Fin Accelerate | EMPOWERED BY Jones Day

2026 WELCOME PACK

5 YEARS OF UNLOCKING INNOVATION

www.finaccelerate.com

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WELCOME TO FINACCELERATE

A warm welcome to FinAccelerate 2026!

We are delighted to have with us such an excellent cohort of innovative FinTech companies at different stages of development with such great potential. Please peruse this Welcome Pack to familiarize yourself with:

(i) the program agenda;

(ii) the 2026 FinAccelerate cohort companies;

(iii) the Jones Day legal team supporting the cohort across multiple practice areas; and

(iv) the team of world leading influencers involved with the program, some of whom will be speaking at Demo Day on the 22nd of October and Interconnection Day on the 23rd of October.

We hope you enjoy the program and become an integral part of the FinAccelerate ecosystem.

Sincerely,

Jones Day FinAccelerate Team

ABOUT FINACCELERATE

FinAccelerate is an intensive accelerator program powered by one of the world's leading and largest law firms, Jones Day. The program covers the fundamental areas of law relevant to innovative fintech companies and enables selected fintech businesses to access leading investors, corporations, financial institutions, and potential joint venture partners to accelerate their growth and success. 2026 marks the fifth year of FinAccelerate — five years of unlocking innovation and empowering the next generation of fintech leaders.

Program Structure

The program is run over four key days and followed up with continuous engagement with a strong ecosystem of world-leading advisors, investors, and partners to the program.

Day 1: Tuesday, October 20, 2026

Know-How Sessions

Structured, one-hour know-how sessions for the fintech cohort companies, covering these key areas: capital markets, regulatory law, IP, corporate structure and funding, data and privacy, employment, tech agreements, and risk management.

Location: Jones Day's Silicon Valley Office
1755 Embarcadero Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Day 2: Wednesday, October 21, 2026

Q&A Sessions

A limited number of dedicated time slots for small group Q&A sessions that the fintech cohort can book with relevant lawyers presenting on topics from Day 1. General access with refreshment breaks provided.

Location: Jones Day's Silicon Valley Office
1755 Embarcadero Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Day 3: Thursday, October 22, 2026

Demo Day: Present Your Company

Fintech cohorts are given an opportunity to present their companies to an audience of invited institutions, VCs, influencers, and investors. Thought leaders are also invited to speak. A separate demo area will be available to showcase your technology.

Location: Jones Day's Silicon Valley Office
1755 Embarcadero Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Day 4: Friday, October 23, 2026

Interconnection Day: Meetings

Special sessions presented by our influencers and advisors. Opportunity to connect with and meet up with influencers and other cohort members in a relaxed environment.

Location: Jones Day's Silicon Valley Office
1755 Embarcadero Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Day 1 Program – Tuesday, October 20, 2026

Jones Day Silicon Valley Office: 1755 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303

8:45 am	**Registration: Coffee and Breakfast**	
9:15 am	**Cohort Group Picture**	
9:25 am	**Short Welcome**	
9:30 – 10:30 am	**Panel 1: Company Investment**	Cameron Reese, Bret Stancil, and Katherine Blair
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	**Panel 2: Fintech Product Development and Regulation**	Abradat Kamalpour, Nick Podsiadly, Laura Pruitt, and Nivedita Sathiakumar
12:00 – 1:00 pm	**Lunch and Networking**	
1:00 – 1:45 pm	**Panel 3: Taxation**	Lori Hellkamp and Amie Colwell Breslow
1:45 – 2:30 pm	**Panel 4: Intellectual Property and Tech Transactions**	Jennifer Bennett, Carl Kukkonen, Patricia Campbell, Ka-on Li, and Ken Saurajen
2:30 – 2:50 pm	**Coffee Break**	
2:50 – 3:35 pm	**Panel 5: Data and Cyber**	Jerry Ling and Jeff Rabkin
3:35 – 4:15 pm	**Panel 6: Employment and Employee Equity**	Kelsey Israel-Trummel and Dean Bachus
4:15 – 5:00 pm	**Panel 7: Risk Management, Litigation, and Insurance**	Brian McDonald, Jerry Ling, and Peter Julian
5:00 pm	**End of Day 1**	

