StradleyRonon

Steven A. Scolari

Partner--Co-Chair, Closely Held & Family-Owned Businesses

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Steven Scolari provides practical and strategic legal and business advice to executives and owners of both private and public businesses in connection with a variety of transactional matters, as well as business succession planning engagements, in a wide scope of industries.

Steve's transactional experience includes mergers and acquisitions, debt and equity financings, joint ventures, and corporate restructurings and reorganizations. He has worked with companies in industries including management and food concession services; manufacturing, including food products, recycled rubber products and aerospace suppliers; distribution, including laminated products, pipes, values, fittings and gaskets; healthcare, including continuing care facilities and physician practice groups; and other service businesses, including HVAC and refrigeration, patient service technology, commercial mechanical services, contract research, food processing, banking and financial services (including investment advisory and management), logistics, architectural and animal health.

As co-chair of Stradley Ronon's closely held and family-owned businesses practice, Steve's business succession planning engagements encompass corporate, tax, estate planning and family issues, including complex intergenerational shareholder and voting trust agreements. Additionally, he provides general corporate counseling for institutional and privately held corporate clients, and he represents both sellers and buyers of naming rights and other sponsorship rights connected with sports, entertainment and university facilities. Steve has also served as a mediator of closely held business owner disputes.

Featured Representative Matters

- Represented the Mann Center for the Performing Arts, a nonprofit performing arts center based in Philadelphia, in its 12-year naming rights sponsorship agreement with Highmark Health. The agreement will rebrand the outdoor music destination as the Highmark Mann Center for the Performing Arts.
- Represented Allied Resources Group (ARG), a multidisciplinary provider of engineering, staffing, inspection and field services, in several acquisitions of companies that build and maintain the infrastructure that keeps our world connected, including next-generation data centers.
- A clinical trial concierge services provider in an acquisition by an innovator of software solutions for clinical trials backed by one of the largest software investors

Services

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Corporate, Mergers & Acquisitions, and Securities
- Closely Held & Family-Owned Businesses
- Investment Management Mergers & Acquisitions
- Corporate

Education

- Duke University School of Law (J.D., *cum laude*)
- Drew University (B.A., *summa cum laude*)

Admissions

- Pennsylvania
- New Jersey

in the world.

- A producer and distributor of novelty ice cream products in the acquisition of a controlling interest by a private investment firm.
- Citizens Bank's 25-year, $95 million naming rights, advertising and sponsorship agreement with the Philadelphia Phillies, and also: (1) the Mann Center for the Performing Arts in connection with the sale of naming rights to its main house pavilion to TD Bank; (2) the owners of eight sport and entertainment facilities in the United States in connection with their sale of naming rights for such venues; (3) numerous public assembly facilities for the pouring rights and concession agreements at those venues; and (4) Saint Joseph's University for the sale of corporate sponsorships for its Division I athletic program and the pouring rights agreement for the university.
- A newly created holding company with passive and management equity investors to acquire a couple of commercial mechanical services companies from the parent company, growing them and then selling them five years later with the realization of an over-seven-fold increase in value for the owners.
- A domestic and international contract research organization's acquisition via merger of another pharmaceutical services company to expand the organization's scope of services in the new drug field.
- An investment management company's closing of a minority investment in its organization by a major international institutional financial services company.
- A closely held manufacturing business that increased its revenues by 2,000% in four years via leveraged acquisitions, which included the negotiation and drafting of the acquisition agreements, as well as senior and mezzanine debt financing documentation.
- A domestic purveyor of meat products in its merger with a strategic competitor, creating a vertically integrated, national supplier of such products.
- Penn State Alumni Association's multiyear extension of its affinity credit card and deposit account program with Bank of America.
- Numerous closely held business owners in a wide variety of industries (including multigenerational family-owned businesses, recycled rubber products, distribution, continuing care facilities, physician practice groups, architecture, food processing and human resource consulting); mapping out and implementing their business succession plans, which include a sale of the business (to strategic or financial buyers or to key management personnel) or passing equity onto the next generation while maintaining control of the company; and working closely with those owners to address complicated intergenerational issues in connection with those transactions.

Community Impact

Steve is a former member of the Executive Committee and former chairman of the board of directors for the Main Line Chamber of Commerce. He participated in the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce's inaugural, six-month Growth Collaborative Initiative with other regional professionals and nonprofit executives. He is also a former member of the Youth Education Steering Committee and chair of the board of trustees for St. John's Presbyterian Church in Devon, Pennsylvania, and recently completed a 15-month engagement on St. John's transformation implementation team.

