Michael J. Blankenship

Partner

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Mike is the managing partner of Winston's Houston office. He focuses his practice on corporate finance and securities law, including securities offerings, public company advisory, special purpose acquisition company offerings, private equity and venture capital transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and general corporate representation.

Mike regularly counsels public companies on strategic transactions, capital markets offerings, and general corporate and securities law matters. He represents both issuers and underwriters in U.S. and non-U.S. capital markets transactions, including IPOs and direct listings, and advises on corporate governance and securities market regulation. Mike routinely assists clients from many different industries, including, among others, energy & infrastructure, healthcare & life sciences and technology and new media.

Key Matters

Some of the experience represented below may have been handled at a previous firm.

IPO AND EQUITY OFFERINGS

- Represented the Conflicts Committee of Spectra Energy Partners, L.P. in the completed conversion of all of Enbridge Inc.'s incentive distribution rights and general partner economic interests in SEP into US$172.5M newly issued SEP common units
- Represented the joint placement agents, J.P. Morgan Securities LLC, Citi, and BMO Capital Markets in connection with the PIPE offering of Northern Genesis Acquisition Corp. II, a SPAC, in its definitive business combination with Embark Truck, Inc., a leading developer of autonomous software technology for the trucking industry. The transaction reflects an implied pro forma equity value of US$5.16B and enterprise value of US$4.55B
- Represented Founder SPAC in its US$316.25M initial public offering
- Represented Goldman Sachs & Co as underwriters in its US$304.75M initial public offering
- Represented Goldman Sachs & Co as underwriter's counsel in it's US$275M initial public offering
- Represented GIO World Health in its US$250M initial public offering
- Represented Goldman Sachs & Co as joint underwriter in it's US$240M initial public offering
- Represented Investcorp India Acquisition Corp. in it's US$225M intial public offering
- Represented a master limited partnership in its US$1.2B initial public offering of common units
- Represented underwriters in the US$1.4B initial public offering of limited partnership
- Represented a retail energy services company in its US$54M initial public offering of common stock
- Represented an exploration and production company in its US$48M offering of common stock
- Represented an exploration and development company in its US$742M public offering of common stock
- Represented master limited partnership in its launch of a US$74M at-the-market public offering of common units
- Represented underwriters to limited partnership in its US$1.3B public offering of common units
- Represented underwriters to master limited partnership in its US$330M public offering of common stock
- Represented underwriters to master limited partnership in its US$200M at the market public offering of common units
- Represented underwriters to master limited partnership in its US$370M public offering of common units
- Represented underwriters to a natural gas and petroleum exploration and production company in its public offering of 86,000,000 shares of common stock

NOTES OFFERINGS

- Represented the underwriters to a master limited partnership in its US$800M offering of senior notes
- Represented the underwriters to oil, natural gas, and geothermal drilling contractor in its US$500M offering of exchangeable senior unsecured notes
- Represented an exploration and production company in its a US$100M offering of senior secured notes

MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS TRANSACTIONS

- Represented Saddle Butte Rockies Midstream, LLC and affiliates in its announced US$625M acquisition by Black Diamond Gathering, LLC, a newly formed joint venture by Noble Midstream Partners L.P. and Greenfield Midstream, LLC
- Represented an energy infrastructure company in its sale for a total purchase price of approximately US$3B

- Represented a major North American energy infrastructure company in its US$915M acquisition of a midstream master limited partnership
- Represented a midstream master limited partnership in its acquisition of a 49.9% interest in an interstate natural gas pipeline company from a major North American energy infrastructure company

Recent Experience

UB-X Technology Closing of $10M IPO

Drilling Tools International Corp. Closes on Acquisition of Deep Casing Tools

Sale of International Cellulose Corporation Assets to Saint-Gobain

AlphaTime Acquisition Corp Announces Entering into a Merger Agreement with HCYC Group Company Limited

Inno Holdings Inc. Closes $10M Initial Public Offering

Mobiv Acquisition Corp. Business Combination with SRIVARU Holding Ltd.

