

Thaddeus (Thad) Hartmann

Skadden

Partner, New York

Mergers and Acquisitions; Sports



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Education

J.D., University of Pennsylvania Law School, 2010 (*magna cum laude*; Senior Editor, *University of Pennsylvania Law Review*)

Wharton School, Certificate in Business and Public Policy, 2010

A.B., Princeton University, 2005 (*cum laude*; Executive Editor for Sports, *The Daily Princetonian*)

Bar Admissions

New York

Recognition

Sports Business Journal
2021 Power Player in Sports Law (Platinum Tier)

Publications

"USA" chapter, *International Comparative Legal Guide to Mergers and Acquisitions*, 2020, 2021 and 2022

Thad Hartmann is a corporate attorney who advises public and private companies and private equity firms on mergers, acquisitions, dispositions, corporate governance, joint ventures, spin-offs and securities offerings. He advises companies in a variety of industries, with an emphasis on sports, media, entertainment and technology. Examples of Mr. Hartmann's representations include:

Media, Entertainment and Technology

- Twenty-First Century Fox in its:
 - \$85 billion acquisition by the Walt Disney Company and the pre-merger spin-off of certain news, sports and broadcast businesses. This transaction was named *The American Lawyer's* Global M&A Deal of the Year;
 - \$15 billion sale of its stake in Sky and its previously proposed \$22 billion acquisition of the stake in Sky that it did not already own; and
 - proposed, but terminated, \$80 billion acquisition of Time Warner;
- ZeniMax Media in its \$7.5 billion acquisition by Microsoft;
- viagogo in its \$4.05 billion acquisition of StubHub from eBay;
- Yahoo! in its:
 - \$4.5 billion sale of its operating business to Verizon Communications. This transaction was included in the Enabling Business Growth category in the *Financial Times's* North America Innovative Lawyers report; and
 - previously proposed spin-off of its interest in Alibaba Group Holding;
- iHeartMedia in its adoption of a stockholder rights plan and other corporate governance matters;
- Criteo in its \$350 million acquisition of IPONWEB;
- NXP Semiconductors in its \$1.8 billion acquisition of Marvell's wireless connectivity portfolio;
- Royal Caribbean in its acquisition of the 33.3% interest that it did not already own in Silversea Cruises in exchange for 5.2 million of Royal Caribbean shares;
- PCI Gaming Authority (d/b/a Wind Creek Hospitality) in its acquisition of FlowPlay;
- CurtCo Robb Media, publisher of *Robb Report*, in its acquisition by Rockbridge Growth Equity Partners;

Sports

- Bruce Sherman, as lead investor of a consortium, including Derek Jeter, in the creation of the consortium and its acquisition of Major League Baseball's Miami Marlins, following which Mr. Sherman became the chairman, principal owner and control person of the Marlins;
- The PGA TOUR in:
 - the creation of EZLinks Golf Holdings, a joint venture operating TeeOff.com;
 - acquisitions by EZLinks of (a) Integrated Business Systems and (b) Distinct Software Solutions and related debt and equity financings, including a significant minority investment by Providence Equity Partners; and
 - the acquisition of EZLinks by NBC Sports Group, a subsidiary of Comcast;

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- The NBA in its expansive multiyear partnership agreement with Sportradar, pursuant to which, among other things, the NBA received a 3% equity stake in Sportradar, which serves as the exclusive provider of NBA data worldwide;
 - The NFL in its:
 - relaunch as a professional football league following its acquisition by Redbird Capital Partners, Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson and Dany Garcia;
 - partnership with Disney for ABC, ESPN networks and FX to broadcast all of the NFL’s games;
 - The PGA of America in its strategic partnership agreement with Legends, pursuant to which Legends operates on-site, online, licensing and corporate merchandising for the PGA’s spectator championships;
 - The National Hockey League in its:
 - sale of the Phoenix Coyotes franchise; and
 - multiyear strategic partnership with PointsBet, a premier global sportsbook operator;
 - TEAM8 in its joint venture with the United States Tennis Association and Tennis Australia, among others, to form the Laver Cup, a tennis competition between regional teams of top professional players from Europe and the rest of the world;
 - minority owners in the sales of their interests in major league sports franchises and related businesses, including regional sports networks;

Health Care

- Express Scripts in its:
 - \$67 billion acquisition by Cigna; and
 - \$3.6 billion acquisition of eviCore healthcare;

Fintech

- CoreLogic in its \$6 billion acquisition by funds managed by Stone Point Capital and Insight Partners, and its previous proxy fight with Senator Investment Group and Cannae Holdings;
- iCapital in its acquisition of SIMON Markets;
- Nasdaq in the:
 - \$190 million acquisition of Nasdaq’s U.S. fixed income electronic trading platform by Tradeweb Markets;
 - offer to acquire all of the issued shares of Oslo Børs VPS for \$770 million in the aggregate;
 - acquisition of Boardvantage; and
 - acquisition of Marketwired;

- Hearst in the acquisition (by its subsidiary Fitch Group) of CreditSights;

Transportation and Logistics

- American Express Global Business Travel in its:
 - business combination with Apollo Strategic Growth Capital, pursuant to which American Express Global Business Travel became the world’s largest publicly traded B2B travel platform;
 - acquisition of Egencia from Expedia Group; and
 - acquisition of Ovation Travel Group;
- Hearst in the acquisition (by its subsidiary CAMP Systems International) of Inventory Locator Service from Boeing;
- Veritas Capital in its \$2.1 billion acquisition of StandardAero;

Consumer Products and Services

- Vital Proteins in its acquisition by Nestlé Health Science;
- Life Time Fitness in its \$4.2 billion acquisition by Leonard Green & Partners and TPG Capital;
- Clearon Corp. and its shareholder, Hui Yu Xin American, in its sale to Solenis International, a portfolio company of Platinum Equity;
- Lecoq Cuisine and its founder in its sale to Groupe Le Duff;
- Bluestem Brands, the retail operator of Fingerhut, Gettington.com and PayCheck Direct, in its \$565 million acquisition by Capmark Financial Group; and
- Multisorb Technologies and its stockholders in its acquisition by Summer Street Capital Partners.

Mr. Hartmann also has provided *pro bono* legal services to New York-based clients, including Roads to Success, Operation Veronica and Sick Kids (need) Involved People of New York.