Holland & Hart



PRACTICES

Mergers and Acquisitions
Emerging Companies
Securities and Capital Markets
Corporate
Data Privacy and Information Security

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School Executive Education, Executive Leadership Certification, 2018

University of Denver College of Law, J.D., 1999
Order of St. Ives (Highest Honors)
Denver University Law Review, Business Editor

Boston College, B.S., 1995
cum laude
Finance and Marketing

BAR ADMISSIONS

Colorado

Christopher Balch

Partner and Firm Chair

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As Firm Chair, Chris is responsible for leading the firm's strategic direction and serving as steward of the firm's culture and brand.

Since 2020, Chris has served as Chair of the firm's Management Committee while running a dynamic corporate and mergers and acquisitions practice. Clients value his business acumen and ability to provide strategic counsel beyond legal issues. Leading sophisticated transactions, Chris is accustomed to managing teams and he is adept at seeing the big picture, planning many steps ahead to optimize business potential and navigate legal and business obstacles.

He is a respected advisor to clients in technology, private equity, cybersecurity, consumer products, and other industries on complex investment, financing, and strategic transactions. His clients include businesses ranging from funded start-ups to private equity, growth capital, and venture capital investors (and their portfolio companies) to publicly traded companies with multibillion-dollar market capitalization.

Before being elected Firm Chair, Chris served in a number of firm leadership roles, including being a twice-elected member of the firm's Management Committee, co-leader of the Technology industry group, and multiple strategic planning and recruiting committees. A steadfast supporter of the firm's commitment to give back to our local communities, Chris has served on the board of the Holland & Hart Foundation since 2008 and served as co-chair from 2010 to 2021.

EXPERIENCE

Mergers and Acquisitions

- Strategic acquisitions and dispositions
- Private equity transactions
- Financing and restructuring
- Roll-up transactions
- Leveraged buyouts
- Auction processes

Emerging Growth and Venture Capital

- Formation
- Financing
- Mergers and acquisitions

- Exit strategies

Corporate Governance and Transactions

- Business succession planning
- Commercial contracts
- Corporate governance
- Counseling to management and boards of directors

CLIENT RESULTS

Mergers and Acquisitions

Represented Optiv Federal Inc. in its acquisition of ClearShark, L.L.C. and ClearShark Services, Inc.

Represented TalentReef in its acquisition by Mitratech.

Represented Webroot Inc. in its sale to Carbonite for $618,500,000.

Represented Bow River Capital Software Growth Equity Fund in multiple acquisitions and majority recapitalizations, including Fresnal Software Corporation (d/b/a Vitruvi), Altvia LLC, HRSoft Inc., Xima LLC and AbsenceSoft

Represented Bow River Capital Software Growth Equity Fund and its portfolio company Xyleme Holdings, Inc., in its full-sale transaction of Xyleme to MadCap Software, Inc., a portfolio company of Battery Ventures.

Represented HRSoft, Inc., a Bow River Capital portfolio company, in its acquisition of CompTrak

Represented Altvia, a Bow River Capital portfolio company, in a recapitalization by Marlin Equity Partners

Represented AbsenceSoft, a Bow River Capital portfolio company, in a recapitalization by Norwest Venture Partners

Represented Integral Consulting in a majority recapitalization by Imperial Capital

Represented Air Methods Corporation in its acquisition of AirMD, LLC and the recapitalization of Cheyenne Mountain Software, LLC

Represented Ouray Sportswear, LLC in its sale to (and strategic partnership with) TSC Apparel, a CenterGate Capital portfolio company.

Represented the Western Union Company in multiple investments, acquisitions, and dispositions.

Represented Air Methods Corporation in its sale to an affiliate of American Securities for $2.5 billion.

Represented Optiv Inc., a Blackstone portfolio company, in its sale and recapitalization with an affiliate of KKR.

Represented Optiv Inc., a KKR portfolio company, in multiple acquisitions including Communication Cable Company, Advancive, LLC, Evantix GRC, LLC, Adaptive Communications, Conexsys, and Decision Lab LLC.

Represented a market-leading provider of content and photography solutions for the attractions industry in its disposition of 100% of its membership interests to create the world's largest provider.

