
SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



LIESEL CARVAJAL

GROUP GENERAL COUNSEL

HADRON INSURANCE

Liesel Carvajal is Group General Counsel, Hadron Insurance, a multi-national insurance group comprising insurance carriers domiciled in the US, the UK, and soon to be Belgium, where she serves as a key member of the Group's Executive Leadership team. In this role, she leads all legal, regulatory, compliance and human resources functions across Hadron's global operations.

Prior to joining Hadron, Liesel served as General Counsel, US Insurance at AXA XL, the property and casualty division of AXA, where she oversaw the legal affairs of the US Insurance business and its corresponding US legal entities. Liesel brings extensive insurance industry experience, having previously held legal roles at Arch Insurance Group, AIG and The Hartford. She began her career as a litigation associate at Wilson Elser in New York City.

Liesel holds a Juris Doctor from Brooklyn Law School and her Bachelor of Science from the University of Richmond. She is admitted to bars of New York and New Jersey and holds the Registered Professional Liability Underwriter (RPLU) designation.

Outside the office, Liesel lives in New York City with her husband Rich and their two sons (ages 11 and 17). She hits the Vermont slopes every winter, valiantly attempting to keep up with her boys with mixed results. She's also an enthusiastic traveler to anywhere warm, and loves collecting antique bug jewelry. When she's not wrangling legal matters or kids, she can be found reading something (anything!) that does not contain a single citation or footnote.



JOE CASTELLUCCIO

PARTNER
MAYER BROWN
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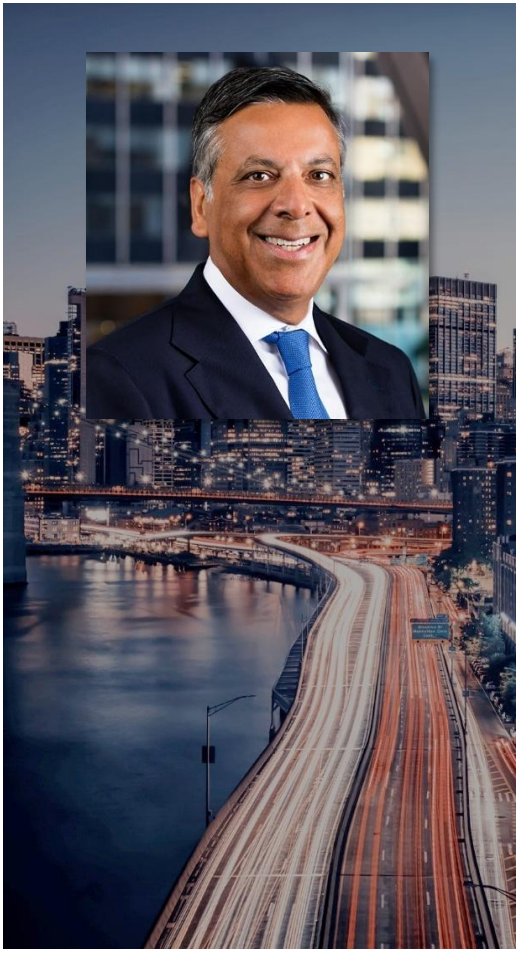
Joe Castelluccio counsels clients at the intersection of the multi trillion-dollar asset management and insurance sectors. Joe co-leads Mayer Brown's Convergence Solutions Group, which structures and executes integrated solutions and growth transactions for insurance companies, asset managers and private capital investors. In doing so, Joe advises clients on a range of M&A, joint ventures, hybrid capital investments and corporate governance matters.

Joe also co-leads Mayer Brown's global Fintech group. In that role, Joe advises clients in creating and executing strategic plans for the digitization of finance and the integration of technology and artificial intelligence in financial markets. He holds the AI Governance Professional (AIGP) credential through the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP).

Recent speaking engagements and presentations include:

- AI Governance and Oversight for Global Asset Managers
- Insurance Convergence Solutions: A Trillion-Dollar Opportunity at the Intersection of Insurance, Asset Management and Private Capital
- Artificial Intelligence Issues in M&A and Strategic Investments



GAUTAM CHAWLA

SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR

FENCHURCH ADVISORY PARTNERS

Gautam joined Fenchurch Advisory Partners ("Fenchurch") in 2025 to drive the growth of the firms' U.S. business. He previously served as Vice Chairman and Co-Head of Barclays' North American Financial Institutions Group from 2020 to 2025, following a similar leadership role at Citi, where he began his investment banking career. With 35 years of experience, Gautam has advised a broad range of financial institutions, with a particular focus on the insurance sector. Based primarily in New York, he has also worked in London and Hong Kong, bringing a global perspective to client relationships and strategic advice. Gautam holds an Honors Business Administration (HBA) degree from the University of Western Ontario in Canada.