Memberships

- Member, American Bar Association, Business Law Section
- Former Member, Board of Directors, Southeastern Pennsylvania Chambers Political Action Committee

- Former Member, Executive Committee; Former Chairman, Board of Directors, Main Line Chamber of Commerce
- Member, Forum on the Entertainment & Sports Industries, American Bar Association
- Member, Pennsylvania Bar Association, Business Law Section

Recognitions

- Legal Elite*, SmartCEO Magazine*
- Chairman’s Award, Main Line Chamber of Commerce (2008)

Featured Speaking Engagements

- Presenter, "Mitigation, Optimization & Maximization: Examining Successful Business Transitions," Stradley Ronon
- Moderator, “Maximize Your Success with Pre-Transaction Tax Structuring,” Small Business Dealmakers Conference
- Panelist, “Succession Planning and Exit Strategies: Positioning Your Business to Succeed,” Stradley Ronon and Valley Bank
- Presenter, “Hot Topics in M&A 2022,” Philadelphia Bar Institute
- Presenter, “Business Succession Planning: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly,” Smart Business Dealmakers Conference
- Presenter, “Planning the Transition: Navigating the Ownership Transition”
- Presenter, “Best Practices for Preparing the Next Generation for Governance & Wealth” Stradley Ronon
- Presenter, “The Buy-Sell Agreement: Ticking Time Bomb or Golden Parachute?”
- Presenter, “Business Succession Planning, the ‘Keep-Sell’ Decision”

Experience

Stradley Ronon Represents Mann Center in Naming Rights Sponsorship Agreement with Highmark

Stradley Ronon advised the Mann Center for the Performing Arts, a nonprofit performing arts center based in Philadelphia, in its 12-year naming rights sponsorship agreement with health insurer Highmark Health (d/b/a Highmark Blue Shield). The agreement, announced October 15, will rebrand the outdoor music destination as the Highmark Mann Center for the Performing Arts. The sponsorship agreement also extends to the community programs that the center sponsors every year.

This is the fourth naming rights agreement Stradley Ronon has handled for the center since 2019. The agreement was announced at a groundbreaking celebration of the center’s $70 million capital campaign to transform its physical campus ahead of its 50th anniversary next year.

Stradley Ronon Represents Allied Resources Group in Acquisition of Verigent

Stradley Ronon represented Allied Resources Group (ARG) in its acquisition of Verigent, a North Carolina-based staffing firm specializing in telecom and IT network infrastructure. The transaction closed July 31; the value was undisclosed.

ARG is a multidisciplinary provider of engineering, staffing, inspection and field services focused on delivering reliable solutions to critical infrastructure clients nationwide. The acquisition will expand ARG's workforce solutions platform and strengthen its presence in fast-growing technical markets across the United States, including the data center infrastructure sector.

Read more about the acquisition.

Stradley Ronon Represents Maple Donuts in Acquisition by Swander Pace Capital
Stradley Ronon represented Maple Donuts, a Pennsylvania-based manufacturer of frozen bakery products, in its acquisition by Swander Pace Capital, a private equity firm focused on investing across the food and beverage industry. The transaction closed on May 30, 2025; the value was undisclosed.

The acquisition will allow Maple Donuts to further expand product offerings and enhance production capabilities.

The Stradley Ronon team was led by Tom Ix and Steve Scolari, with John Hook, Megan Stamm, Rich Peterson, Jon Bloom, Chris Rosenbleeth and Andrew Barron.

For more information, visit Swander Pace Capital's website.

Stradley Ronon Represents Clincierge in Acquisition by Greenphire
Stradley Ronon advised Clincierge, a provider of concierge travel and logistics support for patients participating in clinical trials, in its acquisition by Greenphire, an innovator in software solutions for streamlining clinical trials backed by private equity firm Thoma Bravo, one of the largest software investors in the world. The combination will allow the firms to better support patient care by utilizing cutting-edge technologies.

Read more about the transaction.

Stradley Ronon Advises Mini Melts in Investment by Altamont Capital Partners
A cross-practice team of Stradley Ronon lawyers represented Mini Melts USA, a producer and distributor of novelty ice cream products headquartered in the Philadelphia area, in the acquisition of a controlling interest by Altamont Capital Partners. Altamont Capital is a Palo Alto, California-based private investment firm with more than $4 billion in assets under management.

Altamont Capital partnered with Mini Melts to provide growth capital and support an expansion of its distribution footprint and manufacturing capabilities. Mini Melts' CEO and founder will remain in his role and as a major investor alongside Altamont Capital and the company's existing shareholders.

For more information on the deal, read this *Wall Street Journal* article. (Subscription required.)

