

John Papagiannis

Partner



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Montréal

D +1 514 878 5898

john.papagiannis@dentons.com

Overview

John Papagiannis practices corporate and commercial law from Dentons Canada LLP's Montreal office. His practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions. John serves as lead for the Montréal office's M&A group.

John represents clients on a broad range of transactions in both Québec and Ontario, including share and asset purchases, dispositions, amalgamations, corporate reorganizations and joint ventures. John regularly advises emerging growth companies and entrepreneurs on a broad spectrum of legal matters, from complex commercial agreements to capital raising at various stages and exit strategies. He also advises clients on franchising matters in Québec and Ontario.

John also acts as corporate secretary to The Jacques-Cartier and Champlain Bridges Inc., a federal Crown corporation.

Experience

- **Innovative Imaging Technologies Inc. (Reacts):** Advising the company and shareholders of Innovative Imaging Technologies Inc. in connection with the sale of the business to Philips, a multinational conglomerate.
- **Drakkar & Partners Inc.:** Advising DRAKKAR, a world-class company specialized in operational outsourcing within sectors including aerospace, on its partnership with Avianor, a specialist in complete commercial aviation cabin integration and MRO organization.
- **Root Data Center Inc.:** Representing leading wholesale data center provider and its principal shareholder on sale to Compass Datacenters, LLC , its first acquisition in a plan to develop up to \$3 billion in new data center campuses.
- **CounterTack:** Advising on the acquisition of the shares in the capital of GoSecure Inc., a leading cybersecurity managed detection and response provider, by CounterTack
- **JLL:** Advising on the acquisition of the shares in the capital of Northwest Atlantic (Canada) Inc., a leading independent Canadian retail tenant representation and advisory firm.

- **JLL:** Advising on the acquisition of Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton's real estate valuation and advisory division.
- **Canadian-based private equity firm:** Advising a Canadian-based private equity firm in connection with the share purchase of a design and manufacture of air handling systems company.
- **ENGIE:** Advising on the acquisition of the shares of PBW High Voltage Ltd., a leading Ontario-based power system specialist.
- **TQC Canada Company:** Advising TQC Canada Company, an affiliate of Tianqi Group, on its equity investment in Raymor Industries Inc., a business involved in the plasma atomization of carbon-based raw materials to produce single-wall carbon nanotubes or graphene and dispersion of graphene.
- **Andersen Corporation:** Advising on the acquisition, through an affiliate, of Fenêtres MQ Inc., a luxury window and door manufacturer, and of its related holding and operating companies.
- **Multinational Industrial Gas Company:** Advising a large multinational company specialized in industrial gases and related services in connection with various acquisitions in Canada.
- **International Private Education Network:** Advising a large private education network in connection with various acquisitions in Canada and abroad.
- **Bluberi Gaming Technologies Inc., Bluberi Group and Bluberi USA, Inc.:** Acting as counsel to the Bluberi group of companies in connection with the divestiture of their business in the context of their CCAA filing in Quebec Superior Court and Chapter 15 filings in the Northern District of Illinois.
- **Multinational digital billboards and display systems provider:** Advising in connection with the acquisition of a corporation specialized in delivering digital media solutions to leading retailers, convenience stores and other businesses throughout North America.
- **Multinational distribution and outsourcing company:** Advising in connection with two acquisitions of businesses engaged in the sale and distribution of cleaning and hygiene supplies in the provinces of Quebec and Ontario.
- **International franchisor of automobile collision repair network:** Advising in connection with the equity and debt investment by a public investment institution.
- **International franchisor of automobile collision repair network:** Advising in connection with the purchase of a collision repair franchise network based in the province of Ontario.
- **Énergie Cardio:** Advising in connection with the acquisition of the franchise network of fitness centers operating under the Énergie Cardio banner.
- **Cascades Inc.:** Advising in connection with the acquisition of the remaining 50% interest in a corporation engaged in the business of managing discarded recyclable materials.
- **Vizimax Inc.:** Advising this leading designer of smart grids and manufacturer of automation systems in connection with Series A and Series B financing rounds involving Yaletown Ventures II Limited Partnership, Yaletown Ventures II (USA) L.P. and BDC Capital Inc.
- **Groupe TNT Inc.:** Advising in connection with its acquisition of assets of Simard-Beaudry Construction Inc. and Usine d'asphalte Montréal-Nord Inc.
- **Transec/Comon Inc:** Advising in connection with its acquisition of assets of Hexagone Group LP and its affiliates.
- **Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec:** Advising in connection with its partnership with TPG Capital relating to certain acquisitions.
- **Jacques Cartier and Champlain Bridges Incorporated:** Advising on various corporate governance and commercial matters; acting as Interim Corporate Secretary since February 2014.

- **Urecon Ltd:** Advising the shareholders in connection with the sale of a majority stake.
- **Camfil AB:** Advising on the sale of one of its division to Parker Hannifin Corporation.
- **Celebris Memorial Services Inc.:** Advising the shareholders in connection with their sale of shares to Groupe Athos.
- **Boralex Inc.:** Advising on its CA\$226.5 million successful take-over bid for Boralex Power Income Fund.
- **AVEOS Fleet Performance Inc.:** Advising in connection with its Companies' Creditors Arrangement Act proceedings. Founded as Air Canada Technical Services (ACTS), AVEOS was one of the largest airline maintenance, repair and overhaul providers in the Americas.
- **Québec restaurant group and real estate holding:** Advising on its various commercial activities, including its acquisition of a significant Québec restaurant chain and its real estate portfolio.
- **Forest product companies:** Advising clients involved in this industry on the negotiation of various commercial agreements.
- **MBI Drilling Products Inc:** Advising the shareholders in connection with their sale of shares to Fonds de solidarité FTQ.
- **Broccolini Construction Inc:** Advising on its ultimate successful award of two procurement tenders valued in excess of CA\$250 million by Public Works and Government Services Canada for the development and construction of two "design build" office towers with an aggregate square footage of 900,000 in the City of Gatineau.

Recognition

- University of Montréal, 2007, Excellence Award

Insights

- Co-author, "Canada: Franchise Laws and Regulations 2021," *The ICLG to: Franchise Laws and Regulations*, October 2020
- Co-author, "Government of Québec to introduce heightened corporate transparency requirements for beneficial owners of businesses," *Dentons Insights*, April 7, 2020

Activities and Affiliations

- Member, Québec Bar
- Member, Law Society of Ontario
- Member, Canadian Bar Association

Community Involvement and Pro Bono

- Director, Hellenic Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal
- Director and Secretary, Marianopolis Millenium Foundation
- Member, Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal
- Member, Next Generation Committee of the Jewish General Hospital

Areas of focus

Practices

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Business Agreements and Commercial Contracts
- Corporate
- Venture Capital
- Franchising and Distribution

Industry sectors

- Forest Products and Agribusiness
- Manufacturing
- Private Equity
- Retail

Education

- University of Montréal, 2009, D.E.S.S., Common Law
- University of Montréal, 2007, LLB

Admissions and qualifications

- Ontario, 2010
- Québec, 2010

Languages

- English
- French
- Greek