MICHAEL F. CONSEDINE

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND GLOBAL HEAD OF GOVERNMENT AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

ATHENE HOLDING LTD

Michael F. Consedine has served as our Executive Vice President, Global Head of Government and Regulatory Affairs since January 2025; previously serving as Executive Vice President and Head of U.S. Government and Regulatory Relations. He is responsible for developing and advancing Athene's external engagement and strategic vision as well as managing relationships with government entities, insurance regulators and industry associations on a global scale.

Prior to joining Athene, Mr. Consedine was Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). As CEO of NAIC from 2017 until 2023, he focused on strategic planning, policy development, and implementation in the areas of state, federal, and international affairs and relations. He was named to the Executive Committee of the International Association of Insurance Supervisors in 2019. Prior to the NAIC, Mike served as the Global Head of Government and Policy Affairs at Aegon. From 2011-2015 Mike was the Insurance Commissioner for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Mike was with the law firm of Saul Ewing from 1999-2011, where he was Partner and co-Chair of the firm's insurance practice group.

Mr. Consedine received his Juris Doctor from Widener University Commonwealth Law School and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Journalism from James Madison University.



ANDREW DIAZ-MATOS

CEO-P&C AND GROUP CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

CATALINA RE

Andrew Diaz-Matos is a business leader, lawyer, and director who has spent more than 20 years helping financial-services companies navigate complexity, execute transformative change, and create value. His career spans publicly traded, private equity-backed, and financially sponsored organizations, giving him a unique perspective on how insurers balance strategy, governance, risk, capital, and stakeholder expectations.

Andrew is CEO, Property & Casualty and Group Chief Legal Officer of Catalina Re, a global specialty insurer and reinsurer focused on providing capital solutions to the global (re)insurance industry.

Throughout his career, Andrew has advised and delivered on mergers and acquisitions, restructurings, governance, regulatory matters, operational transformation, technology, and enterprise strategy. He has held leadership roles at organizations backed by some of the most sophisticated owners in the financial services industry, including The Hartford (NYSE:HIG), a Fortune 150 insurance company; CapSpecialty, then owned by Alleghany Corporation (formerly NYSE:Y); and Catalina, backed by affiliates of Apollo Global Management (NYSE:APO).

Prior to joining Catalina, Andrew served as Senior Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary of CapSpecialty. Earlier, he spent more than a decade at The Hartford, ultimately serving as Deputy General Counsel, and also held legal leadership roles at IBM (NYSE:IBM) and White & Case.

Andrew serves on the boards of the Hartford Public Library and the Capital Region Development Authority and is a veteran of the United States Army (Infantry). He holds a law degree, *cum laude*, from Pace University School of Law and a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Boston University.



SAMEER GARG

MANAGING DIRECTOR, HEAD OF LIFE & ANNUITY INVESTMENT BANKING

BMO CAPITAL MARKETS

Sameer Garg is a Managing Director and Head of Life & Annuity Investment Banking at BMO Capital Markets based in New York, NY. He leads BMO's coverage of the life insurance, annuity, retirement, and reinsurance sectors and advises executives, boards of directors, financial sponsors, and institutional investors on a broad range of strategic and capital markets transactions.

Over the course of his 25+ year career, Sameer has worked on many of the industry's most significant transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, reinsurance arrangements, carve-outs, capital raises, strategic investments, and other complex corporate finance assignments. His experience spans public and private companies, mutual insurers, alternative asset managers, reinsurers, and sponsor-backed insurance platforms.

In addition to traditional M&A and financing transactions, Sameer has extensive experience advising on liability transfer solutions, capital optimization initiatives, strategic partnerships, balance sheet transactions, and the growing convergence of insurance and asset management. He works closely with management teams and boards as they navigate evolving market dynamics, regulatory considerations, and long-term capital objectives.

Sameer is a frequent participant in industry conferences and executive forums focused on developments in the insurance, retirement, and reinsurance markets. He is regularly sought out by senior industry leaders for his perspectives on strategic transactions, capital formation, and emerging trends shaping the insurance sector.



CELESTE GUTH

PARTNER

PJT PARTNERS

Celeste Guth is a Partner in the Strategic Advisory Group at PJT Partners, based in New York.

Prior to joining PJT Partners, Celeste spent time at Deutsche Bank, where she was most recently Global Head of Mergers and Acquisitions and a member of the Corporate and Investment Bank Executive Committee after being Global Head of the Financial Institutions Group.

