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2023 M&A Texas Deal-Lawyer Rankings

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The Corporate Deal Tracker's Texas lawyer rankings for M&A dealmaking in 2023 ranked by deal count from Jan. 1 through Aug. 31 shows that only two lawyers have been involved in at least 10 mergers, acquisitions and joint ventures so far this year, but 23 have worked on five or more transactions during the first eight months of the year. These are lawyers based in Texas who represented any client (buyers, sellers, targets, financial advisors, banks, conflict committees or third parties).

Latham & Watkins partner Ryan Maierson of Houston has worked on 13 deals with a combined value of $25.1 billion. Katten partner Victor Zanetti of Dallas handled 10 transactions. All of Zanetti's involved privately-held companies in which the value of the deal was confidential.

Kirkland & Ellis placed 11 lawyers in the CDT's top 20 and 20 of the top 50. Latham has seven of the top 50 and Sidley has six.

Texas M&A by Deal Count

Lawyer (Office)	Firm	Count	Deal Value
Ryan Maierson (Houston)	Latham & Watkins	13	25,096
Victor Zanetti (Dallas)	Katten	10	-
Hillary Holmes (Houston)	Gibson Dunn	9	13,383
Mike Blankenship (Houston)	Winston & Strawn	9	1,198
Michael Piazza (Houston)	Gibson Dunn	8	1,180
David Castro (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	7	8,030
Thomas Laughlin (Dallas)	Kirkland & Ellis	7	6,665
Cyril Jones (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	7	4,700
Bill Benitez (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	7	1,236
Sean Wheeler (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	5	34,830
Debbie Yee (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	5	33,322
Bryan Loocke (Houston)	Vinson & Elkins	5	8,555
John Pitts (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	5	7,000
Kevin Crews (Dallas)	Kirkland & Ellis	5	4,325
Kyle Watson (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	5	3,400
John Greer (Houston)	Latham & Watkins	5	3,199
Robert Goodin (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	5	3,100
Justin Stolte (Houston)	Latham & Watkins	5	749
Stephen Olson (Houston)	Gibson Dunn	5	700
John Kaercher (Austin)	Kirkland & Ellis	5	200
Cliff Vrielink (Houston)	Sidley Austin	5	114
Tara Lancaster (Dallas)	Sidley Austin	5	85
William Howell (Dallas)	Sidley Austin	5	-
Steve Gill (Houston)	Vinson & Elkins	4	17,177
Will Anderson (Houston)	Bracewell	4	10,941
Rahul Vashi (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	4	4,935
Brittany Sakowitz (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	4	4,603
Rhett Van Syoc (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	4	4,350
Tull Florey (Houston)	Gibson Dunn	4	4,163
Jeremy Kennedy (Houston)	Haynes and Boone	4	3,668
Lauren Anderson (Houston)	Latham & Watkins	4	2,569
Ravi Purohit (Houston)	Latham & Watkins	4	2,150
Mitch Tiras (Houston)	Locke Lord	4	1,505
Nick Dhesi (Houston)	Latham & Watkins	4	1,423
James Garrett (Houston)	Latham & Watkins	4	800
Shubi Arora (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	4	330
Tony Johnston (Dallas)	Kirkland & Ellis	4	300
Jeff Schlegel (Houston)	Jones Day	4	136
Jason Peters (Houston)	King & Spalding	4	15
Christopher May (Houston)	Simpson Thacher	4	-
Mark Kunzman (Houston)	Egan Nelson	4	-
Lande Spottswood (Houston)	Vinson & Elkins	3	14,300
Allan Kirk (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	3	6,743
John Goodgame (Houston)	Akin Gump	3	3,990
Adam Larson (Houston)	Kirkland & Ellis	3	3,830
Clay Brett (Houston)	Baker Botts	3	3,700
Preston Bernhisel (Dallas)	Baker Botts	3	3,200
George Vlahakos (Houston)	Sidley Austin	3	3,000
Aaron Rigby (Dallas)	Sidley Austin	3	2,985
Todd Lowther (Houston)	Shearman & Sterling	3	2,106

Source: TLB Research