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Day 2 Program – Wednesday, October 21, 2026

Jones Day Silicon Valley Office: 1755 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303

9:00 – 9:30 am	**Registration: Coffee and Breakfast**
9:30 – 10:15 am	**Presentation to Investors Training** • Stephen MacKenzie, Patent Platform Services • Tim Curry, Partner, Jones Day (Moderator) • Pat LaVecchia, Founder & CEO, Oasis Pro Inc. • David Wieloszynski, Plug and Play Ventures
10:15 am	Cohort can book dedicated FAQ sessions with senior lawyers from the following practice areas: • Company and Investment • Fintech Product • Financial Regulation • Taxation • Technology Transactions • Intellectual Property • Data and Cybersecurity • Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation • Labor & Employment • Risk Management • Litigation • Insurance

Light lunch will be available on Day 2.

* Advance notice by cohort members as to the team they would like to meet is much appreciated. Please email preferences for up to three sessions.

* One-on-one meeting times are 20 to 25 minutes.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Day 3 Program: Demo Day – Thursday, October 22, 2026

Jones Day Silicon Valley Office: 1755 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303

8:15 – 9:00 am	**Registration: Coffee and Breakfast**
9:00 – 9:10 am	**Opening Welcoming Remarks**
9:10 – 9:30 am	**Fireside Chat:** Nathan McCauley, CEO and Co-Founder of Anchorage Digital
9:30 – 10:30 am	**Panel 1: Venture Capital and Investment Panels** • Stephen MacKenzie, Patent Platform Services and Former Managing Director, Koch Disruptive Technologies (Moderator) • Ken Deeter, General Partner, Electric Capital • Miko Matsumura, Managing Partner, gCC (gumi Cryptos Capital) • David Rankin, COO, Draper Goren Blockchain • Elliot Han, Chief Investment Officer with C1 and Partner at PGP Capital • Jason Best, Managing Partner, OM Venture Capital • David Wieloszynski, Plug and Play Ventures • Roger Lang, General Partner, Inspiration Ventures • Jim Starcev, Family Offices & Heartland Digital Exchange
10:30 – 11:15 am	**Andreessen Horowitz Go-to-Market Session:** Christian Crowley, Partner, a16z crypto
11:15 – 12:00 pm	**Cohort Presentations 1**
12:00 – 12:45 pm	**Lunch**
12:45 – 1:00 pm	**Fireside Chat:** Anthony Bassili, President, Coinbase Asset Management
1:00 – 1:45 pm	**Cohort Presentations 2**

Day 3 Program continued on next page

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Day 3 Program: Demo Day – Thursday, October 22, 2026 *continued*

Jones Day's Silicon Valley Office: 1755 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303

1:45 – 2:20 pm	**Panel 2: Institutions and Innovation** • Rebecca Macieira-Kaufmann, Public & Private Board Director and CEO Advisor, Board Member of Securitize (Moderator) • Anthony Pecore, Senior Vice President, Director, Digital Asset Management, Franklin Templeton • Larry Wang, Business Strategy & Operations, Anchorage Digital • Nick Christian, Head of National Fintech and Specialty Finance, First Citizens Innovation Banking • Pat LaVecchia, Founder of Oasis Pro and CEO, Oasis Pro Inc., an Ondo Finance Company
2:20 – 2:40 pm	**Fireside Chat:** Oli Harris, Global Head of Kinexys by J.P. Morgan
2:40 – 3:00 pm	**Coffee Break**
3:00 – 4:40 pm	**Cohort Presentation 3**
4:40 – 5:00 pm	**Fireside Chat:** Andrew Siegel, Office of U.S. Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand; Former General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer, Galaxy Digital
5:00 – 5:20 pm	**Fireside Chat:** Mike Lempres, Board of Bridge National Trust Bank; Board Member, MoonPay, Silvergate Bank, Bitstamp USA, Inc.
5:25 pm	**Reception and Drinks**

