

Daily Journal

FEBRUARY 5, 2014



Deal volume remained subdued in 2013, but California's corporate lawyers handled some of the highlights of the year.

After months of speculation, Twitter Inc. took to its own social media platform in September to announce that it had filed a confidential registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission — the first step on the road to one of the largest and most highly anticipated initial public offerings of the year.

The real estate and pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors proved to be particularly strong in 2013.

Altogether, the numbers show California deal lawyers have been keeping busy, even as they assuage clients' fears over the global economic recovery and help them prepare for battles against plaintiffs' firms that specialize in mergers litigation.

For the first time in this supplement, we're honoring the state's top private equity lawyers and emerging companies lawyers in recognition of California's strength in innovation. The lawyers on these lists are selected based on an exhaustive process. The Daily Journal solicited nominations from both law firms and businesses. We canvassed the paper's reporters and their best sources. Look inside to meet some of the lawyers who made their mark on the year. .

-The Editors

TOP EMERGING COMPANIES LAWYERS

Anthony J. McCusker

Goodwin Procter LLP
Menlo Park

Riding a wave of interest in emerging tech companies, McCusker has led several deals for startups seeking venture funding as well as those pursuing public offerings.

Last February, he advised digital money transfer company Xoom Corp. in its \$101 million IPO, as well as a subsequent public offering that raised \$134 million.

He also represented Goldman, Sachs & Co. as the underwriter in Marketo Inc.'s IPO. The company, which creates marketing software, raised \$78 million and a further \$213 million in its secondary offering.

McCusker advised venture firm Andreessen Horowitz in leading a \$60 million series C financing in May for Lyft Inc., which rethinks taxis by connecting ordinary drivers with passengers.

"Right now there's such a large number of terrific companies and great entrepreneurs and what excites me about what we do is helping them reach their mission and vision for the products they're developing," McCusker said. "It's in a small way, but by doing what we do well ... we can help them reach their vision and that's fun."

—Fiona Smith