Celeste joined Deutsche Bank in March 2016 from Goldman Sachs, where she was a Partner and Vice Chairman of the Global Financial Institutions Group and Global Co-Head of Insurance Investment Banking. Celeste held a variety of leadership positions during her 29 years at Goldman Sachs, including Head of Americas Financial Institutions Group from 2003 to 2012. During her tenure at Goldman Sachs, Celeste led a number of significant M&A, equity and restructuring transactions for insurers, as well as other financial institutions in the Americas, Europe and Asia.

Celeste serves on the Board of Trustees of The Hewitt School, the Advisory Board of NYU Langone Health's Perlmutter Cancer Center and is a member of the Queens College Foundation Board of Trustees.

Celeste holds a Bachelor's Degree from Queens College, City University of New York and an MBA from Harvard Business School.



LARRY HAMILTON

PARTNER

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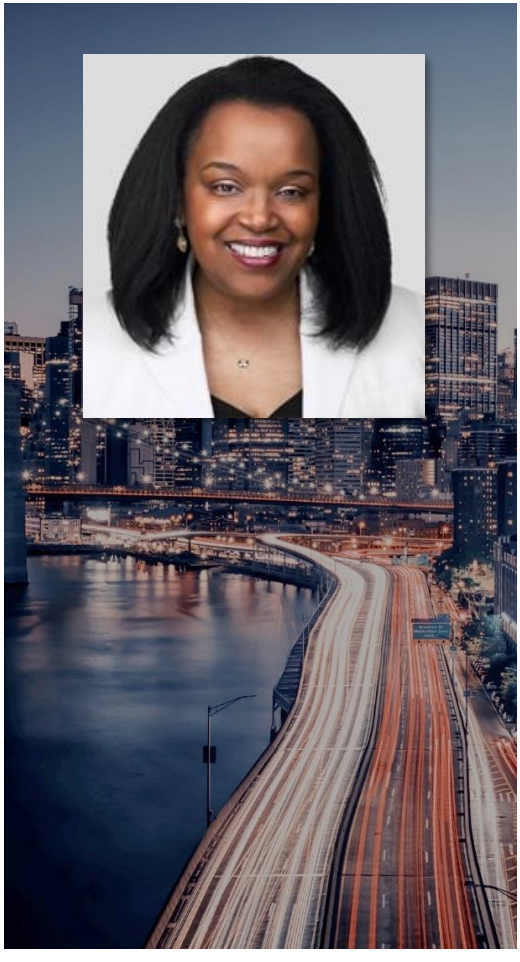
Larry has a 50-state insurance regulatory practice and has extensive experience negotiating directly with insurance regulators, helping clients overcome regulatory obstacles and gain approval for their proposed forms of business arrangements.

Although his experience spans all aspects of insurance regulation, Larry is one of the nation's leading lawyers specializing in the regulation of investments of US insurance companies. He regularly advises insurance companies, asset managers, sponsors and originators, structuring advisors and financial institutions on the insurance regulatory considerations associated with both traditional and emerging investment structures, including the evolving changes in regulatory treatment of different types of investments by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

Larry is a member of Mayer Brown's Insurance Industry Transactions and Convergence Solutions group, which uses the combined talents of the firm's insurance, capital markets and finance practices to ensure that transactions take into account the needs and expectations of all three markets.

Larry also advises clients in connection with corporate governance, mergers and acquisitions, reserve financings, insurance-linked securities, pension risk transfers and the regulation of financial guarantees and other forms of non-payment insurance.



WINDY LAWRENCE

GROUP GENERAL COUNSEL AND SECRETARY

SOMPO INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS, INC.

Windy Lawrence serves as General Counsel and Secretary of Sompo International Holdings, Inc., where she leads the Legal and Compliance Department as part of the Commercial P&C Executive Team. In her role, Ms. Lawrence oversees all legal and regulatory matters for Sompo International, a global provider of commercial property and casualty insurance. Her responsibilities include managing corporate governance, regulatory compliance, litigation, strategic transactions, and other critical legal functions that support the company's multinational operations.

Ms. Lawrence is committed to community and civic engagement, serving on the Board of Directors of Her Justice, a pro bono organization supporting women in poverty in New York City, and as an investor member of Pipeline Angels, promoting venture capital for women and underrepresented social entrepreneurs. She was named one of *Savoy Magazine's* 2022 Most Influential Lawyers.



RUSSELL LEE

HEAD OF INSURANCE SOLUTIONS

M&G INVESTMENTS

Russell has led the Insurance Solutions team at M&G Investments since 2019. The team brings together investment and sales professionals, actuaries and regulatory experts, in order to create investment and ALM solutions which meet the complex requirements of our insurance clients around the world. From 2020 to 2023 Russell also led M&G's re-entry into the UK Bulk Annuity market, with a dual reporting line into M&G Life. He developed the capital light strategy; hired and managed the Origination, Pricing and Execution teams; and originated the first three BPA transactions. Prior to joining M&G, Russell worked in the retirement division at Legal & General where he set up and led the Client Solutions team, and before that at Mercer, where he set up and led the Insurance Investment Consulting team.

