

Amanda Leese

Partner

Amanda Leese primarily represents private companies and firms in the formation and management of investment vehicles. She also provides counsel on a variety of strategic transactions including direct investments, co-investments, joint ventures, acquisitions and divestitures, and has counseled private sponsors in secondary transactions.

Amanda has experience handling capital raises ranging from under \$500 million to more than \$5 billion, and various other strategic transactions ranging from \$10 million to more than \$4 billion, across diverse industries such as renewable energy, biomedical, transportation and financial services sectors.

Representative Matters

Prior to joining Quarles & Brady LLP, Amanda worked with global law firms in Chicago, Ill., and Boston, Mass., and counseled private investment firms and corporate clients on transactions including the following:

Formations and Capital Raises

- First-time fundraises for private equity sponsors with hard caps ranging from \$400 million to \$750 million.
- Fundraise for an established private equity sponsor with a hard cap over \$3.5 billion.
- Formation of a start-up company, and subsequent fundraising Series and technology transfers.
- Investments in early-stage companies by large institutional investors.

Acquisitions and Divestitures

- Sale of a media company (\$1.7+ billion).
- Acquisition of an aerospace component manufacturer (\$360+ million).
- Acquisition of a surgical device manufacturer (\$150+ million).
- Sale of a biomedical device manufacturer (\$2.7 billion).
- Acquisition of a biomaterial supplier (\$250+ million).
- Acquisition of a discount retailer (165+ million).
- Initial and add-on acquisitions of a technology company (\$21+ million).
- Acquisition of a chemical services provider (\$9.5+ million).
- Joint venture transaction between rail providers (6.0+ million).
- Bankruptcy Code Chapter 11 Section 363 acquisition of a sales services provider (\$6.0+ million).



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- Seconded to a university to assist in its preparation of a sale of a portfolio of real estate investments.

Experience

- Special Assistant for Policy and Projects, U.S. Senate, Office of Senator Jeanne Shaheen, 2009-2010
- Supply Chain Analyst, Clinton Health Access Initiative, The Clinton Foundation, 2007-2008
- Research Analyst, Corporate Strategy Board, The Corporate Executive Board, 2006-2007

Admitted in Massachusetts (2017) and Illinois (2013, inactive).

Legal Services

- Business Law
 - Private Equity
 - Privately Held Businesses
- Mergers & Acquisitions

Education and Honors

- Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law (J.D., *cum laude*)
- Johns Hopkins University (B.A., *cum laude*)

Bar Admissions

- Massachusetts
- Illinois (Inactive)

Professional and Civic Activities

- American Bar Association, member
- Massachusetts Bar Association, member

Professional Recognition

- Association of Securities & Exchange Commission Alumni Award, 2012-2013