Face their Toughest Task: Delivering on Promises  
*Los Angeles Times*, 07.08.2024

Bears, White Sox want Stadium Deals, so how about a Cut of the Action?  
*Chicago Sun-Times*, 04.25.2024

Sheppard Mullin's Sports Team Leaders On Love Of The Game  
*Law360*, 04.14.2023

David Sunkin and Brian Anderson Named Leaders of Sheppard Mullin's Sports Industry Team  
*Sports Law Expert*, 04.13.2023

Sheppard Mullin's Sports Industry Team Has New Co-Captains  
*Law360*, 04.12.2023

Winning the Gold: Why Venue Owners Need to Consider the Importance of Flexibility in Sponsorship Agreements  
*Sports Facilities and the Law*, 04.2018

## Practices

Advertising

Corporate

Emerging Company & Venture Capital  
Family Owned, Closely-Held Businesses and Family Offices  
Mergers and Acquisitions  
Private Equity  
Public Company Corporate Governance and Compliance  
Healthcare

## Industries

Advertising  
Automotive  
Construction  
Education  
Entertainment, Technology and Advertising  
Healthcare  
Retail, Fashion & Beauty  
Sports

## Education

J.D., Loyola Law School, 1992  
B.A., University of California, Los Angeles, 1989

## Admissions

California