He has a broad background in insurance and pension consulting, investing private capital, portfolio restructuring, corporate banking and quantitative finance. Russell holds a Doctorate from Queen's University Belfast in Theoretical Physics.



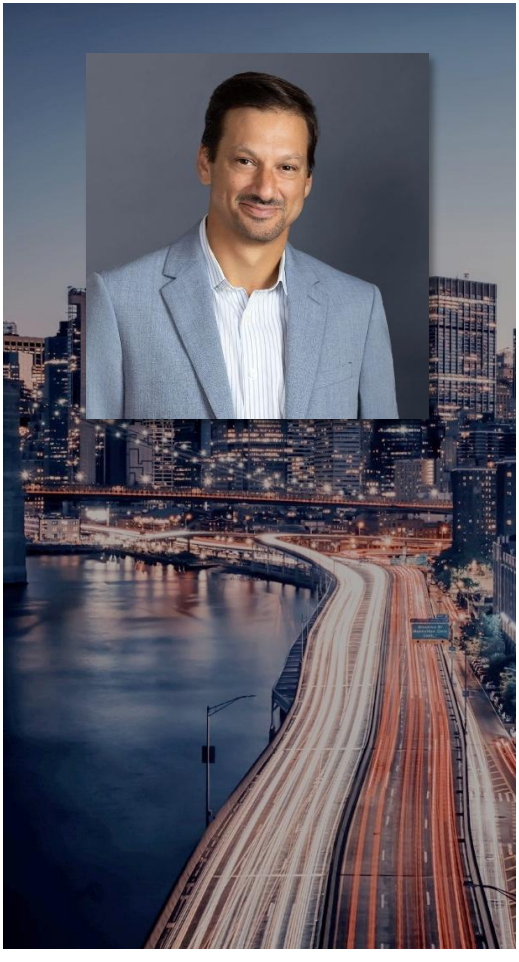
LINDA LIN

CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

SIRIUSPOINT

Linda Lin joined SiriusPoint in July 2023 as Chief Legal Officer. She was previously General Counsel and Corporate Secretary at Coaction Global (formerly ProSight), Inc. where she led the legal, regulatory, compliance, product development, and internal audit functions. Prior to that, she served as SVP, General Counsel, Business Unit Legal and co-headed Regulatory at QBE North America (QBENA). Ms. Lin has served in various legal, claims, and product development roles at Berkshire Hathaway Specialty Insurance and Liberty International Underwriters. Before entering the insurance industry, she was a litigator with the law firm Willkie Farr & Gallagher.

Ms. Lin serves as president of the Sotomayor Program, which cultivates and develops future legal leaders from underserved communities and diverse backgrounds. She is a member of the Eastern District of NY Magistrate Judge Merit Selection Panel and board member of the Asian American Law Fund of NY. She also previously served as president of the Asian American Bar Association of New York.



GREG OGUSS

PARTNER

MAYER BROWN

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Greg Oguss advises multinational insurers, reinsurers, banks and alternative asset managers on new business and back-book reinsurance, insurance capital markets transactions, acquisitions, divestitures, investment management transactions, debt and equity investments, and domestic and international regulatory matters. Greg is a leading voice on commercial and legal strategy and in public policy debates regarding cross-border asset-intensive reinsurance and private equity's participation in the life insurance space in the United States, the United Kingdom and Asia.

Prior to joining Mayer Brown, Greg served as global chief deal counsel for Apollo Global Management Inc.'s subsidiary Athene Holding Ltd., where he was based in Bermuda for five years of his tenure.



CAMILA PANAMA

PARTNER

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Camila Panama, the Corporate Office Practice Lead and Hiring Partner for the firm's New York office, is a partner in the Mergers & Acquisitions Group whose practice focuses on public and private company M&A and other significant transactions. She also advises boards of directors and special committees on activist defense and a full range of corporate governance matters.

Camila's select notable representations involving public company acquisitions include representing Chevron in its $13 billion acquisition of Noble Energy, Resolute Forest Products in its $2.7 billion sale to The Paper Excellence Group through the Group's wholly-owned subsidiary, Domtar Corporation, The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company in its $2.5 billion acquisition of Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, the Special Committee of QAD in its $2 billion sale to Thoma Bravo, Deltic Timber in its $1.2 billion combination with Potlatch Corporation, and Aetna in its now-terminated $37 billion acquisition of Humana. Camila has also advised clients on a range of private-company acquisitions across industries such as Nippon Life in its $8.2 billion acquisition of Resolution Life, Sompo International on its pending acquisition of the Service Insurance Companies, Munich Re in its sale of MIB and joint venture, the board of directors of Crowe LLP on the significant investment by KKR and EMS in its pending acquisition of Medley from Sanofi, among others. Camila also routinely advises a range of insurance industry clients on board and corporate governance matters.



