

Thaddeus (Thad) Hartmann

Skadden

Partner, New York

Mergers and Acquisitions; Sports; Media and Entertainment



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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

Honors

Sports Business Journal

2024 Forty Under 40 and 2021 Power Player in Sports Law (Platinum Tier)

Chambers USA: Ranked for Sports Law

Lawdragon 2025 500 Leading Global Entertainment, Sports & Media Lawyers

Law360 2023 Rising Star in Media & Entertainment

Publications

"USA" chapter, *International Comparative Legal Guide to Mergers and Acquisitions*, 2020-24

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 and Entertainment

- Twenty-First Century Fox in its:
 - \$85 billion acquisition by The Walt Disney Company and the \$25 billion pre-merger spin-off of certain news, sports and broadcast businesses to create Fox Corp. 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
 - proposed (but terminated) \$80 billion acquisition of Time Warner
- Reliance Industries in its \$8.5 billion joint venture with its affiliate Viacom 18 Media and The Walt Disney Company to combine Viacom18 and Star India. This transaction was named M&A Deal of the Year (Premium) at the *ALB India Law Awards*
- Edgar Bronfman, Jr. in his proposed (but terminated) \$6 billion acquisition of Paramount Global
- 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
 - 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
- Closer Media in its investment in Mubi
- 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
- CurtCo Robb Media, publisher of *Robb Report*, in its acquisition by Rockbridge Growth Equity Partners

Sports and Gaming

- Lionel Messi in his agreement to play for Major League Soccer club Inter Miami CF. This transaction was named *Sports Business Journal's* Deal of the Year
- The XFL in its:
 - combination with the United States Football League to create the United Football League
 - 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 XFL's games
 - discussions with the CFL on possible collaborations
- 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
- 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

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Continued

- Rogers Communications Inc. in its 4.7 billion Canadian dollar acquisition of Bell Canada's 37.5% ownership stake in Maple Leaf Sports & Entertainment
- The PGA TOUR in:
 - corporate governance matters
 - 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
 - the acquisition of EZLinks by NBC Sports Group, a subsidiary of Comcast
- The National Hockey League in its:
 - sale of the Phoenix Coyotes franchise
 - multiyear strategic partnership with PointsBet, a premier global sportsbook operator
- 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
- TEAM8 in its joint venture with the United States Tennis Association and Tennis Australia, among others, to form the Laver Cup
- minority owners in the sales of their interests in major league sports franchises and related businesses, including regional sports networks
- PCI Gaming Authority (d/b/a Wind Creek Hospitality) in its:
 - acquisition of FlowPlay
 - acquisition of Magic City Casino in Miami

Technology (Including 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
- Duck Creek Technologies in its \$2.6 billion acquisition by funds managed by Vista Equity Partners
- 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
 - acquisition of Marketwired

- Criteo in:
 - corporate governance matters, including its response to Petrus Advisers and its CEO succession plan
 - its \$350 million acquisition of IPONWEB
- NXP Semiconductors in its \$1.8 billion acquisition of Marvell's wireless connectivity portfolio
- Hearst in the acquisition (by its subsidiary, Fitch Group) of CreditSights
- Cannae Holdings in its agreement to wind down its external management structure
- TAMKO Building Products in the investment by its subsidiary, Allmine Paving, in Northstar Clean Technologies

Health Care and Wellness

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

Transportation and Logistics

- American Express Global Business Travel in its:
 - \$5.3 billion de-SPAC business combination with Apollo Strategic Growth Capital
 - pending \$540 million acquisition of CWT
 - acquisition of Egencia from Expedia Group
 - 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

- Clearon Corp. and its shareholder, Hui Yu Xin American, in its sale to Solenis, a portfolio company of Platinum Equity
- Lecoq Cuisine and its founder in its sale to Groupe Le Duff

Mr. Hartmann is a member of the board of directors of Hopeland, which pioneers innovative solutions and builds new partnerships to prevent family separation, reunify children who are separated from their families and mobilize a movement of families to support children who are growing up outside of family care. He also has provided *pro bono* legal services to clients such as Next Generation Global Health Security Network, Roads to Success, Operation Veronica and Sick Kids (need) Involved People of New York.