

Christopher J. Voss

Partner

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OVERVIEW

C.J. Voss has a corporate transactions practice that spans the business lifecycle, from start-up through exit. For established companies, C.J.'s practice focuses on advising business owners, senior management, and boards of directors on strategic transactions including mergers, acquisitions, recapitalizations, securities offerings, and joint ventures. C.J. has advised on both buy- and sell-side M&A transactions and also has significant experience advising public companies on securities disclosure and compliance matters and corporate governance issues.

At the start-up and growth stages, C.J. advises entrepreneurs and emerging growth companies on business formation and founders' issues and growth financings.

C.J. has represented clients in many sectors, including the food and beverage, maritime, timberlands and forest products, energy, manufacturing, life sciences and medical device, healthcare, software and information technology, retail, and financial services industries. C.J. also regularly works with Canadian clients and coordinates the firm's referral relationships with Canadian law firms.

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

Prior to joining the firm, C.J. spent over 20 years as a corporate lawyer with the Seattle office of a West Coast regional law firm. Previously, he was an attorney/advisor with the Office of the Chief Counsel for International Commerce at the US Department of Commerce in Washington, D.C., and an associate with Linklaters in Brussels, Belgium.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Recognized by *Chambers USA* for Corporate/M&A in Washington, 2007-2026
- Recognized by *The Best Lawyers in America*® in Seattle, WA
  - Mergers and Acquisitions Law, 2025, 2027
  - Corporate Law, 2011–2025, 2027

- Named to Washington Super Lawyers list for Business/Corporate, Mergers and Acquisitions, Securities, and Corporate Finance, 2006, 2014-2021
- Recognized by *Marine Money International* for "2024 Jones Act Deal of the Year," 2025

PROFESSIONAL / CIVIC ACTIVITIES

- Director, Association for Corporate Growth Seattle
- Volunteer Lawyer, Kids in Need of Defense
- Judge, Contract Negotiation Competition, University of Washington School of Law
- Former Member, Development Committee, Volunteer Park Trust
- Sponsor Representative, E8 Angels
- Former Member, Board of Directors, Seattle Symphony Orchestra
- Former Member, Executive Committee, and Chair, Major Donor Committee, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation/Northwest

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Moderator, M&A Panel, 2025 Northwest Middle Market Growth Conference, Association for Corporate Growth, July 2025
- "Investing in British Columbia Startups," Alliance of Angels Webinar, October 2020
- "Should We Update our Code of Conduct," Private Companies Committee and Pacific Northwest Chapter, Society for Corporate Governance, March 2019
- "M&A Purchase Price Adjustments," Mergers and Acquisitions Committee, Business Law Section, American Bar Association, February 2019
- "What Would You Do? Being Ethical and Effective at the Negotiation Table," Northwestern University School of Law Corporate & Securities Law Institute-- Chicago, 2018
- "Small Cap IPOs, Alternative Markets, and Shell Mergers," The Seminar Group, December 2017
- "Financing Clean Energy Businesses & Entrepreneurs," The CleanTech Alliance, December 2016
- "The US Economic Relationship with Asia" with Under Secretary of State Catherine Novelli, World Affairs Council – Seattle, 2015
- "M&A Auctions: Successful Bidding Strategies - Planning and Executing Winning Bids, Minimizing Costs of Losing Bids," Strafford Webinars, 2015
- "Lessons Learned from a Career in M&A," Association for Corporate Growth, Seattle, Washington, 2015

EDUCATION

- LL.M., University of Brussels
- J.D., University of Virginia School of Law
- A.B., Princeton University

ADMISSIONS

- Bar of New York
- Bar of Washington
- United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- United States Court of International Trade

