

Ryan Van Den Elzen

PARTNER

Milwaukee

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About Ryan

Driving middle-market private company M&A forward

Ryan Van Den Elzen concentrates on middle-market private company mergers and acquisitions (M&A) with a heavy focus on private equity. He leverages his extensive transactional experience to:

- **Focus on what matters both in deal terms and diligence.**
- **Help clients understand the practical implications** of legal risks and deal terms.
- **Understand how and where the market is moving** to provide practical guidance with a view to efficiently closing deals.
- **Develop a streamlined process and small but dedicated team of lawyers** for each transaction, all pulling in the same direction with a common goal of getting the deal done.

As an important aspect in private equity transactions, Ryan also helps clients draft and implement a full suite of equity documents, addressing the needs of the lead private equity group, institutional co-investors, financing sources and management.

Experience in Action

- **Representing private equity groups** in the full life cycle of portfolio investments from platform acquisitions all the way through to the ultimate exit transaction, including portfolio company growth efforts that often involve multiple tuck-in acquisitions.
- **Advising family-owned and other privately held businesses** on day-to-day operational issues as well as growth strategies, including M&A transactions, corporate governance matters,

Education and Honors

University of Notre Dame, Mendoza College of Business (Certificate of Executive Management, 2013)

University of Notre Dame Law School (J.D., *summa cum laude*, 2002)

- Notre Dame Law Review, 2000-2002 (Assistant Managing Editor, 2001-2002)

University of Wisconsin - Madison (B.S., 1999)

Bar Admissions

Wisconsin





structuring relationships among owners, strategic planning, structuring and forming new business entities, and serving as outside general counsel.

- **Helping founders and other private company business owners** achieve successful sale transactions when the time is right for them to make the transition.

Recent Success

- Represented a private equity group in acquisition of engineering services business serving the insurance industry.
- Represented Infosec Institute Inc., an IT security training business, in the sale of business to Cengage Learning, Inc.
- Represented private equity group in acquisition of retail-focused beauty products company.
- Represented private equity-backed company in simultaneous acquisition of a competitor and that competitor's largest supplier.
- Represented Carson Group, a wealth management and fin-tech business, in connection with its growth equity financing transaction with Bain Capital.
- Represented private equity group in sale of engineering services business serving the electrical infrastructure industry.
- Represented private equity-owned portfolio company in a series of growth-oriented acquisitions and the ultimate sale of the business to an Italian public company.
- Represented 50% owner of family business to build consensus with other owners and ultimately sell 100% of the business to a private equity group.

Capabilities

Business Law

Corporate Finance and Securities

Private Equity

Emerging Growth Companies and Venture Capital

Mergers and Acquisitions

Corporate Venturing

General Corporate and Outside General Counsel Services

Professional Recognitions

- Listed in *Best Lawyers in America*[®] (2018–present: Mergers and Acquisitions Law)
- Listed in *Chambers USA*[®] (2012, 2013, 2019–present: Corporate/M&A)
- Selected for inclusion in *Wisconsin Super Lawyers*[®] –Rising Stars Editions 2008, 2009, 2012 (Business/Corporate; Mergers & Acquisitions)





Professional & Civic Activities

- American Bar Association (Member)
- Lutheran Special School and Education Services (Member of the Board of Directors)
- PAVE Board Corps (Member)
- State Bar of Wisconsin (Chairman, Business Law Section; Committee on Private Equity and Venture Capital, 2006–present)
- Wisconsin Bar Association (Member)

