John K. Neal, Jr.

Associate, New York

Mergers and Acquisitions



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Education

J.D., Vanderbilt University Law School, 2021

B.S., Clemson University, 2018

Bar Admissions

New York

John K. Neal, Jr. advises public and private companies, private equity sponsors, portfolio companies and other institutional investors on a wide range of corporate transactions, including mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, strategic investments and other transactions. Mr. Neal also regularly advises boards and special committees in preparing for and responding to takeover acquisitions, shareholder activism and other corporate governance situations.

Prior to joining Skadden, Mr. Neal completed a secondment at Apollo Global Management Inc.

Mr. Neal's notable representations prior to and since joining Skadden include:

Mergers and Acquisitions

- **GIC** in connection with its (i) $18.3 billion take-private acquisition of Hologic, Inc. and (ii) $14 billion acquisition of McAfee Corp.
- **Athene Holding** in its merger with Apollo at an enterprise value of $11 billion
- **Emerson Electric** in its $8.2 billion acquisition of National Instruments
- **FirstEnergy** in its $5.9 billion transmission joint venture with Brookfield
- **GO Residential REIT** in its pending $2.8 billion acquisition of 27 properties owned by H&R REIT as part of a larger C$6.7 billion acquisition
- **NOVAGOLD Resources** in its pending acquisition of a 40% stake in Donlin Gold from Paulson & Co., creating a U.S.-domiciled gold developer with approximately $4.2 billion equity value
- **Marathon Asset Management** in its up to $1.6 billion sale to CVC Capital Partners
- **Ancala** in its acquisition of the U.S. Gulf Coast formalin business from Hexion
- **AIP** in its $700 million acquisition of the grain and protein division of AGCO Corp.
- **Leonard Valve Company**, a Bessemer portfolio company, in its sale to A. O. Smith
- **One Equity Partners** and **Buckthorn Partners** in their acquisition of Acteon Group
- **Newfold Digital** in its $302.5 million acquisition of MarkMonitor Inc.
- **ScionHealth**, an Apollo portfolio company, in its acquisition of Cornerstone Healthcare
- **New Catalyst Strategic Partners**, an Apollo platform, in a GP stake investment
- **Wafra** in its secondary sale of certain fund interests

Shareholder Engagement and Activism

- **The New York Times** in respect to an activist investment by ValueAct
- **Hasbro** in its proxy contest defense against Alta Fox and Ancora
- **Sleep Number** in its activism campaign defense and related cooperation agreement with Stadium Capital
- **Crown Castle** in its activism campaign defense against Elliott
- **Alight** in its settlement of an activism campaign by Starboard
- **Beyond** in its activism campaign defense against JAT Capital
- **Cannae Holdings** in its activism campaign defense against Carronade
- **Comtech Telecommunications** in connection with an unsolicited bid by Acacia
- **Pitney Bowes** in its activism campaign defense against Hestia