

SHEEHAN PHINNEY

Colleen Lyons

Shareholder | Manchester, NH

Colleen represents both established and emerging businesses in a full range of commercial and strategic transactions. A substantial portion of her practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and debt and equity financings. Her extensive experience in these areas allows her to effectively assist clients in planning and successfully implementing these important entity initiatives. Colleen has specific industry experience in manufacturing, insurance, renewable energy, technology and software. Many of her transactional representations have led to longer term general corporate counsel engagements where she advises clients on a wide range of legal and business issues; in that capacity she collaborates to provide practical and cost effective solutions to address ongoing operational and governance matters that arise during the life span of a business.

Colleen also has substantial experience representing both trustees and investment managers regarding the formation and operation of collective investment entities as New Hampshire Investment Trusts and qualified investment companies.



Contact Information

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Key Matters

- Represented investment management firm in connection with its acquisition by national firm
- Acted as special counsel to new Hampshire Public Utilities Commission in connection with auction and sale of the electric generation assets of Eversource New Hampshire
- Represented Bittware, Inc., a global provider of computing systems featuring field programmable gate arrays in sale to Molex Electronic Solutions
- Represented New Hampshire based manufacturer of ink jet printer inks in sale to publicly traded office supply company
- Represented insurance company affiliate in strategic acquisition of software company and follow on securities offering to additional strategic investors.
- Represented client in strategic merger of two investment funds with an aggregate value of \$245 million.
- Represented newly-formed entity in obtaining \$12 million secured financing to fund acquisition of data center business.
- Represented multiple timber investment funds with financings having an aggregate value in excess \$200 million.
- Represented client in spinoff of real estate holding company to its shareholders.
- Assisted with representation of NetProspex in \$125 million sale to Dun & Bradstreet.
- Represented the owners of New England Wood Pellet, LLC, the largest producer of wood pellets for the U.S. heating market, in the sale of the company to Rentech, Inc., a publicly-traded wood fiber processing and nitrogen fertilizer manufacturing company, for approximately \$53 million.

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- Represented an independent rural telephone and telecommunications holding company in obtaining \$35 million of secured financing for various acquisitions of rural telephone and telecommunications companies with an aggregate value of \$50 million.
- Acted as local entity counsel for a renewable energy entity in connection with general contract matters and Department of Energy financing.
- Represented owners of privately-held construction materials business with multiple entities and locations in sale of assets to a strategic buyer for approximately \$35 million.
- Represented a private building supply company in obtaining debt financing of \$50 million in connection with a going-private leveraged buyout of a Nasdaq-traded public company in a similar industry.
- Represented multiple New Hampshire trust companies and investment managers in connection with the formation and maintenance of well over sixty private investment funds as qualified investment companies under the New Hampshire Investment Trust Act.

Practice Areas

- Business Formation & Succession Planning
- Business Lending
- Corporate
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Securities & Venture Capital

Admissions

- State of New Hampshire
- State of New York
- State of Connecticut
- New Hampshire Bar Association (Member, Corporate, Banking and Business Law Sections)
- American Bar Association (Member, Business Law Section)
- Former Certified Public Accountant, State of NY (Inactive)

Education

- J.D., Fordham University School of Law, *cum laude*
- Completed requirements for M.S. Accounting, New York University Graduate School of Business
- B.A., Williams College, *cum laude*

Civic Involvement

- Board member and member of Finance Committee, St. Joseph Community Services, Inc. /Meals on Wheels
- Member of Finance Committee and Audit Committee, Neighborworks Southern New Hampshire

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- Member, BIA Committee, responsible for proposing revisions to New Hampshire Business Corporation Act
- Member Stakeholder Group, BIA, participating in development of Strategic Economic Plan for New Hampshire

Awards

- Best Lawyers in America®, Corporate Law
- Chambers USA, Corporate/Commercial
- Martindale- Hubbell Peer Rated
- New England Super Lawyer®, Business/Corporate

Publications

- SBA PPP Forgiveness Platform Scheduled to Go Live August 10, 2020
- PPP Loan Application Deadline Extended and Conforming Updates to Previously Issued Interim Guidance
- Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act Becomes Law
- Overview of May PPP Loan Forgiveness Regulations
- Application for PPP Loan Forgiveness Released
- Use of PPP Loan Proceeds and Forgiveness
- SBA Issues PPP Loan Guidance for Self-Employed Individuals
- SBA Issues Interim Final Rules and Final Form of Application for Paycheck Protection Program
- Paycheck Protection Program Application Process and Guidelines Established
- Paycheck Protection Program
- The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (The Cares Act)
- Benefit corporations: coming soon to New Hampshire
- New Hampshire Enacts Modernization of Business Corporation Act
- Co-Author of Chapter in MCLE Practical Guide to Organizing a Business in New Hampshire entitled “Organizing a Corporation Under the New Hampshire Business Corporation Act” (February 2014)