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP *POWERED BY HUB*

- 23 May 2022 , Timber Briefing: U.S. Lumber Prices Could Be Affected By Sanctions on Russia
- 24 June 2020, Chancery Court Reaffirms Delaware Policy of Broad Section 220 Stockholder Inspection Rights
- 20 March 2020, Demand for Books and Records Under Section 220 to Aid in Proxy Contest is not a Proper Purpose, Chancery Court Finds
- 8 October 2019, Court Of Chancery Applies Political Question Doctrine In Deferring To U.S. President's Recognition Of Venezuelan President And Holds That Extra-Territorial Effects Do Not Preclude Application Of The Act Of State Doctrine
- 16 July 2019, Indemnification Provided For Success On The Merits, Even If On A Technicality
- 11 December 2018, Chancery Court Holds that Party Seeking Indemnification under Contract Procedure Loses Ability to Claim Excused Performance due to Material Breach
- 14 November 2018, Breaking-up Is Hard To Do: CSH Theatres, LLC v. Nederlander of San Francisco Associates
- 16 July 2018, Chancery Court Awards Damages for Breach of Fiduciary Duty Stemming from Director's Refusal to Sign Self-Help Documents
- 15 May 2018, Controlling Stockholder Cannot Advance Its Own Self-Interest At Expense Of Minority Stockholders
- 12 December 2016, Chancery Court Finds Clear Disclaimer of Reliance on Extra-contractual Statements in Dismissing Buyer's Fraud Claim; Allows Certain Breach of Contract Claims to Proceed

NEWS & EVENTS

- 4 June 2026, K&L Gates Receives Nearly 235 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2026 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 5 June 2025, K&L Gates Receives More Than 240 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2025 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 11 March 2025, Nearly 50 K&L Gates Lawyers Receive Global Recognition in *Thomson Reuters*' Stand-out Lawyers List
- 6 June 2024, K&L Gates Receives More Than 200 Firm, Individual Rankings in 2024 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 1 June 2023, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2023 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 18 August 2022, More Than 350 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2023 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 1 June 2022, K&L Gates Receives Firm, Individual Rankings in 2022 *Chambers USA* Guide
- 19 August 2021, Nearly 300 K&L Gates Lawyers Named Among 2022 Best Lawyers in America, Ones to Watch
- 24 May 2021, Chambers USA 2021 Guide Recognizes K&L Gates Corporate Practice, Lawyers Among Leaders
- 23 April 2020, K&L Gates, Lawyers Recognized in 2020 Chambers USA Guide
- 20 December 2019, K&L Gates Advises Beatty Marketing & Sales on Acquisition by Aspen Surgical Products
- 26 April 2019, Chambers USA 2019 Guide Ranks K&L Gates, Lawyers Among Leaders
- 23 June 2016, K&L Gates, Lawyers Recognized as Leaders in Chambers USA 2016 Guide
- 16 June 2016, K&L Gates Continues Growth of Corporate/M&A Practice With Seattle Partner Addition

AREAS OF FOCUS

- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Capital Markets
- Corporate Governance
- Emerging Growth and Venture Capital
- Private Equity Transactions
- Public Companies

INDUSTRIES

- Energy

- Financial Services
- Manufacturing
- Private Equity
- Renewables

REPRESENTATIVE EXPERIENCE

- Advised Saltchuk Resources, Inc., a privately owned family of diversified freight transportation, marine service, and energy distribution companies headquartered in Seattle, in connection with its acquisition of Overseas Shipholding Group, Inc. (NYSE: OSG), a leading provider of liquid bulk transportation services in the energy industry for crude oil and petroleum products primarily in the US-flag markets.
- Represented Fiera Comox Global Sustainable Timberland Fund LP in its acquisition of 6,650 acres of coastal Oregon timberlands, the Fund's first acquisition in North America. Fiera Comox is a Montreal-based global investment manager that manages private investment strategies in private equity, agriculture, timberland, and private credit.
- Advised WatchGuard Technologies, Inc., a global leader in unified cybersecurity, in its acquisition, of CyGlass Technology Services, a leading provider of Cloud and network-centric threat detection and response solutions that help organizations see risks, stop threats, and prove compliance.
- Served as US counsel to a British Columbia, Canada-based STN Video, an industry leader in sports content distribution in its sale to Minute Media, a global technology and content company specializing in sports and culture.
- Represented a multistate wholesaler and distributor of natural stone, quartz, and porcelain slabs and countertops in a strategic investment by a private equity investor.
- Represented a publicly-traded forest products company in its proposed acquisition of a mass timber products manufacturer out of a bankruptcy proceeding.
- Represented a marine services company in its proposed acquisition of a maritime transportation and logistics provider.
- Represented Oscar Wilde Spirits, Inc. in its Series A preferred stock financing. Oscar Wilde Spirits produces and sells super premium Wilde Irish Gin, crafted in West Cork, Ireland.
- Represented The Greenbrier Companies, Inc. (NYSE: GBX), a leading international supplier of freight equipment and services based in Lake Oswego, Oregon, in connection with the sale of Greenbrier's Gunderson Marine operations.
- Represented one of the largest lumber and millwork producers in the United States in a reorganization of its subsidiaries and affiliates.

