SHARTSIS FRIESE

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P. Rupert Russell

PARTNER

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P. Rupert Russell is an experienced and trusted advisor to business clients, including public and private, domestic and foreign, and for-profit and non-profit companies and organizations.

Rupert advises business clients on the structuring, negotiation and documentation of complex transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, securities offerings, syndicated credit facilities, bank credit facilities, venture capital and business formations. He has led many billions of dollars in sophisticated deals across these areas, although his practice focuses on middle market transactions,.

Known for his ability to navigate high-stakes, business-critical issues, Rupert is often called upon by clients to lead their most complex and sensitive deals. He has worked with clients across various industries, including investment funds, technology, healthcare, agriculture (including produce) and manufacturing, managing transactions ranging in size from a few million dollars to over $40 billion.

Additionally, Rupert has represented NYSE, Nasdaq and OTC-listed public companies in a wide range of capital markets transactions, including underwritten offerings, PIPES, at the market offerings, rights offerings and shelf takedowns. He also advises on periodic and other SEC reporting obligations and corporate governance matters.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Corporate

Corporate Securities

Debt Financing

Life Sciences & Healthcare Transactions

Mergers & Acquisitions

Private Equity

Public Company

Technology Transactions

Venture Capital & Emerging Companies

Investment Funds & Advisers

EDUCATION

University of Oxford; B.A. in Jurisprudence, 1980

BAR ADMISSIONS

California

England

ACCOLADES

2026 Legal 500 US City Elite – San Francisco, Corporate and M&A, Level 1

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Experience

Recent examples of transactions led by Rupert have included:

- $1.8 billion sale of biopharma company through merger agreement that began on a "twin track" basis preparing draft Form S-1 for IPO as alternative to sale.
- Reverse mergers involving healthcare and medical device companies, including a $175 million De-SPAC transaction.
- Approximately $18 million At the Market Offering in 2 tranches
- Various middle market M&A transactions ranging from a $20 million sale of a software business, to a sale of a $45 million tooling business to acquisitions nationally and internationally of performing artists businesses.





Activities

- British American Bar Association of Southern California
  - Founder and active member
- British American Bar Association of Northern California
  - Founder and active member
- Ross Town Council
  - Member, 2010–2020
  - Mayor, 2012–2013
- Bench-Bar Coalition, Northern California
  - Executive Committee, Member at Large

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