

Andrew Hagopian

Partner

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Southern California – 714.800.1418



Andrew structures and negotiates high-stakes mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, and regulatory matters for companies in gaming, franchising, and other regulated industries, drawing on more than a decade of senior in-house leadership to deliver the commercial judgment that boardrooms need.

Andrew brings a perspective few M&A attorneys can offer: he has sat on the other side of the table as Chief Legal Officer, advising public company boards and executive teams through the very transactions he now helps clients execute at Dorsey & Whitney. That in-house vantage point — spanning more than a decade in senior legal leadership at NYSE-listed companies in the gaming and franchising industries — shapes how Andrew approaches every deal, from initial structuring through closing.

Andrew advises clients on mergers and acquisitions, strategic transactions, corporate governance, and complex regulatory matters. His transactional work spans multibillion-dollar M&A, joint ventures, carve-out IPOs, sale-leaseback transactions, securitized debt financings, and market access agreements across multiple U.S. jurisdictions. He has particular depth in the gaming and hospitality sector, including online sports betting and gaming technology platforms, and in consumer-facing franchising businesses — industries where regulatory complexity is not a footnote but a central deal variable.

On the governance side, Andrew has advised boards of directors and senior executives on fiduciary duties, SEC reporting, proxy contests, executive compensation, and institutional shareholder engagement across multiple public companies. He understands how boards weigh legal risk against business imperatives in real time, and he structures his advice accordingly.

Andrew also brings experience in government investigations and major litigation oversight, having managed matters involving the SEC, DOJ, and FTC, as well as class and mass actions. He has led enterprise-wide compliance programs in gaming,

Education

- Georgetown University Law Center (J.D., 2005)
- University of Southern California, Marshall School of Business (B.S., Business Administration, 2002)

Bar Admissions

- California

hospitality, and consumer platforms, and has worked closely with lawmakers and regulators on emerging legislation, including the legalization and regulation of online sports betting.

For clients facing high-stakes decisions under time pressure, Andrew combines technical legal judgment with the practical, business-focused perspective of someone who has led legal functions at scale in regulated industries.

Select Experience

- Negotiated joint venture to create a leading U.S. digital gaming and sports betting platform.*
- Advised on numerous joint ventures and complex strategic transactions across gaming, hospitality, and technology sectors.*
- Executed approximately \$9 billion of sale-leaseback transactions involving gaming real estate, including structuring triple-net master leases with approximately \$1 billion in annual rent.*
- Played a key role in the development of the first professional sports arena in Las Vegas.*

Charitable & Civic Involvement

- Board Member, Orange County American Cancer Society, 2023-2025