Aileron Therapeutics Announces Acquisition of Lung Therapeutics

Nxu Inc. Announces US$3M Public Offering of Common Stock

RF Acquisition Corp. Enters into Definitive Business Combination with GCL Asia to Go Public

Docter Inc. and Aimfinity Investment Corp. I Announce Definitive Merger Agreement

Recognitions

- Recognized, *Lawdragon*'s "500 Leading Energy Lawyers" (2021–2024)
- Recognized, *Lawdragon*'s "500 Leading Lawyers" (2024)
- Recognized, *Legal 500 U.S.* (2021–2023)
- Recognized, *Legal 500* Latin America International Firms for City-Focus Houston (2024)
- "Texas Rising Star" by *Super Lawyers Magazine (*2019–2021)
- On the Rise Honoree by *Texas Lawyer Magazine* (2019)

Credentials

EDUCATION

Mike received his BA from the University of Rochester in 2003 and received his MBA in Finance, from Syracuse University in 2005. Mike earned his JD, *cum laude,* from Rutgers University School of Law in 2008, where he received the Order of the Coif and Scholarly Outstanding Achievement Award in Tax Law.

ADMISSIONS

- California
- Texas
- New York

Related Insights & News

- Speaker, "SPACs and University Start-Ups: Understanding the Pros and Cons," Tech Transfer Central Webinar, November 2021
- Panelist, "SPACs: Current Market Trends," Winston & Strawn Webinar, October 2021
- Panelist, "PIPE Financing and Legal Trends," Opal Group SPAC Opportunities Forum, May 2021
- Commentator, "Oil and Gas Outlook 2021: Healing, But Wary," Hart Energy, December 2020
- Speaker, "RiskWatch Podcast: SPAC Due Diligence," Vcheck Global, December 2020
- Co-Author, "Energy Transition: Threading the Regulatory Needle," Hart Energy, *E&P Plus*, November 2020
- Speaker, "Board Compensation Committees in 2020 and Primer on Special Purpose Acquisition Companies (SPACs)," NACD Program, November 2020
- Co-Author, "ESG in a Time of COVID: Materiality and Energy Companies," *Oil, Gas & Energy Law Intelligence*, October 2020

WEBINAR
Playing the Dual Track
MAY 21, 2024

SPONSORSHIP
Winston & Strawn Sponsors EF Hutton Annual Global Conference
MAY 15, 2024

SPONSORSHIP
Beyond the Finish Line: Navigating IPOs and M&A
MAY 2, 2024

SPONSORSHIP
Winston & Strawn Sponsors Sidebar Summit
APRIL 24, 2024

BLOG
The NYSE Proposes Rule Providing SPACs Additional Time to Close Deals Before Delisting
APRIL 22, 2024

ARTICLE
A Look At Recent Challenges To SEC's Settlement 'Gag Rule'
APRIL 4, 2024

BLOG

Second Circuit's Holding That Syndicated Loan Notes Are Not Securities Stands; U.S. Supreme Court Denies Petition for Writ of Certiorari in Kirschner

MARCH 7, 2024

BLOG

SEC Adopts Final Climate-Related Disclosure Rules

MARCH 6, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

Winston & Strawn Adds Prominent Commercial Litigator Laurens Wilkes in Houston

MARCH 4, 2024

ARTICLE

Managing the Energy Transition: Oil & Gas Industry Response

MARCH 1, 2024

BLOG

SEC Chair Comments on Challenges to Proposed Climate Disclosure Rules

FEBRUARY 28, 2024

BLOG

Cabinet of Japan Approves Bill Encouraging Venture Capital Investment in Blockchain Startups

FEBRUARY 23, 2024

Capabilities

Transactions | Capital Markets | Corporate Governance | Mergers & Acquisitions

Private Equity | Public Companies | Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) | Energy

Oil & Gas | Cryptocurrencies, Digital Assets & Blockchain Technology

Artificial Intelligence (AI)