FINANCIER WORLDWIDE

POWER PLAYERS

DISTINGUISHED ADVISERS

2026

Debt Capital Markets

2026

PROFILED:

RYAN CASTILLO

Mayer Brown LLP

MAYER | BROWN

This article first appeared in 'POWER PLAYERS: Debt Capital Markets 2026 – Distinguished Advisers' (September 2026).

© 2026 Financier Worldwide Ltd. All rights reserved.
Permission to use this reprint has been granted by the publisher.

FINANCIER WORLDWIDE

POWER PLAYERS

DISTINGUISHED ADVISERS

2026

Debt Capital Markets

RYAN CASTILLO

Partner

Mayer Brown LLP

New York, NY, US

T: +1 (212) 506 2645

E: rcastillo@mayerbrown.com

★ 2026
★ 2025

PERSONAL BIOGRAPHY

Frederick Ryan Castillo is a capital markets partner based in Mayer Brown's New York office. He advises issuers and financial institutions on a broad range of debt and equity securities offerings, including investment-grade, high-yield and convertible debt offerings, medium-term note programmes, liability management and corporate finance transactions in the US, Canada and Europe. He has experience across a variety of sectors including financial services, technology, real estate, auto and energy. He has been recognised by Legal 500 US, IFLR1000 and Euromoney and has authored articles published by IFLR, LexisNexis, Thomson Reuters, The Business Lawyer and the Harvard Business Law Review.

MAYER | BROWN

RYAN CASTILLO
Mayer Brown LLP

Q&A WITH RYAN CASTILLO

How do you stay ahead in your field? Are there any emerging trends or innovations you are particularly excited about in your area of expertise?

◆ I have been handling capital markets deals for the last 15 years and consider myself fortunate to be at this intersection of business, law and innovation. The US capital markets is a deep, vibrant market where conventional, complex and innovative capital raises happen daily. Staying ahead entails committing to improve oneself every day: deepen one's legal knowledge and practical skill set, cultivate the drive and discipline to read, research, seek answers, listen and communicate, craft solutions and render practical, actionable advice. There is no substitute for hard work and putting theory into practice on actual deals. Rules constantly evolve across industries and borders; economic and geopolitical conditions shape capital markets activity. It is therefore crucial to keep abreast of these developments and engage with clients and market participants. Innovations like digital bonds and tokenisation impact the deal landscape, and artificial intelligence continues to transform how information is accessed, processed and applied.

Could you describe your approach to tackling complex legal challenges? What principles or philosophies guide your work?

◆ I take a commercial, pragmatic approach to work and strive to deliver the best work product possible and add value to each deal. Lawyers are expected to know the law and navigate through myriad complex rules and regulations. To be a trusted, effective adviser, one must have a continuing commitment to learn and keep apprised of legal issues and developments. At the same time, I believe corporate practitioners who are collaborative and recognise their roles as dealmakers and facilitators on their teams, position themselves to succeed. I believe capital markets work matters, with real-world consequences for our clients and their businesses. Companies, big and

RYAN CASTILLO
Mayer Brown LLP

small, need capital to fund and create products and services, stir innovation, hire and retain talent, and spur economic growth. Federal securities laws are designed to facilitate capital formation, protect investors, and maintain fair and efficient markets. These philosophies guide my work.

What qualities and values do you believe are essential for building strong, trusting relationships with clients?

◆ Client trust and respect are earned and kept through observance of the traditional values of hard work, candour, consistency, integrity and responsiveness. Clients gravitate toward advisers who are not only knowledgeable and well-versed in legal principles, but those who are accessible, attentive and truly present to listen, think with and engage in meaningful, candid discourse about the client's business, needs and perspectives. A demonstrated commitment to delivering consistent, high-quality work and tailored advice is paramount, but equally important for lawyers is to genuinely care about the client's legal needs and be able to put oneself in the client's shoes. Capital markets transactions come in different shapes and sizes and have varying complexities, demands and execution timelines. A trusted adviser always plans ahead, communicates goals and expectations, and follows through. They issue spot, value add, present solutions, and should be proactive and cost efficient. All these help build enduring relationships that go beyond individual transactions. ■

"COMPANIES, BIG AND SMALL, NEED CAPITAL TO FUND AND CREATE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES, STIR INNOVATION, HIRE AND RETAIN TALENT, AND SPUR ECONOMIC GROWTH."

RYAN CASTILLO
Mayer Brown LLP

REPRESENTATIVE ENGAGEMENTS

- Acted as Capital One's designated underwriters' counsel in over $50bn senior and subordinated notes offerings, and dealer-managers' counsel in tender offers for $7.5bn senior notes.
- Represented Nissan Motor Acceptance in $3bn Rule 144A/Reg S senior notes offerings and $10bn MTN programme, and National Bank of Canada in over $20bn 3(a)(2) senior notes offerings.
- Represented Marex Group in $1.6bn senior note offerings, and HSBC USA in over $5.9bn senior notes offerings.
- Represented Howard Hughes Corporation in $1bn 144A/Reg S high-yield notes offering, Tenneco in $1.3bn high-yield senior secured notes offering and KBR in inaugural $250m 144A/Reg S high-yield senior notes offering.
- Acted as Bank of Nova Scotia's designated underwriters' counsel in over $35bn senior, AT1 and LRCN offerings.
- Represented Outbrain in $236m Rule 144A convertible notes offering and KBR in $350m convertible notes offering.
- Represented underwriters in over $12bn Berkshire Hathaway senior notes offerings.