

SULLIVAN & CROMWELL LLP

Lawyers



Mehdi Ansari

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Recognized as an “Emerging Leader” by The M&A Advisor and a “Rising Star” by the Global M&A Network, Mehdi Ansari is a partner in Sullivan & Cromwell’s General Practice Group. Mr. Ansari’s practice focuses on advising clients on a wide range of transactions involving technology and intellectual property, including mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, licenses, collaborations, research and development agreements, settlements and strategic advice. He represents clients in a wide range of industries, including consumer and retail, sports, media and entertainment, healthcare and life sciences, technology (including semiconductors), telecommunications, and financial services (including FinTech).

Prior to attending law school, Mr. Ansari received his bachelor of science degree, magna cum laude, in electrical engineering and computer science.

Rankings and Recognitions

- Intellectual Asset Management – Named to the Patent 1000 (2019-2021)
- The National Law Journal – IP Trailblazer (2019)
- The M&A Advisor – Emerging Leader Award (2018)
- Global M&A Network – Americas Top 50: Rising Star (2018)
- IFLR – Shortlisted for Americas Rising Star – Patent Award (2018)

Speaking Engagements

- “The Future of Watching Sports,” Penn Law Entertainment and Sports Law Symposium (February 2020)
- “CIPO Scenarios,” IPBC Global (June 2019)
- “The Rise of Data in Transactions,” Global Data Review Roundtable (April 2019)
- “Technology Law in the Private Sector,” NYU Intellectual Property and Entertainment Law Society (March 2019)
- “Advanced Topics in Licensing of Publicity Rights,” NYC Bar Sports Law Committee (June 2021)

Publications

PRACTICES & CAPABILITIES

Cybersecurity

Technology, Media & Telecommunications

Sports & Entertainment

Healthcare & Life Sciences

General Practice

FinTech

Intellectual Property & Technology Transactions

Mergers & Acquisitions

Digital Assets

EDUCATION

2008, UC Berkeley School of Law, J.D.

2005, UC Berkeley, B.S.

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York

California

LANGUAGES

Farsi (Persian)

- “Out of the blocks – mitigating patent risk over distributed ledgers,”
IAM, Summer 2020

Professional Activities

- Mr. Ansari is co-head of the transactional subcommittee of the New York City Bar’s Sports Law Committee.

SELECTED REPRESENTATIONS

Healthcare & Life Sciences

- **Anika Therapeutics** in its acquisition of Parcus Medical and ArthroSurface
- **Apple Tree Partners** in the launch of Nereid Therapeutics
- **Bayer** in its \$6.9 billion sale of Bayer Animal Health to Elanco, creating the world’s second-largest animal health leader, and \$1.6 billion SEC-registered secondary sale of 54.5 million Elanco shares
- **Bayer** in its \$66 billion acquisition of Monsanto – the largest ever all-cash takeover of a public company – and its \$9 billion sale of selected crop science assets to BASF
- **Concordia Healthcare** in its \$1.2 billion acquisition of all commercial assets of Covis
- **Merck KGaA** in its acquisition of Versum Materials
- **Novartis AG** in its acquisition of The Medicines Company
- **UnitedHealth Group** in various matters, including:
 - Its wholly owned subsidiary’s acquisition of Empresas Banmédica and certain of its shareholders and the resulting tender offer for all of Banmédica’s outstanding shares, valuing Banmédica’s equity at approximately \$2.8 billion;
 - In connection with Optum’s \$13 billion pending combination with Change Healthcare; and
 - In its \$4.3 billion acquisition of DaVita Medical Group and its \$12.8 billion acquisition of Catamaran
- **Valeant Pharmaceuticals** in its \$15.8 billion acquisition of Salix, and its \$2.6 billion acquisition of Medicis
- **Veritas Capital** in its acquisition of Thomson Reuters Healthcare for \$1.25 billion
- **Royal Philips** in its acquisition of WellCentive, Inc., an Alpharetta, Georgia-based population health management company

Technology

- **Alcatel Lucent** in its \$16.6 billion acquisition by Nokia
- **Bright House Networks**, in its combination with Charter and Time Warner, to create an \$80 billion cable company
- **Cymer** in its \$3.9 billion acquisition by ASML
- **Harris Corporation** in its approximately \$35 billion merger of equals with L3 Technologies and its \$4.75 billion acquisition of Exelis Inc., the largest deal in the defense industry in nearly 20 years

- **Intel** in many matters, including its \$1.5 billion cross-license and settlement agreement with NVIDIA, its sale of more than 150 patent families to Sony, its joint development and joint venture matters with Micron, and many patent license and sale/acquisition agreements
- **Kodak** in its \$527 million sale of certain digital imaging patents to a group including Apple, Google and Facebook, and its worldwide cross-license with LG
- **An investor consortium** led by Skype and Silver Lake Partners in the \$8.5 billion sale of Skype to Microsoft
- **Unisys**, a global information technology company, in the sale of its U.S. Federal business to Science Applications International Corp for \$1.2 billion
- **Navistar International Corporation** in its strategic alliance with Volkswagen Truck & Bus, which included an equity investment in Navistar by Volkswagen Truck & Bus and framework agreements for strategic technology and supply collaboration and a procurement joint venture
- **Hyzon Motors Inc.** in its merger with Decarbonization Plus Acquisition Corporation, a special purpose acquisition company (SPAC), in a \$2.1 billion deal in which Hyzon will go public
- **DiamondPeak Holdings Corp.**, a publicly traded special-purpose acquisition company, in its merger with Lordstown Motors Corp., an electric truck company, pursuant to which Lordstown became a wholly owned subsidiary of DiamondPeak.
- **Adient** in its definitive agreement with Yanfeng Automotive Trim Systems Co., Ltd. to make certain changes to their existing joint venture relationships