- Served as US counsel to a leading integrated risk management, crisis response, consulting, and global protective solutions firm in acquisitions of several US-based security services providers.
- Represented a multidisciplinary decarbonization leader in a strategic financing round. The company is leading provider of zero-carbon industrial heat through its innovative technology, which captures low-cost renewable electricity and delivers continuous high-temperature heat.
- Represented Briotech, Inc., in connection with a corporate reorganization and strategic investment by the venture arm of a major consumer products company.
- Represented Renewal Funds, a mission venture capital fund investing in early growth stage companies to accelerate the transition to a sustainable economy, in multiple investments in environmental technology, environmental innovation, and sustainable foods companies.
- Represented Prowess Consulting in the sale of its SmartDeploy desktop management software business to PDQ.com, a portfolio company of TA Associates.
- Represented Twin Creeks Timber (TCT) and Mt. Adams Forest Products in a transaction in which TCT acquired 61,000 acres of timberlands and related assets from SDS Co., and Mt. Adams acquired a sawmill, planer mill, and a plywood plant owned by SDS Lumber. TCT is an alternative investment fund that owns over 650,000 acres of timberlands in the United States. Mt. Adams is a subsidiary of Wilkins, Kaiser & Olsen, Inc., a mill operator that manufactures over 150 million board feet of dimensional lumber annually.
- Represented Europ Assistance Holding in the sale of CareLinx, the nation's leading digital on-demand platform of tech-enabled care providers, to Sharecare (Nasdaq: SHCR), a digital health company.
- Served as US counsel to InstarAGF Asset Management Inc., based in Toronto, Canada, in its acquisition of PRT Growing Services Ltd., a leading reforestation logistics provider with operations in the US and Canada.
- Represented a Toronto-based global asset manager in its $2.65 billion sale of Longview Timberlands to Weyerhaeuser Company.
- Represented a Toronto-based global asset manager in its $480 million leveraged dividend recapitalization and subsequent $1.0 billion sale of Longview Fibre Paper and Packaging Inc., a manufacturer of specialty paper and packaging.
- Represented Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium in its acquisition of Wrangell Medical Center.
- Represented Anheuser-Busch as local counsel in the acquisition of Craft Brewing Alliance, owner of the Kona, Widmer, and Redhook brands.
- Represented Fackelmann GmbH & Co., a leading global manufacturer and distributor of kitchen tools and housewares, in its investment in and joint venture with Epoca, a US kitchen and housewares distributor.
- Represented Westland Distillery, Washington’s leading craft whiskey distillery, in its sale to Rémy Cointreau, a French spirits group.
- Represented Tully's Coffee Corporation, a Seattle-based specialty coffee retailer and wholesaler, in the sale of its wholesale business and supply chain to Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, Inc.

- Represented Mercent Corporation, a retail technology company, in its sale to CommerceHub, a leading ecommerce technology provider and subsidiary of Liberty Interactive Corporation.
- Represented Lund Engineering, an engineering firm that designs and builds electro-mechanical equipment used in the manufacture of composite aerospace structures and components, in its sale to the Fives Group, an international industrial engineering company based in France.
- Represented Sound Commerce Technologies Inc., a Seattle-based SaaS provider of end-to-end data solutions for retail brands, in preferred stock financings led by DCM, Emergence Capital Partners, and DEFY Partners.