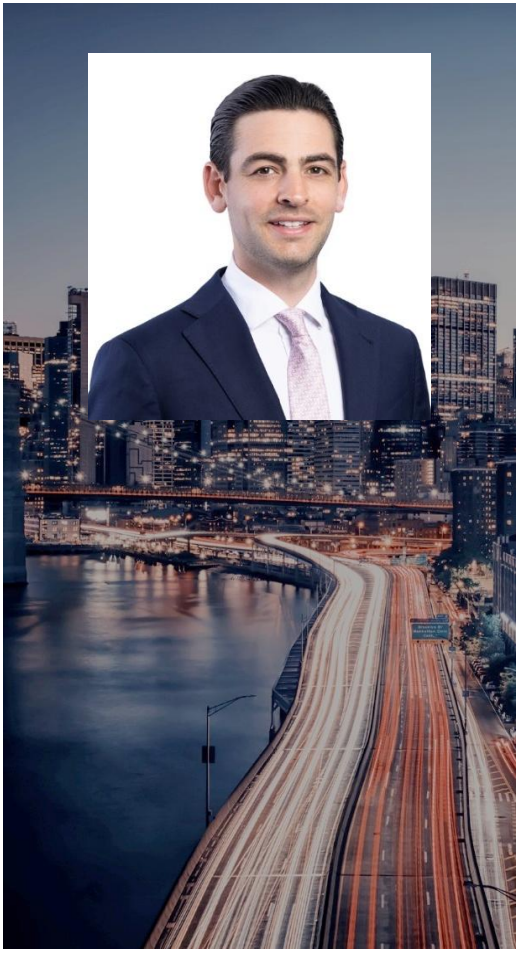
BRYAN PAYNE

MANAGING DIRECTOR

J.P. MORGAN

Bryan Payne is a Managing Director in the Insurance team in the Financial Institutions Group at J.P. Morgan. In his current role, he provides advisory services for carriers and alternative asset managers globally. His most recent transaction experience includes the sales of Equitable's Employee Benefits business to The Hartford, Vantage Group to Howard Hughes Holdings, Banner Life to Meiji-Yasuda, and the acquisition of Resolution Life by Nippon Life. In addition, Bryan has advised on several liability disposals including the sale of FlowServe's asbestos liabilities to Oaktree, Resolution Life's acquisition of legacy liabilities from Protective Life, and the sale of legacy liabilities from ANICO to RGA.

He has considerable cross-border experience, having executed numerous transactions across Japan, Canada, the U.K., the Netherlands, Switzerland, and Bermuda. Prior to J.P. Morgan, Bryan was a member of the M&A Group at Credit Suisse from 2017-2021, focused primarily on Financial and Business Services. Before Credit Suisse, Bryan was part of the investments and corporate strategy team at Bank of America, where he focused on strategy at the holding company level, strategic M&A, and investments in next generation financial technology products. Bryan began his career at Morgan Stanley in 2009 as part of the Insurance team, and he holds a BSBA in International Business, Finance, and Accounting from the University of South Carolina.



MITCHELL ROSENBERG

MANAGING DIRECTOR, GLOBAL CO-HEAD OF INSURANCE-LINKED SECURITIES

HOWDEN CAPITAL MARKETS & ADVISORY

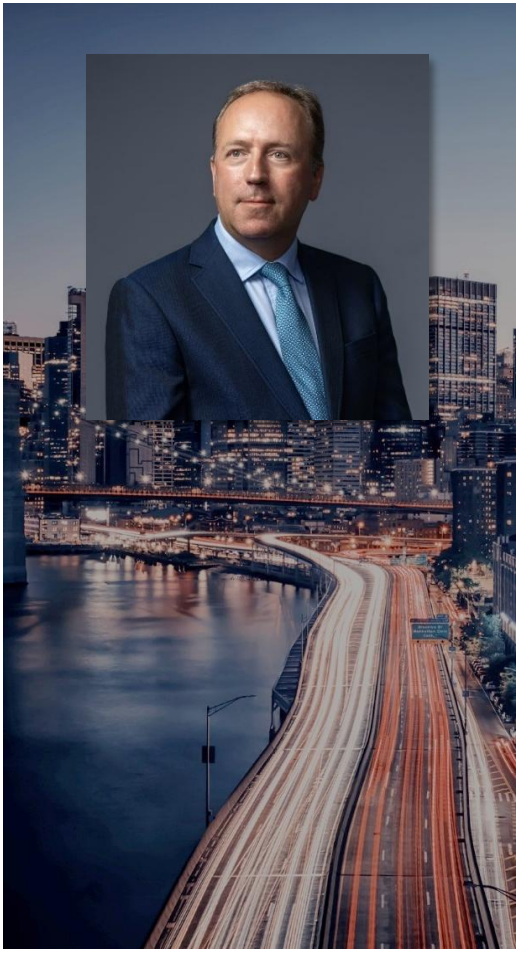
Mitchell Rosenberg is a Managing Director and Global Co-Head of Insurance-Linked Securities (ILS) at Howden Capital Markets & Advisory (HCMA), a leading risk, capital and strategic advisor to the global insurance and reinsurance industries.

