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New England Legal Awards 2025

PARTNER OF THE YEAR FINALIST: JOHN MILLER
Latham & Watkins

John Miller of Latham & Watkins.

John Miller, partner with Latham & Watkins, is among the finalists for the New England Legal Awards' 2025 Partner of the Year Award. Read a Q&A with him below.

What accomplishment are you most proud of from the past year at your firm?

I'm most proud of the way our team in Boston supports each other so we can deliver outstanding results for our clients. This was a challenging year in a highly sophisticated market, and the deals we worked on over the past 12 months have often been extraordinarily complex, requiring a significant team effort to address these multifaceted transaction structures across all types of investors and deal types. We are able to succeed because we are more than the sum of our parts—whether it be partners working together to ideate on deals or associates collaborating as a team to achieve what often seems impossible. That spirit of collaboration and collegiality is a big part of what makes this work so rewarding.

What makes a good and effective partner?

To succeed as lawyers in an increasingly competitive legal market, we do more than provide a technical service or act as scriveners of precedent to our clients. We approach complicated deals with a holistic and commercial approach, bridging the gaps between our clients as investors with founders and sellers, helping them understand each other's perspectives and priorities. In that way we are translators and communicators, as well as legal advisers. We explore and lay out the possibilities of a deal so our clients can arrive at the outcome that is best for them.

What is your best advice for associates who wish to become partners?

Be willing to innovate, to try new things, to find creative solutions to complicated problems—and encourage that in your colleagues. Great ideas can come from any member of a team, not just the most senior. In any industry, clients value people who find ways to get things done, who say "let me figure this out," especially when a lack of precedent or even market forces might present obstacles to do so. So I would tell associates to ask questions, and collaborate quickly so the team can execute for clients in what may be a narrow window of opportunity. But most of all, always try to be a little bit better.