Financial Institutions and FinTech

- **Goldman Sachs** in numerous acquisitions, dispositions, joint ventures and financings, including its 2018 acquisition of SaaS Clearfactr; its 2021 joint venture with Nasdaq, Citi, Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley to establish a centralized secondary trading venue for issuers, brokers, shareholders and prospective investors of private company stock; and in a recent minority investment in a new series of preferred stock in DealerPolicy, Inc.
- **Intercontinental Exchange** in its \$8.2 billion acquisition of the New York Stock Exchange and its \$5.2 billion acquisition of Interactive Data Corporation
- **Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan** in many matters, including an investment in Epic GamesRhône Capital in connection with its affiliated investment entities' \$560 million all cash acquisition of Fogo de Chão, including with respect to corporate and securities matters, the acquisition financing, tax and executive compensation and benefits
- **The Trustees of the Rockefeller Family Trust**, as sole voting stockholder of Rockefeller Financial Services (RFS), in connection with the formation of Rockefeller Capital Management pursuant to

the acquisition of RFS backed by Viking Global Investors LP. The deal included the transfer and licensing of certain trademarks of RFS, including the name “Rockefeller”

- **State Street** in its \$2.6B acquisition of Charles River Development
- **Oaktree** in multiple matters, including:
 - the \$225 million senior secured term loan to Athenex Inc., a global biopharmaceutical company dedicated to the discovery, development and commercialization of novel cancer treatments; and
 - the \$115 million senior secured credit agreement with WPEngine, Inc. The financing consists of a \$100 million six-year term loan term loan facility, with \$35 million funded at closing and a \$65 million delayed draw facility available within 18 months of closing, and a \$15 million five-year revolving credit facility
- **Assurant Inc.** in its sale of Time Insurance Company, a Wisconsin insurance company, to Haven Holdings Inc., a Puerto Rico insurance holding company
- **Assurant, Inc.** in its acquisition of EPG Insurance, Inc., a Tennessee-based provider of service contracts and insurance sold through heavy equipment dealers and manufacturers

Telecommunications

- **AT&T** in its \$2.35 billion acquisition of Alltel wireless properties from Verizon, and its \$950 million sale of AT&T Advertising Solutions and AT&T Interactive to an affiliate of Cerberus Capital Management
- **DISH Network Corporation** in its acquisition of the Boost prepaid mobile business of Sprint Corporation, and several strategic collaboration, license and supply agreements
- **General Cable Corporation** in its \$3 billion acquisition by Prysmian Group
- **Ruckus Wireless** in its \$1.5 billion acquisition by Brocade

Retail and Consumer

- **Amazon.com** in its \$13.7 billion acquisition of Whole Foods Market and its \$1 billion acquisition of Pillpack
- **Sotheby's** in its acquisition of Thread Genius, a startup specializing in taste-based image recognition and recommendation technologies
- **Tiffany & Co.** in its \$15.8 billion acquisition by LVMH
- **United Rentals** in its \$2.1 billion acquisition of BlueLine Rental from Platinum Equity and its \$715 million acquisition of BakerCorp International
- **Motivate International, Inc.**, the parent company of Citibike and the largest bikeshare operator in North America, in its acquisition by Lyft, Inc
- **Carrefour S.A.** has reached an agreement with Advent

International and Walmart Inc. to acquire Grupo BIG Brasil—Brazil's third-largest food retailer—for approximately \$1.3 billion

Sports, Media, and Entertainment

- **Frank McCourt** and his entities in connection with Olympique de Marseille and various other business interests
- **Lion Capital** in connection with John Varvatos, including in its affiliate's DIP financing for and acquisition of John Varvatos in a Section 363 sale process
- **LSC Communications** in its acquisition of the Print Logistics component of R.R. Donnelley & Son's Company's Logistics business
- **The Madison Square Garden Company** in various arena matters
- **Major League Baseball** and **MLB Advanced Media (MLBAM)** in many projects, including the \$1.58 billion sale of a majority ownership interest in MLBAM's subsidiary BAMTech to The Walt Disney Company
- **Office of the Commissioner of Major League Baseball and MLBAM** in connection with MLBAM's formation of BAMTech, MLB's digital streaming technology business
- **NIKE** in several significant collaboration, sports marketing and endorsement transactions
- **R.R. Donnelly & Sons Company** in its spin-off of its financial print and PRS businesses to create three independent companies
- **UBS** in connection with its 20-year naming rights agreement for UBS Arena, the arena being constructed at Belmont Park which is expected to become the new home of the New York Islanders

Other Representations

- **Concho Resources** in its \$9.5 billion acquisition of RSP Permian
- **GGP** in connection with Brookfield Property Partners' \$28 billion acquisition of all of the outstanding shares of common stock of GGP other than those shares currently held by Brookfield and its affiliates
- **Navistar International Corporation** in its strategic alliance with Volkswagen Truck & Bus, which included an equity investment in Navistar by Volkswagen Truck & Bus and framework agreements for strategic technology and supply collaboration and a procurement joint venture
- **Hyzon Motors Inc.** in its merger with Decarbonization Plus Acquisition Corporation, a special purpose acquisition company (SPAC), in a \$2.1 billion deal in which Hyzon will go public
- **DiamondPeak Holdings Corp.**, a publicly traded special-purpose acquisition company, in its merger with Lordstown Motors Corp., an electric truck company, pursuant to which Lordstown became a wholly owned subsidiary of DiamondPeak