Since joining HCMA in August 2022, Mitchell has played a pivotal role in building and expanding the firm's global ILS platform, with a focus on catastrophe bonds, (re)insurance sidecars and innovative alternative capital solutions.

With extensive experience spanning the global (re)insurance and capital markets, Mitchell has advised on and executed complex transactions across North America, South America, Europe and Asia. Throughout his career, he has been instrumental in structuring and executing some of the ILS market's most innovative and groundbreaking transactions, serving insurance, reinsurance, corporate and public sector sponsors.

Prior to joining Howden, Mitchell was a Managing Director at Aon Securities, advising clients on a broad range of insurance-linked capital markets transactions and strategic capital solutions. Earlier in his career, he held positions in New York and Zürich with Swiss Re, where he advised global insurers on structured reinsurance solutions supporting mergers and acquisitions, capital management and broader strategic objectives.

Mitchell holds an MBA from New York University's Leonard N. Stern School of Business, with specializations in Financial Instruments and Real Estate, and a B.Sc. from Florida State University in Finance and Risk Management & Insurance. He also holds the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU) designation and FINRA Series 7, 63 and 79 securities licenses.



COLIN SCAGELL

PARTNER, CO-LEADER OF GLOBAL INSURANCE INDUSTRY GROUP
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Colin concentrates on the Insurance sector and has advised on many of the market leading Insurance transactions of the past three decades. He has a strong focus on cross-border public transactions including takeovers, listings and secondary securities offerings. He also advises on insurance-linked securities (ILS) transactions and on a variety of third-party capital structures at the convergence point of the financial services industry.



DANIEL SCHER

PARTNER

MAYER BROWN

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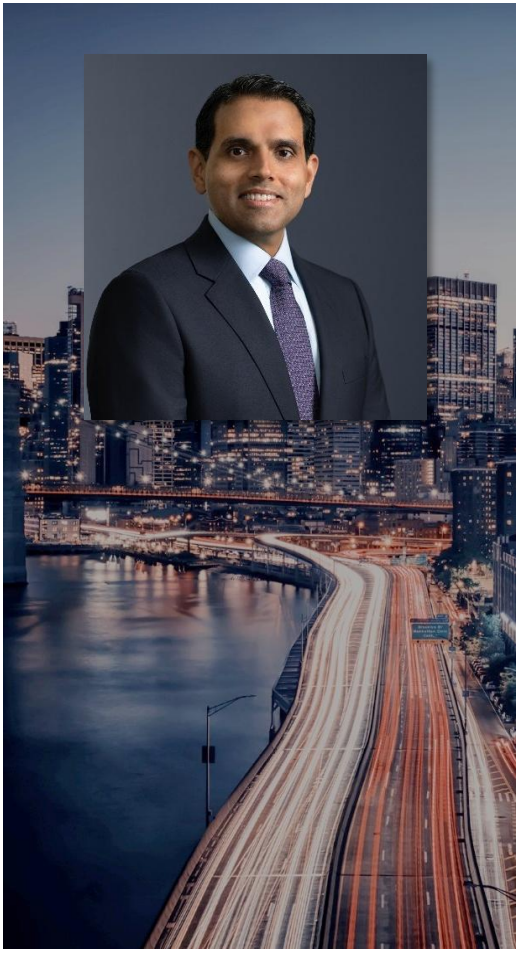
Daniel Scher is a partner in the Banking & Finance practice. He represents sponsors, issuers, underwriters and investors in connection with complex insurance-linked securities transactions, and his clients include insurance and reinsurance companies, state and federal entities, corporates and private investment firms. Daniel has extensive experience with catastrophe bond offerings and has worked on some of the largest and most innovative transactions in the market. He also has deep expertise in reinsurance sidecars, particularly property catastrophe sidecars as well as in the emerging casualty sidecar space. Daniel is ranked by *Chambers USA* for his experience with insurance-linked securities transactions and his particular expertise in catastrophe bonds.