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Day 4 Program: Interconnection Day – Friday, October 23, 2026

Jones Day's Silicon Valley Office: 1755 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303

9:00 – 10:00 am	**Coffee, Breakfast, and Free Meeting Time**
10:00 – 11:00 am	**Citi Session**
11:00 – 12:00 pm	**Google Session**
12:00 – 1:30 pm	**Light Lunch and Free Time**
1:30 – 2:00 pm	**First Citizens Innovation Banking Session**
2:00 – 2:30 pm	**Family Office Opportunity – Jim Starcev & Heidi Lehmann**
2:30 – 3:00 pm	**Coffee and Free Meeting Time**
3:00 – 3:30 pm	**Plug and Play Session**
3:30 – 4:30 pm	**Free Meeting Time**

* Please note that meeting rooms will be available during the scheduled presentations for meetings.

FINACCELERATE APP

Download The App

The FinAccelerate App provides useful information about the program, updates, biographies, and key program publications. The App is downloadable in Apple Store and Google Play.

FinAccelerate

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

11th.com

11th.com is an **AI investor recovery engine** that helps recover funds from class action settlements, digital asset compensation, bankruptcy claims, and tax benefits.

RIAs, broker-dealers, custodians, and banks embed its recovery engine so clients automatically receive **owed funds—just like dividends**.

Its **AI agents monitor 100,000+ corporate events** across court documents and SEC filings, match them to client positions, file claims, and facilitate payments into client accounts.

The platform has **$200B+ in assets under recovery management** across 305,000+ accounts and integrates natively with major custodians, including Fidelity, Schwab, BNY, Pershing, Goldman Sachs, Merrill Lynch, Axos, and Altruist.

Adeptiv AI

Govern every AI system. Fast, automated, continuously

Adeptiv AI is the governance and compliance layer for enterprises deploying AI. We map every AI system to **38+ global, regional and sector regulations at once** — so a control is written once, evidence is collected once, and both are reused across every framework instead of rebuilt for each one.

The Problem

An enterprise deploying AI today answers to four regulators at once — data protection law, AI-specific acts, sector rules, and international standards. Treated as separate projects, that means:

- **The same evidence collected three or four times**, once per framework, from the same systems.
- **The same control re-documented under a different name** in every audit, with no shared source of truth.
- Compliance teams spending more time reconciling frameworks than actually managing AI risk.
- Consultant-led programmes that cost six figures, take months, and go stale the moment a regulation moves.

Why Now

The enforcement window opened across Europe, India and the US simultaneously — the first time compliance teams have faced overlapping AI obligations rather than sequential ones. Deduplication stops being nice-to-have and becomes the only workable approach.

THE PLATFORM — SEVEN MODULES, ONE MAPPED CONTROL LAYER

Cross-Mapped Controls Frameworks
Clause- and article-level control libraries per regulation, split into primary and sub-controls, each tagged by applicability, control nature, user type, required policy and evidence type. Audit-aligned from day one instead of built from scratch.

Evidence Pack Generation
Audit-ready packs assembled automatically by article or clause, pulling directly from connected Google Drive and SharePoint repositories. Every artefact traces back to the requirement it satisfies.

Pre-Deployment Risk Review
One standardised risk-review gate every AI system passes before it ships — identical triage regardless of use case, model or business unit.

Real-Time Monitoring & Audit Trails
Continuous monitoring of deployed AI systems with full audit trails and regulator-ready reporting, collapsing the manual scramble during audits and inquiries.

AI Inventory & Workflows
Central register of every AI system in the organisation with assigned ownership and structured approval workflows — visibility into what is running and who is accountable.

Policy Automation
Organisational policies stay aligned to compliance requirements automatically, eliminating the policy drift that appears as regulations evolve.

Telemetry Ingestion
Logs stream in from client AI systems automatically, feeding live monitoring and compliance posture with no manual log submission.