Pronto Repairs Acquired by Tech24
Stradley Ronon represented Pronto Repairs, Inc. in an acquisition by Tech24, a portfolio company of HCI Equity Partners. Pronto Repairs offers repair, maintenance and installation services for foodservice and commercial HVAC equipment to hospitals and medical centers in the New York City area. Tech24 is a national industry leader in commercial foodservice equipment repair and maintenance. The acquisition allows Tech24 to strengthen its presence both in the New York City metropolitan area and in

the healthcare segment.

Sale of Stock of Burns Mechanical to Southland Industries
Represented the ownership group of Burns Mechanical, Inc., a prominent mechanical and engineering services firm in Southeastern Pennsylvania headquartered in Horsham, PA, in connection with the sale of all of its stock to Southland Industries, a privately held mechanical, engineering and plumbing (MEP) services firm located in Grove City, CA.

Allied Resources Group Acquires RTR Energy Solutions Assets
Stradley Ronon represented Allied Resources Group, a holding company to a host of niche technical companies in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Indiana and Ohio, providing engineering, technical recruiting, healthcare, industrial inspection and construction management support services in connection with its acquisition of substantially all of the assets of RTR Energy Solutions, providing services relating to designing, building and maintaining power delivery systems in the electric utility and other power delivery sectors, including negotiating and closing amendments to ARG’s credit facilities for such acquisition.

Préval AG Purchases Assets of J&G Foods
Served as U.S. counsel to Préval AG, an agri-food company that is the leader in veal production in North America headquartered in Quebec, Canada, in connection with its acquisition and financing of substantially all of the assets of J&G Foods, a custom and specialty case-ready fresh meat provider in Sutton, MA.

Sale of Assets of Ascension Publishing
Stradley Ronon represented the owners of Ascension Publishing, LLC (dba Ascension Press), a nationally known producer and distributor of Catholic-based books, study programs, and audio and other materials, in connection with the sale of substantially all of its assets to the management team at Ascension.

Sale of Majority Equity Interest in Main Line Spine Surgery Center
Stradley Ronon represented the owners of Main Line Spine Surgery Center, a state-of-the-art, fully licensed multi-specialty outpatient surgery center in King of Prussia, PA, in connection with the sale of a majority of its equity to a joint venture of Virtua Health and Surgical Care Associates.

Sale of Stock of The TASA Group to Futuris Company
Stradley Ronon represented the owners of The TASA Group, Inc., North America’s largest and most experienced expert referral service to the legal profession, in connection with the sale of all of its stock to Futuris Company, a publicly-traded Human Capital Management (HCM) company focused on HCM staffing, consulting and tech services.

Strategic Alliance by AscellaHealth with Optime Care
Stradley Ronon represented AscellaHealth, a global specialty pharmacy and healthcare solutions company, in connection with its consummation of a strategic alliance with Optime Care, a Specialty Pharmacy (SP) servicing small patient communities, to further enhance AscellaHealth’s ability to become a leader in SP services and establish a strong trajectory for growth, including negotiating and closing on AscellaHealth’s financing for such alliance.

McClure Company Sells Majority Interest to SCA
Stradley Ronon represented the ownership group of McClure Company, one of Pennsylvania’s largest mechanical contracting and energy services firms,

headquartered in Harrisburg, in connection with the sale of a majority interest in McClure to Sojitz Corporation of America (SCA), which invests in global infrastructure, energy and sustainable businesses. Incorporated in 1953, McClure Company has a long history of delivering fully integrated mechanical construction, engineering, maintenance and energy-efficient services and solutions to its customers.

Stradley Assisted in Dual-Class Structure IPO

Stradley Ronon assisted one of the three Westphal family groups in connection with Vertex Inc.'s IPO, which was completed on July 29, 2020, and raised $401 million dollars for the company. As part of the IPO process, Vertex Inc. created a dual-class structure which gives the three Westphal family groups owning a combined 78.5% of the company's voting power after the IPO, and the existing family groups needed to amend and restate their shareholders' agreement to take account of such dual-class structure and the realities of being a public company.

Lovell Minnick Partners Makes Majority Investment in CenterSquare Investment Management

Stradley Ronon represented Lovell Minnick Partners in its majority investment in CenterSquare Investment Management, a global investment manager with approximately $9 billion in assets under management in U.S. and global real estate and infrastructure investments, in connection with the acquisition by Lovell Minnick Partners and CenterSquare's management of CenterSquare's business from BNY Mellon Investment Management. Founded in 1999, Lovell Minnick Partners is an independent private equity firm specializing in the financial and business services sectors. Having raised $1.7 billion in committed capital, the firm has provided equity capital for growth investments, management buyouts, succession and ownership transitions, and recapitalizations for over 30 middle-market companies.