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Top 100 Lawyers 2025



Mark M. Bekheit

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San Francisco &
Silicon Valley

Mark Bekheit has built his career navigating the complexities of mergers and acquisitions at one of the world's largest law firms. Now, as the newly appointed managing partner of Latham & Watkins' Bay Area offices as of April 2025, he oversees

operations while maintaining his robust M&A practice.

Bekheit joined Latham in 2010 as a first-year associate during challenging economic times. "My legal career began on the heels of the Great Recession, at which point the market remained very tepid," he said. Initially drawn to startup law, his trajectory shifted after working on his first major transaction. "My first significant project was an intense M&A sale process; I fell in love with M&A and realized that I could make a career out of it over time if I gained experience."

The Bay Area practice has allowed Bekheit to work across the spectrum of deal-making, from representing founders selling startups to advising large public companies like AMD on acquisitions. His client relationships often span years, as demonstrated by his work with e.l.f. Beauty's leadership team since his second year at the firm. This long-term approach paid off when he advised on e.l.f.'s recent acquisition of rhode from Hailey Bieber.

"I've worked with the CEO and CLO of e.l.f. since I was a second-year associate, when they were at a prior company, so I found it really rewarding to play a part in such an important deal for e.l.f. and a great outcome for the team at rhode," Bekheit said.

The current M&A landscape presents both opportunities and challenges. "[This year] has so far provided a wild ride in the M&A world, as you might imagine, ranging from government policy shifts to global tariffs, military conflicts and a burgeoning AI revolution," Bekheit said. Despite these headwinds, he sees growing momentum for large transactions.

"Companies have shown a growing appetite to do large transformative deals in a way we have not really seen for a few years, and we will see companies taking some really big bets on M&A in the next 12 months," he said.