The compounding effect
Because controls and evidence are mapped to a shared layer, each new regulation a customer adopts costs a fraction of the first. Coverage grows; effort does not.

WHY WE WIN

- **Deduplication is the product, not a feature.** Competitors add frameworks as separate modules; we map them to one layer, so overlapping obligations collapse into shared work.
- **Clause-level depth, not checklists.** Controls go to sub-control granularity, tagged for applicability, so output survives a real audit.
- **Days, not months.** Custom compliance policy onboarded in under 24 hours, against consultant programmes measured in quarters.
- **Platform plus implementation.** Policy drafting, evidence pipelines and auditor-ready workflows are built in — the parts other vendors leave to you.

TRACTION

Funding to date	**$100K angel · pre-seed**
Paying customers	BFSI
Design partners	**6**
Pipeline	**100 + Customers**

MARKET & MODEL

Buyer	**CISO, Chief Compliance Officer, Head of AI**
Segments	**BFSI, healthcare, HR tech — regulated, multi-model**
Team	**20+**

Aeredium Holdings Inc.

AEREDIUM builds the trust layer for institutional settlement. It is a United States company with teams in Melbourne, Tel Aviv and Austin. It operates a purpose-built blockchain together with the custody, identity, liquidity and audit infrastructure an institution needs in order to settle on it.

The chain has no proof of stake. There is no stake with which to weight ordering and no validator auction to enter, so a position in the queue is not for sale. Consensus is TEE-BFT, a Tendermint-style protocol executed inside hardware trusted execution environments across a multi-cloud deployment, using unique sequential identifiers that prevent equivocation outright, with 2f+1 fault tolerance. Design capacity is 250,000 transactions per second, and the transaction fee is fixed at the equivalent of one United States cent, so an institution knows the price of every transaction it will send before it sends the first one.

AEREDIUM has merged with KIMA Labs, which brings KIMA's bridgeless transfer technology onto the AEREDIUM chain as a native layer. Value moves between chains with no bridge in the path, and therefore with no bridge to attack. The bridgeless layer works through AERKey, our threshold signature custody, and through native integrations with the major decentralised exchanges, which lets AEREDIUM run a custodial service priced by swap spreads embedded in the deep liquidity pools of the world's largest liquidity providers.

AER360 is where an organisation runs its money under its own written law. Each organisation holds an estate: everything it owns, everyone admitted to it, every rule it pays by, and the record of what happened, in one place. Policy comes before movement. A payment happens because the estate's charter, written in plain answers during a policy interview, allows it, and it is refused before execution where the charter does not. A refusal states its reason and is recorded as faithfully as a payment. Every estate begins in a sandbox, where nothing real can move, and goes live only by a deliberate ceremony.

That charter now governs software agents as well as people. AEREDIUM operates MCP servers on the Anthropic platform through which Claude carries out trading and payment instructions. Every instruction passes the policy engine before it reaches a key, and the keys themselves are threshold signatures held by AERKey, so the agent holds no private key and cannot move an asset the charter does not allow. This is full custody of assets for agents.

AEREDIUM holds United States Patent No. 12,694,407 B1, "Autonomous Auditing of Digital Asset Reserves Using a Multi-Model Architecture", issued 28 July 2026. It covers a four-model artificial intelligence ensemble with dual-blockchain settlement that verifies reserves continuously and attests cryptographically to its own findings, so the reserve behind a token is audited as a running condition rather than as a periodic opinion. The patent sits within a portfolio of eight United States filings.

All on-chain activity is governed from the Cayman Islands. Aeredium Foundation Limited, a Cayman Islands foundation company, operates the chain and is the counterparty of record for institutions. AEREDIUM Digital Ltd., a British Virgin Islands company, is the issuer of the AERX token. StableProtocol LLC holds the artificial intelligence audit patents, and AEREDIUM Holdings Inc. is the United States parent company.

The founder and chief executive is Albert Dadon, named as inventor on five of the group's patent filings. He has led Ubertas Group, a Melbourne property development company, as executive chairman for 26 years, and he chairs the Australian Friends of Reichman University.

