Katja Butler

Skadden

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Private Equity



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Education

M.A. (Law), Trinity Hall, University of Cambridge, 2006

Legal Practice Course, The College of Law Moorgate, London, 2007

Bar Admissions

Solicitor, England & Wales

Katja Butler is co-head of Skadden's U.K. corporate practice. She advises clients on all aspects of their investments, from initial acquisition to exit, and counsels on the execution of exit planning and co-investment terms. She also serves on Skadden's Policy Committee, its top governing body.

Ms. Butler advises financial sponsors and corporate clients across multiple sectors, with extensive experience in technology, business services, asset and wealth management, and consumer products. Her work includes advising on some of Europe's largest software and technology buyouts, complex carve-outs, joint ventures and co-investments.

Ms. Butler, who is a key partner in Skadden's London and European financial sponsor practice, has been repeatedly ranked in *Chambers Global* and *Chambers UK* for Private Equity: Buyouts, in addition to being named one of *Private Equity News*' Twenty Most Influential Private Equity Lawyers (including in 2026).

Ms. Butler is also regularly rated as a Leading Individual by *The Legal 500 UK*, in which she has been described by clients as "fantastic," "always available" and "excellent to work with," and is one of a handful of attorneys recognised as Notable Practitioners for Private Equity and M&A in the *IFLR1000* rankings.

Ms. Butler's representations include advising:

- Wittington Investments, Limited in the US$8.9 billion acquisition of The Boots Group in partnership with Fairfax Financial Holdings
- Mubadala Capital in its strategic investment from Apollo
- Walkers, a leading international law firm, in the carve-out and strategic investment, alongside Vitruvian Partners, into its Walkers Professional Services (WPS) business
- Corient in:
  - the acquisitions of Stonehage Fleming and Stanhope Capital Group to create a US$430 billion independent ultra-high-net-worth wealth manager
  - aspects of its acquisition of Bedrock Group, a Swiss-based independent multifamily office and wealth manager
- BlackRock:
  - as part of a consortium of investors, including Allianz and T&D Holdings, in the acquisition of Viridium Group at an enterprise value of €3.5 billion
  - in its acquisition of Preqin at an enterprise value of £2.55 billion
- Apax Global Alpha Limited in its US$1 billion recommended acquisition by Janus Bidco Limited, an investment vehicle owned by Apax Partners LLP
- Willis Towers Watson in its formation of a greenfield joint venture with Bain Capital to relaunch its treaty reinsurance business
- Mona Kattan, co-founder of Huda Beauty LLC, in the carve-out sale of Huda Beauty's KAYALI fragrance business to General Atlantic
- Montagu Private Equity:
  - in the separation of its portfolio company DEAS into two business units and subsequent disposal of (i) the real estate services business of DEAS to PHM Denmark, a portfolio company of Norvestor, and (ii) the asset management services business of DEAS to Fokus Nordic AB, a portfolio company of BlackFin Capital Partners
  - in its sale of Covidence to EMK Capital LLP
  - and the other shareholders of Equatex in the €354 million disposal of Equatex to Computershare

- JAB Holdings in:
  - its acquisition of SYNLAB VPG Limited
  - its acquisition of Cardif Pinnacle from BNP Paribas Cardif to form a strategic joint venture (the Pinnacle Pet Group) to deliver a range of pet insurance services throughout the U.K., EMEA and Latin America. Ms. Butler also advised on bolt-on transactions related to this matter, including a US$1.4 billion investment in Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited's pet insurance business, the acquisition of AGILA Haustierversicherung AG from Aegidius Ruckversicherung AG and the acquisition of Veterfina Verzekeringsmaatschappij NV from its shareholders
  - Pinnacle Pet Group's acquisition of Animal Friends Insurance Services Limited from Correlation Risk Partners and Pinnacle Pet's joint venture with Correlation Risk Partners to acquire Waggel, Vet-AI, Biscuit Pet Care, Kozoo and other pet insurance companies
- Hg:
  - in the sale, alongside EQT, of the majority shareholding in portfolio company Quantios to Vista Equity Partners
  - in the increased investment by Hg Saturn 3 Fund and Hg Saturn 4 Fund in IFS, alongside ADIA, CPPIB, EQT, TA Associates and other minority shareholders, valuing the business at €15 billion
  - in the sale of a co-controlling stake in IRIS Software Group Ltd to Leonard Green & Partners at an enterprise value of US$4 billion (£3.15 billion) and the negotiation of consortium terms going forward
  - in the sale of a co-controlling stake in Azets AS to PAI Partners
  - in connection with its significant investment in IFS and WorkWave businesses at a US$10 billion valuation
  - in its further investment in Lyniate alongside other institutional clients of Hg
  - in its further investment in Litera
  - in its investment in Managed Markets Insights & Technology, LLC
  - in its sale of Mitratech to Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board, and on the terms of its continued minority investment in Mitratech
  - its investment in Dext
  - in connection with its acquisition of Benevity, Inc. alongside General Atlantic, JMI Equity and the Benevity management team
  - in connection with its acquisition of Gen II Fund Services LLC as part of a consortium with General Atlantic and IHS Markit
  - in its investment in Hyperion Insurance Group Limited
  - in its co-investment arrangement with TA Associates in connection with its investment in global tax software provider Sovos through the Hg Saturn 2 fund
  - in its acquisition of a minority stake in Argus Media, an independent provider of energy and commodity price reporting
  - in its £410 million sale of U.K.-based visual effects producer Foundry to Roper Technologies, a U.S.-headquartered technology company specializing in niche markets
  - in its sale of a minority stake in portfolio company Visma to the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board
  - as lead investor in the US$5.3 billion buyout of Visma, a leading provider of business software in the Nordic region. This was Europe's largest-ever software buyout
  - in its further €640 million investment in Visma
- Litera, a portfolio company of Hg, in its acquisition of Kira Systems
- Coty Inc. in:
  - its strategic partnership with KKR & Co. Inc., including the carve-out sale of 60% of its professional beauty and retail hair businesses to KKR at an enterprise value of US$4.3 billion, and further sale of part of Coty's stake in the joint venture to KKR
  - the sale of its remaining 25.8% stake in Wella to KKR for initial cash consideration of US$750 million
- Castik Capital in:
  - the sale of approximately 25% of portfolio company Waterlogic Holdings Limited to British Columbia Investment Management Corporation
  - its acquisition of two IP management services and software companies, ipan Group and Delegate, and their subsequent merger with CPA Global, a portfolio company of Leonard Green Partners and Partners Group
  - its acquisition of AddSecure from Abry Partners
- Pret A Manger Ltd, a portfolio company of JAB Holding Company LLC, in its acquisition of EAT Limited
- HighQ in its sale to Thomson Reuters Corporation
- Montagu portfolio companies, including Equatex, Open GI, Funeral Services Partners, Covidence and DEAS, in their capital structures
- IRIS Software Group Ltd in its acquisition of FMP Global
- Castik Capital portfolio company Waterlogic in bolt-on acquisitions and its capital structure