

Lawrence D. Wilder

Partner

Toronto

OFFICE

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Industries & Expertise

INDUSTRIES

Artificial Intelligence | Hospitality

EXPERTISE

Mergers & Acquisitions | Private Equity | Capital Markets & Securities | Startup, Emerging Companies and Venture Capital

Biography

BAR ADMISSION

Ontario, 1987

EDUCATION

- LL.B., Osgoode Hall Law School, 1985

Lawrence Wilder is an experienced corporate and securities counsel who advises entrepreneurs and assists them in achieving their business objectives. His advice focuses upon successfully navigating all stages of business development, from the initial equity funding to initial public offerings, merger and acquisition transactions and other liquidity events. Lawrence's securities practice encompasses all aspects of corporate finance as well as providing sound counsel to public company special committees on corporate governance and securities law compliance in the context of complex transactions. In addition, Lawrence has advised on a number of special situation mandates including proxy contests where he has represented shareholder groups

effecting change at the Board level as well as target Boards managing such challenges. Lawrence has a busy and expanding private equity practice, acting for global private equity funds, as well as institutional investors and their investee companies in a wide variety of industries.

Lawrence has showcased his knowledge and experience in speaking engagements at various venues both in Canada and internationally. He has participated in faculty programs at each of Toronto's leading business schools: York University's Schulich School of Business and the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Business. Outside of the office, Lawrence has had active involvement with numerous charitable organizations.

Lawrence's remarkable track record includes repeated recognition by The Best Lawyers in Canada, Chambers Canada, and The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory, establishing him as a go-to lawyer for various legal areas.

Industry involvement

Recognition

- *The Best Lawyers in Canada* – Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law, 2014 – 2023; Corporate Law, 2022-2025; Mergers and Acquisitions Law, 2022-2025; Securities Law, 2024-2025
- *Chambers Canada*, REITs, 2017 – 2024
- *Who's Who Legal, Canada Guide* – Global Leader, Capital Markets – Debt & Equity, 2023 ; Capital Markets – Structured Finance, 2023
- *Who's Who Legal, Canada Guide* – National Leader; Canada – Capital Markets, 2022
- *The Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory* – Corporate Finance & Securities, 2019 – 2024; Corporate Mid-Market, 2012 – 2024; Mergers & Acquisitions, 2019 – 2024; Private Equity, 2021, 2023-2024
- Ranked as a leading lawyer by Martindale-Hubbell
- *Lexpert/American Lawyer Guide to the Leading 500 Lawyers in Canada* (Top 40 Repeatedly Recommended Canadian Corporate Mid-Market Lawyers), 2007

Thought leadership

- Speaker, *Lexpert Interview*, Lexpert, 2019
- Speaker, *M&A and Raising Money*, The Entrepreneurship Society, October 15, 2017

Notable matters

- Counsel to Apollo Health & Beauty Care Partnership in its acquisition in January 2017 by Acasta Enterprises Inc., representing one of the largest successful Qualifying Acquisitions by a Canadian Special Purpose Acquisition Corporation
- Canadian counsel to French hotel chain Accor on its US\$2.9 billion purchase of the company that owns the Fairmont, Raffles and Swissotel hotel lines

- Counsel to Berkshire Hathaway Inc. in connection with its \$3 billion preferred equity investment to facilitate the reorganization and merger of Tim Hortons and Burger King Worldwide Inc.
- Counsel to Blackstone Capital Partners in connection with certain of its oil and gas investments
- Counsel to Maxam Opportunities Fund LP and Pender Growth Fund in connection with the going-private transaction involving their TSXV-listed investee Radiant Communications Inc.
- Counsel to Starlight Investments Ltd. in connection with the formation of a consortium consisting of Starlight, PSP Investments, Canadian Apartment REIT, and Timbercreek Asset Management in order to facilitate a \$2.3 billion acquisition and privatization of TSX listed TransGlobe Apartment Real Estate Investment Trust
- Counsel to LSF REIT Holdings S.à.r.l., an affiliate of Lone Star Real Estate Fund (U.S.) L.P, in the sale of its \$1 billion German real estate portfolio to Dundee International REIT (now Dream Global REIT) in connection with Dundee's IPO, the first IPO of a REIT in Canada with exclusively foreign assets
- Counsel to SKOR Food Group Inc. in its sale to Colabor Group Inc. by way of a take-over bid
- Counsel to Certicom Corp. in its hostile take-over bid defence and subsequent acquisition by Research in Motion Limited (now BlackBerry)
- Counsel to Gibralt Capital Group in its acquisition of a majority interest in the charter airline business of Skyservice Airlines Inc.
- Counsel to Starwood Capital Group in connection with its acquisition of five Westin hotel properties across Canada and its subsequent disposition of two of such properties
- Counsel to TSX – listed True North Apartment REIT in connection with its formation, public financings and 2015 merger with Northern Property REIT to form Northview Apartment REIT, one of Canada's largest apartment REITs
- Counsel to TSX – listed True North Commercial REIT in connection with its formation and public financings of equity and debt
- Counsel to TSX – listed Firm Capital Mortgage Investment Corporation, one of Canada's largest TSX listed mortgage investment corporations, in connection with its public financings of equity and debt
- Counsel to TSXV – listed Firm Capital American Realty Partners in connection with its reorganization, debt restructuring and subsequent public financings of equity and debt
- Counsel to TSXV – listed Firm Capital Property Trust in connection with its financings

Community roles

- Member of the Board of Governors of The Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto
- Member of the Board of Governors of the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies (Canada)
- Past Chairman of the Board and President of the Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre in Toronto