Represented MarketPay Associates, LLC (and its owner) in the sale of MarketPay to PayScale, Inc., a Warburg Pincus portfolio company.

Represented Air Methods Corporation in its acquisition of Tri-State Care Flight for $222.5 million.

Represented Dale Katechis and Oskar Blues Brewery, LLC in its recapitalization and partnership with Fireman Capital Partners.

Represented the Odell family members in the sale of their majority interests in Odell Brewing Company, Inc.

Represented Accuvant LLC, a Blackstone Group portfolio company, in its merger with Fishnet Security Inc.

Represented Accuvant LLC in its sale and recapitalization with an affiliate of The Blackstone Group, L.P.

Represented JobApp Network, a Frontier Capital portfolio company, in its acquisition of talentReef, Inc.

Represented IQNavigator, Inc. in its acquisition of Volt Information Sciences' division of Procurestaff Technologies, otherwise known as Consol (a vendor management software provider enabling management of commercial services spend).

Represented IQNavigator, Inc. in its sale and recapitalization with GTCR Golder Rauner LLC.

Represented Accruit, LLC's in the sale of its software technology platform and negotiation of a Joint Business Relationship with PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP.

Represented Atebits, LLC in its sale to Twitter, Inc.

Represented Associated Content, Inc. in its sale to Yahoo! Inc.

Represented Copper Services (f/k/a/ Copper Conferencing) in the formation and spin-off of Convey Services, LLC, a software as a service business, followed by the sale of substantially all of the assets of Copper Services to an affiliate of Premiere Global.

Represented Accuvant, Inc. in its sale and recapitalization with Sverica

International.

Represented PROFITSYSTEMS, Inc. in its sale and recapitalization with The Riverside Company.

Represented Spyder Active Sports, Inc. in its acquisition of Cloudveil Mountain Works, Inc.

Represented American Midstream Partners, a midstream energy company, in its acquisition of Blackwater Midstream Holdings LLC.

Represented CH2M HILL, Inc. in its acquisition of Trigon EPC, LLC and Goldston Engineering, Inc.

Financing Transactions

Represented multiple companies and/or investors in equity and debt financings, including talentReef, Chipotle, IQNavigator, NextGreatPlace, CenterStone Technologies, Accruit, ControlPath, Accuvant, Copper Conferencing, IP Commerce, Novinda, Aegis Analytical, and Cornice.

RECOGNITION

- *Chambers USA,* Corporate/M&A, 2018-2022; Eminent Practitioner, 2023-2026
- ColoradoBiz, Colorado 500, Business Law, 2026
- BTI Client Service All-Star, 2017
- *Law Week Colorado*, Barrister's Best, Mergers & Acquisitions, 2016
- *Law Week Colorado*, Lawyer of the Year, 2015
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® Lawyer of the Year, Corporate Law – Denver, 2022, 2025
- *The Best Lawyers in America*® Lawyer of the Year, Venture Capital Law – Denver, 2020, 2025
- *The Best Lawyers in America*®, Leveraged Buyouts and Private Equity Law, 2013-2027; Corporate Law, 2014-2027; Venture Capital Law, 2020-2027; Mergers and Acquisitions Law, 2021-2027
- Colorado Super Lawyers®, Mergers & Acquisitions, 2014-2026
- Colorado Super Lawyers® Rising Stars, 2009-2013
- *IFLR1000* United States, Colorado, Notable Practitioner, M&A, 2018-2023
- *5280 Magazine* Top Lawyers, Mergers & Acquisitions, 2021, 2022, 2025, 2026
- *Business Today*, Top 10 Influential Corporate/M&A Lawyers Shaping Colorado’s Business, 2023

PROFESSIONAL AND CIVIC AFFILIATIONS

- Holland & Hart Management Committee (Five Members), 2009-2011, 2018-present

- Holland & Hart Recruiting Committee, Denver Hiring Partner
- Holland & Hart Foundation, Co-Chair
- Rocky Mountain Venture Capital Association, Member
- American, Colorado, and Denver Bar Associations, Member
- TerraLex, Board of Directors