



→ Jeffrey S. Gardner

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Jeffrey Gardner is a special counsel in the Corporate Practice Group in the firm's Chicago office.

Areas of Practice

Jeffrey concentrates his practice on transactional and general corporate matters, with a focus on mergers & acquisitions and complex joint ventures. He has represented clients in a wide variety of industries, such as basic materials mining and processing, live event production, software development, ownership and operation of minor league baseball teams, fire protection installation, insurance, outpatient surgical centers, and more. Jeffrey represents businesses through their full life cycle, from entity selection and formation, through growth and maturity, to a sale or other exit.

Jeffrey is a member of the firm's Hospitality Team, with more than 20 years' experience representing developers and capital partners in joint ventures and capital raising transactions for, and the related acquisitions and dispositions of, hotels, mixed-use developments, multi-family residential buildings, and senior living facilities. In addition, Jeffrey leverages that expertise to represent clients in connection with the acquisition of operators of industrial real estate properties.

Jeffrey is a co-leader of the firm's Corporate Transparency Act (CTA) Task Force, assisting clients with all aspects of CTA reporting analysis and obligations for a variety of entity types and ownership structures.

Honors

Recognized as an Emerging Lawyer by Leading Lawyers

Experience

Representative Transactions

M&A

- Represented owner of CauseForce, Inc., in sale of 50% of the company to Bregal Partners
- Represented OmniForce, LLC, in multiple roll-up acquisitions of race events and a cross-border acquisition of event production company
- Represented OmniForce, LLC, in sale of for-profit race business
- Represented Edgewater Growth Capital Partners in acquisition of American Piping Products

- Represented National Surgical Care in several roll-up acquisitions of majority interests in ambulatory surgery centers
- Represented Ridge Capital Partners in acquisition of WeCare Organics and WeCare Transportation
- Represented Solo Cup Company in divestiture of Hoffmaster division to private equity investors
- Represented StandardVision, LLC, in note purchase financing transaction with Eldridge Capital
- Represented Parlano, Inc., in sale via merger with Microsoft, Inc.
- Represented Sarvega, Inc., in sale via merger with Intel
- Represented SourceCode Technology Holdings, Inc., in purchase of IP assets from a privately held South African software company
- Represented a subsidiary of John Deere in acquisition of GeoVantage
- Represented BOP, LLC, in sale of shopbop.com to Amazon.com, Inc.
- Represented Stats, LLC, in acquisition of PA SportsTicker, Inc.
- Represented Fitch Risk Management in cross-border acquisition of Algorithmics Incorporated
- Represented Targeted Molecular Diagnostics, LLC, in sale of the company to Quintiles Transnational Holdings, Inc.
- Represented Nuseed Holding Co. in acquisition of Seeds 2000, Inc.
- Represented Oxford Capital Partners, LLC, in multiple acquisitions and sales of hotel properties
- Represented Mandalay Baseball Properties, LLC, in acquisition of the assets of the Oklahoma City RedHawks
- Represented Toter, Incorporated, in sale via merger to Wastequip, Inc.
- Represented Aligned Equity Partners, LLC, in million acquisition of the assets of American Bin & Conveyor
- Represented Advance America, Cash Advance Centers, Inc., in acquisition of private financial services company
- Represented Advance America, Cash Advance Centers, Inc., in going-private transaction
- Represented HGDS Acquisition LLC in acquisition of certain assets of Hub Group Distribution Services, LLC
- Represented Securitas Security Services USA, Inc., in acquisition of The Security Professionals, Inc. and Security Services USA, Inc.

IPOs/Venture Capital Transactions

- Represented shareholders of Advance America, Cash Advance Centers, Inc., in IPO
- Represented SourceCode Technology Holdings, Inc., in Series B and Series C venture financings and related tender offer
- Represented Chromatin, Inc., in Series B and Series C venture financings
- Represented Firm58, Inc., in Series B and Series C venture financings

Real Estate/Hospitality Joint Ventures

- Represented Oxford Capital Partners, LLC, in multiple joint ventures with capital partners for the acquisition, development and operation of U.S. hotel properties
- Represented Geolo Capital II, L.P., in multiple joint ventures with developers for the acquisition, development and operation of U.S. and foreign hotel properties

- Represented Quadrum Global in multiple joint ventures with developers for the acquisition, development and operation of multiple properties to be developed into hotels, apartment complexes and mixed-use developments
- Represented Cachet Hotel Group in master franchising agreement with Wahlburgers Franchising International, Inc.
- Represented Cachet Hotel Group in venue licensing agreement with Playboy Enterprises International, Inc.

Articles

- Sanctuary Hotels in The Time of Crisis: The Legal Consequences
Hotel Executive, December 2022 issue

Corporate & Securities Law Blog Posts

- "The Return of the CTA: FinCEN Confirms that Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting Requirements are Back in Effect with a New Deadline of March 21, 2025," February 20, 2025
- "FinCEN Confirms that CTA Filings Remain Optional Despite Supreme Court Ruling," January 27, 2025
- "Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals Vacates Its Own Stay Rendering the Corporate Transparency Act Unenforceable . . . Again," January 3, 2025
- "Texas Federal District Court Issues Preliminary Injunction on CTA Nationwide; Department of Justice Appeals," December 12, 2024
- "The Corporate Transparency Act: What You Need to Know Ahead of the January 1, 2025 Deadline," November 14, 2024

Real Estate, Land Use & Environmental Law Blog Posts

- "Hospitality Alert: Quick Facts on the Corporate Transparency Act," March 19, 2024
- "Hotels Provide Sanctuary on the Front Lines; Saving Grace in the Time of Crisis," March 30, 2020

Venture Law Blog Posts

- "Potential Revisions to the Definition of 'Accredited Investor'," January 6, 2016

Events

Sanctuary Hotels – Providing Accommodation During the Pandemic
Webinar, 04.15.2020

Memberships

Member, American Bar Association

Member, Chicago Bar Association

Member, Florida Bar Association

Member, Illinois State Bar Association

Practices

Corporate

Emerging Company & Venture Capital

Joint Ventures and Strategic Alliances

Mergers and Acquisitions

Private Equity

Industries

Construction

Emerging Company & Venture Capital

Hospitality

Private Equity

Sports

Education

J.D., Georgetown University Law Center, 2003, *Journal of Law and Policy in International Business*

M.B.A., Ohio State University, 2000

B.S., Ohio State University, 2000, *cum laude*

Admissions

Florida

Illinois

U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois