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2021 NLJ Awards: Professional Excellence

DC RISING STARS

Latham & Watkins

▪ **Describe your biggest win or accomplishment in practice.**

This past year, I co-lead the deal team advising BAI Communications in its acquisition of Mobilitie, which was announced in June 2021. This was a complicated transaction involving multiple parties across different continents, not to mention I was eight months pregnant at the time. We were able to successfully resolve the issues amongst the parties, working collaboratively in order to achieve the desired outcome for our client. I also was lead associate representing The Carlyle Group and global streetwear brand Supreme in the \$2.1 billion acquisition of Supreme by VF Corp. in December 2020. This deal was unique in that I was involved in both the initial acquisition of Supreme by Carlyle and negotiating the subsequent successful sale several years later, which was very rewarding.

▪ **What was the most valuable lesson you learned in your first year practicing law?**

Be open to taking on any opportunity that comes your way and don't be afraid to do so simply because it is something you haven't done before. Stepping outside your comfort zone is the only way to continue to grow.



VICTORIA VANSTEEKELBURG

▪ **Who is your greatest lawyer mentor and what has he or she taught you?**

I've been fortunate to have a number of great mentors who have taught me that the most important aspect of our practice is delivering consistent, top-quality service to clients, which requires not only individual expertise, but also teamwork.

▪ **Please share a brief key to your success.** While my primary goal is protecting my client's interests, I work to achieve that goal while remaining commercial, collegial and practical, which goes a long way towards ensuring a successful transaction (and career). ■