VIKRAM SIDHU

PARTNER, CO-LEADER OF GLOBAL INSURANCE INDUSTRY GROUP
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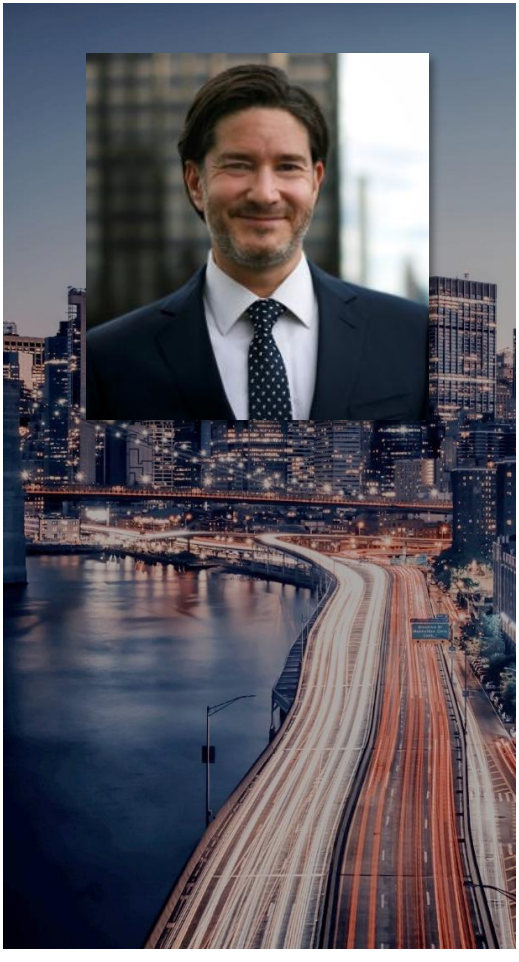
Insurance and reinsurance companies rely on Vikram Sidhu for counsel on corporate and regulatory insurance matters. He regularly works on sales and acquisitions of insurance and reinsurance companies and portfolios of insurance business, including legacy/runoff transactions. He has worked on a wide range of transactions involving both US and non-US acquirers and sellers in a number of different lines of insurance (property and casualty, life and health, mortgage insurance and others). Clients turn to Vikram for advice on insurance businesses and products such as cyber, new climate risks, parametrics and trade credit.

In addition, Vikram advises clients on the full range of insurance regulatory issues under US states' insurance laws and regulations, such as insurance holding company regulations, surplus lines and other non-admitted insurance, change in control and redomestications, innovation (including artificial intelligence), development of new insurance products, insurance captives, insurer insolvency and run-off of existing liabilities, and insurance producer licensing and regulatory compliance.



AARON SLAN

MANAGING DIRECTOR

CULPEPER CAPITAL PARTNERS

Aaron Slan is a Managing Director at Culpeper Capital Partners, where he focuses on special situations and private equity investments in the financial services sector. With more than 20 years of experience, he specializes in making investments with asymmetric risk-reward profiles by partnering with companies to solve problems and pursue opportunities, capitalizing on market dislocations, unlocking underappreciated assets, and designing bespoke investment structures tailored to a given situation. He has led numerous transactions, most recently Culpeper's investment in George Street Re, QBE Re's inaugural casualty sidecar, and has served on boards, contributing to strategic decision-making.

Before joining Culpeper, Aaron was a Managing Director at Fortress Investment Group and previously held roles at Irving Place Capital and Credit Suisse.



RICKY SPITZER

PARTNER, CO-LEADER OF GLOBAL INSURANCE INDUSTRY GROUP
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Insurers and underwriters turn to Ricky Spitzer for counsel on structured finance transactions, such as catastrophe bonds, mortality bonds, sidecars and other risk-linked securities. Ricky also represents issuers and underwriters in connection with securities offerings by insurance companies, including offerings of equity, debt and surplus notes.

Clients seek out Ricky's insight on insurance mergers and acquisitions, leveraging his particular focus on the use of reinsurance to transfer legacy liabilities.

