



INFLUENTIAL LEADERS IN SAN DIEGO

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LAW

Matthew T. Bush

A recent surge in San Diego venture capital deals — driven largely by the biotech sector — has been keeping Bush busy.

The partner at Latham & Watkins primarily represents life science and technology companies, guiding them from formation through business deals such as venture financings, initial public offerings and strategic mergers and acquisitions. His clients range from startups to publicly held corporations, and also include venture capital and investment banking firms in private and public financing transactions.

In July, Bush advised Crinetics in its \$102 million IPO and guided Ligand in its \$750 million convertible note offering in May. Earlier this year, he represented Gossamer Bio in its Series B round of financing, which raised \$230 million — one of the largest venture capital deals in San Diego this year.

Prior to joining Latham & Watkins in 2006, Bush served as a management consultant with Accenture. He said the experience provided a good backdrop for offering practi-

cal business and legal solutions to his clients.

“It gave me great grounding in terms of getting a background in technology, as well as in advising companies,” he said. “I went into law because I wanted to apply my business background in a legal setting.”

Bush said helping his clients succeed is particularly gratifying, since the products and services offered by local tech companies often have a global economic and social impact. And many of his biotech clients work on life-saving or life-altering drug therapies for indications such as cancer, autoimmune disorders and other serious diseases.

“These diseases tend to hit close to home for most of us. If it doesn’t impact us directly, it may impact someone in our family, someone we know or a friend,” Bush said. “Just given the importance of what these companies are doing, I find that exciting. I sit in meetings where I hear companies describe their passion for what they’re doing, and that passion comes from trying to improve the daily lives of patients.”

— Jennifer Chung Klam



Latham & Watkins LLP

PARTNER