

Michael (Mick) J. Cochran

Partner



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Overview

Michael J. "Mick" Cochran is a member of Dentons' US Corporate practice and a former head of that practice. Mick is highly experienced in the areas of private equity, mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance and distress transactions. His core practice involves representing buyers, sellers and financiers in their investing activities and financing needs. He also acts as a strategic advisor to clients with respect to a variety of financial, business and legal issues. Mick's transactional experience includes representing clients in regulated industries.

Mick's experience crosses a number of industries including life sciences and biotechnology, financial services, health care, industrial services, telecommunications, home furnishings, home textiles, and media. He has served on the board of directors of companies in the telecommunications and multi-media industries (PTV Holdings and First Call Wireless), home furnishings (Lanscott-Arlen Fabrics) and industrial services (IMS Group). His clients range in size from early stage companies to large multi-national corporations.

Mick's private equity and hedge fund practice focuses on fund formation, growth equity, management buyouts, recapitalizations and spinouts.

Mick represents both companies and financial investors in the life sciences industry. His work includes M&A, collaboration agreements, joint ventures, licensing agreements, capital raising and supply agreements.

Mick also has experience in representing financial institutions, including commercial and investment banks in connection with debt and equity financings. He has particular experience representing non-bank lenders in their lending activities, including through the provision of subordinated capital and mezzanine financings.

Finally, Mick actively represents troubled companies and their capital providers in complex, distressed financial transactions. He also provides corporate advice to boards of directors and financial advisors in non-judicially supervised workouts.

Mick is ranked by *Chambers USA* as one of the leading Corporate/M&A lawyers in Georgia. He is recognized by *Best Lawyers in America* for Mergers & Acquisitions Law, Corporate Law, Bankruptcy and Creditor Debtor Rights and Insolvency and Reorganization Law. He has also been recognized by *The Legal 500* for his M&A work.

Experience

- **MeatEater, Inc.:** Represented MeatEater, Inc. in the acquisition of First Lite, LLC, a technical, hunting apparel company. Based in Bozeman, Montana, MeatEater is a multi-media and technology company that produces content principally for the hunting, fishing and outdoor markets. MeatEater is a venture backed company whose principal equity sponsor is The Chernin Group (TCG) based in Los Angeles. TCG is a privately held, independent media holding company founded by Peter Chernin. MeatEater also has equity sponsorship from long-time client, Next Frontier Capital.
- **American Cyber Systems, Inc.:** Represented American Cyber Systems, Inc., (ACS) in its acquisition of SyApps, LLC in a privately negotiated transaction. ACS provides IT consulting, healthcare solutions, talent solutions, and workforce management solutions to mid-market and Fortune 1000 companies globally.
 - Represented ACS in its successful public tender offer for Analysts International Corporation.
 - Represented ACS in its acquisition of Innova Solutions, Inc., a global information technology company.
- **Millennium Technology Value Partners and Millennium New Horizons:** Represented Millennium Technology Value Partners I, Millennium Technology Value Partners II and Millennium New Horizons in debt and equity investments in primary and secondary market involving leading technology companies such as Facebook, Tumblr, Alibaba, Netspend, iPass, Twitter, Aaptiv, and Acepto, Inc.
- **Next Frontier Capital:** Represented Next Frontier Capital, Montana's leading venture capital firm, in connection with Mimecast's acquisition of Ataata, a cybersecurity training and awareness platform. Represented Next Frontier Capital in a number of venture investments in Montana and Colorado businesses.
- **Source Capital:** Represented Source Capital in connection with its acquisitions of Display It, MSR Industrial and Sun & Skin Care Resources.
- **Blue Arc Capital Partners:** Represented BlueArc Capital Partners LLC and their investment partner Merit Capital in the acquisitions of Choice Brands Adhesives, LTD. and Slocum Adhesives Corporation, leading companies in the specialty adhesives manufacturing sector.
 - Represented Blue Arc's credit opportunities fund in a variety of middle market growth investments.
- **Caymus Equity Partners:** Represented Caymus Equity Partners in its recent equity and debt investment in Alpha/AXS Holding Company, LLC, one of the largest distributors of medical imaging equipment in the US.
- **Tissue Banks International, Inc.:** Represented the non-profit tissue bank in the business of procuring, processing and distributing human musculoskeletal, skin and ocular tissue, in its recent formation of a for-profit subsidiary for its musculoskeletal and skin division and the spin out of such subsidiary, now named Aziyo Biologics, Inc., to an investment group led by High Cape Partners.
- **Osiris Therapeutics, Inc. (NASDAQ: OSIR):** Represented Osiris Therapeutics, Inc. in the sale of its culture-expanded mesenchymal stem cell (ceMSC) business, including Prochymal, to a Swiss subsidiary of Mesoblast Limited (ASX: MSB, USOTC: MBLTY), the sale of the Osteocel Product Division to NuVasive Inc. (NASDAQ: NUVA) and the exclusive collaboration and license agreement with Genzyme Corporation (NASDAQ: GENZ).
- **Georgia Oak Partners:** Represented Georgia Oak Partners in connection with its acquisitions of Prong, Inc., a New York based company that specializes in plug in adapters for mobile phones, and TeamOne Logistics, a nationally recognized workforce expert for the logistics industry.
- **Nancy Creek Capital I & II:** Represented Nancy Creek Capital I and Nancy Creek Capital II in connection with a variety of mezzanine and growth equity investments in companies such as TWR Lighting, Xorail, One Point Financial, Relevate and S&S Industries.
- **Multiple Private Equity Funds:** Represented AMV Partners, Nancy Creek Capital and Williams Realty Advisors in the formation of private equity funds.

Insights

- "Australia Biotech Week showcases sophistication and growth", *Dentons Client Alert*, October 21, 2015
- "Bank Directors and Officers Get Judicial Relief from FDIC's "Unfortunate If Not Outright Unjust" Suit", *Dentons Client Alert*, October 9, 2014

Activities and Affiliations

Community Involvement and Pro Bono

- Vice Chairman, Board of Directors, First Step Staffing
- Outside General Counsel, Westside Future Fund

Presentations

- Investing in India: 2019 and Beyond, Atlanta, November 12, 2019
- Buying Trouble; Co-Hosted a multi-year program based on investments in distressed assets.

Memberships

- Association for Corporate Growth
- Atlanta Venture Forum
- Georgia Bar Association
- Member Senior Advisory Board of ripKurrent

Areas of focus

Practices

- Corporate
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Joint Ventures
- Finance
- Restructuring, Insolvency and Bankruptcy
- Government Contracts - US

Industry sectors

- Life Sciences
- Technology
- Private Equity
- Health Care

- Financial Institutions
- State, Regional, Provincial, Municipal and Local Government Bodies

Education

- University of Chicago Law School, 1989, JD
- University of Washington, 1986, *cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa

Admissions and qualifications

- Georgia
- New York

Languages

- English