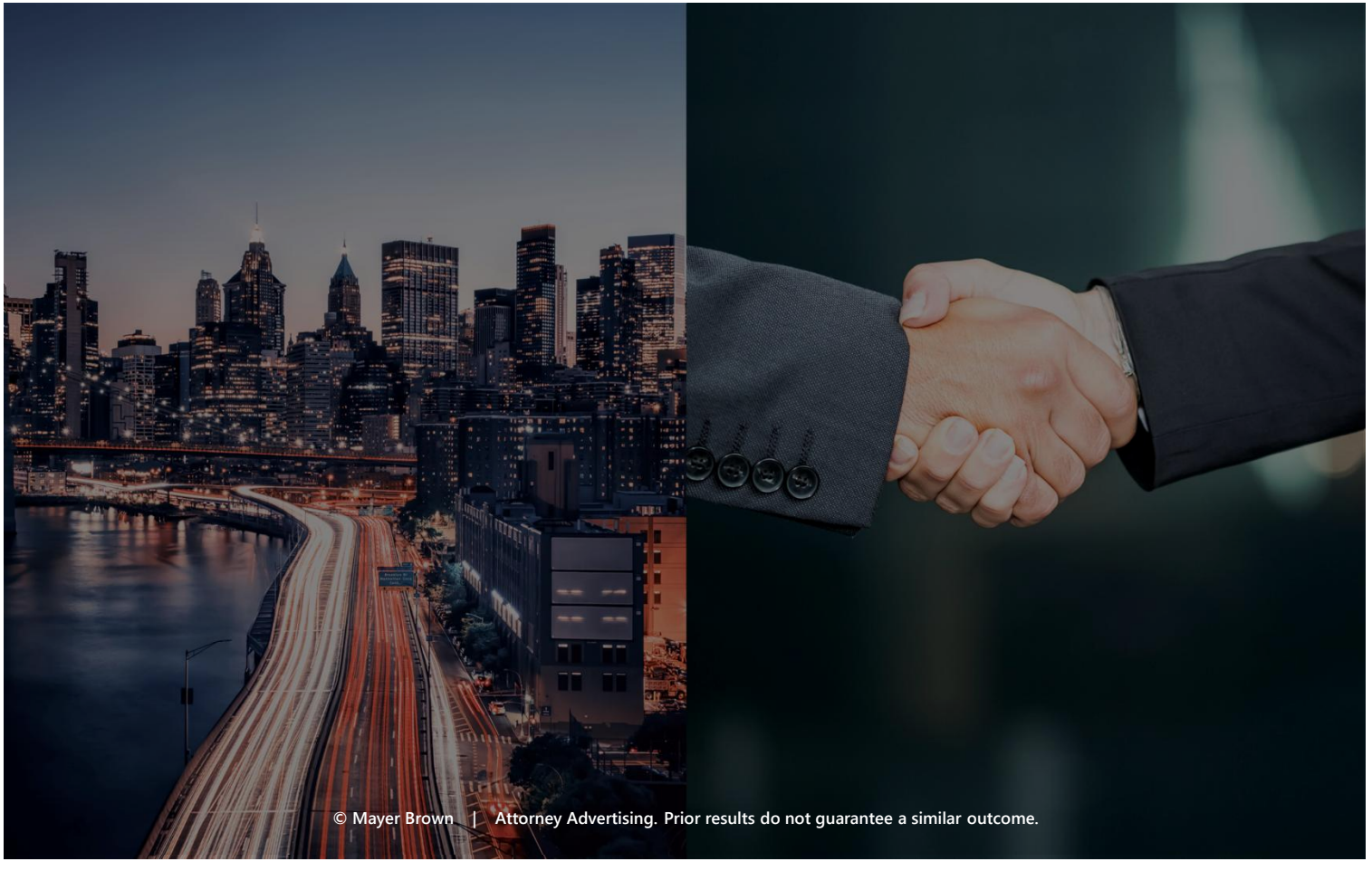


PETER VON LEHE

HEAD OF PRIVATE MARKETS INVESTMENT SOLUTIONS & STRATEGY

NEUBERGER

Peter von Lehe is the Head of Investment Solutions and Strategy and a Managing Director of Neuberger Private Markets. He is responsible for leading the design, structuring, and management of Private Markets investment vehicles for intermediary, evergreen, custom, and insurance clients to deliver Neuberger's investment capabilities in forms optimized for investors' specific objectives, as well as overseeing quantitative market research. He is also a member of the Private Investment Portfolios and Co-Investment Investment Committee, as well as Neuberger's Partnership Committee. Mr. von Lehe sits on the Limited Partner Advisory Boards of a number of investment relationships globally on behalf of Neuberger funds. Previously, Mr. von Lehe was a Managing Director and Deputy Head of the Private Equity Fund of Funds unit of Swiss Reinsurance Company. At Swiss Re, Mr. von Lehe was responsible for investment analysis and product structuring and worked in both Zurich and New York. Before that, he was an attorney with the law firm of Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP in New York focusing on corporate finance and private equity transactions. He began his career as a financial analyst for a utility company, where he was responsible for econometric modeling. Mr. von Lehe received a BS with Honors in Economics from the University of Iowa and a JD with High Distinction from the University of Iowa College of Law. He is a member of the New York Bar.



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