Athenian Tech

Athenian Tech is an AI powered Threat Hunting company that delivers 360-degree protection defending against deepfakes, disinformation, and fake news to ensure that the organisation stays resilient. Athenian Tech combines advanced AI with AgenticAI's capabilities to not only tackle technical threats, but also to neutralize social engineering attacks like phishing and impersonation impacting Enterprises and its Executives.

Briccken

Brickken is a leading global tokenization platform for private markets, providing financial institutions, regulated entities, asset managers, and enterprises with the infrastructure to issue, manage, and distribute digital financial instruments across their full lifecycle.

The platform supports the tokenization of equity, debt, private credit, funds, investment vehicles, real estate, infrastructure, commodities, and other asset-backed structures. Its capabilities include asset configuration and issuance, investor onboarding and eligibility controls, permissioning, recordkeeping, reporting, distributions, redemptions, corporate actions, and integration with existing systems.

Brickken provides its infrastructure through Issuer Studio, White Label Infrastructure, and Brickken API, enabling institutions to deploy tokenization programs through direct, branded, or embedded operating models.

Brickken infrastructure has supported more than $660 million in tokenized assets, serving over 150 institutional clients across more than 40 countries. The company has participated in the European Blockchain Sandbox and maintains ISO/IEC 27001, ISO/IEC 27018, and ISO/IEC 27701 certified management systems.

CHEKKD

Chekkd

Chekkd is an Utah-built trust layer for transactions between strangers. Before money changes hands on a marketplace sale, a rental deposit, a peer-to-peer payment, or a hire, one person sends a Chekkd request and the other verifies through Plaid using a government ID and a live face match. Both parties see that the other is a real, verified person, and nobody hands a photo of their license to a stranger. After the transaction, each side rates the other, and those ratings build a portable Trust Passport that follows the user into every future deal. Chekkd is free to use, live today at app.chekkd.com, and built to stop scams before they happen rather than clean them up afterward. The company is Let's Handshake, Inc DBA CHEKKD a Delaware corporation headquartered in Midvale, Utah, founded by Shaun Kimball (CEO) and Matt Schwen (CTO).

culionXchange

Executive Overview

culionXchange delivers an **intelligent financial operations platform** for SMEs—unifying workflows, payment orchestration, and instant accounting updates in **one unified control layer**. Unlike traditional payment tools focused strictly on transaction speed over raw rails, culionXchange governs operational intelligence **before, during, and after** every payment while continuously updating an **immutable ledger**—eliminating manual friction, legacy payment gaps, reconciliation overhead, and fragmented systems.

Our flagship platform, **Payko iCheck**, acts as an **all-in-one Financial Operating System** that automates the entire **SME cash cycle** while connecting directly into existing banking infrastructure.

Our Control Layer Architecture

The culionXchange Control Layer sits between front-end applications and banking rails:

- **AI Context Engine**: Automatically ingests invoices and contracts to **extract operational intent**, eliminating manual data entry upfront.
- **Patented DLT Engine**: Executes **programmable rules** on a permissioned ledger—enforcing policy compliance pre-execution, orchestrating payment, and maintaining in-flight visibility.

Combining front-end AI extraction with DLT programmable rules delivers **zero-manual workflows, deterministic payments**, and an **auto-reconciled real-time ledger**.

Outcomes & Benefits

- **80% Operational Workload Reduction**: Automates document ingestion, approval routing, and post-settlement reconciliation **without new software, spreadsheets, or switching banks**.
- **Real-time Cash Visibility & Control**: Eliminates cash flow blind spots with real-time tracking and programmable routing to **optimize payment timing and working capital**.
- **Deterministic Security & Continuous Audit**: Cryptographically validates policies pre-execution to prevent costly fraud while automatically **reconciling books on-chain**.

Market Validation, Traction & Business Model

- **Live Production & Ecosystem Integration**: Active in US SME production via Payko iCheck; integrated with top open-banking infrastructure for bank connectivity, identity verification, and compliance.
- **Institutional Validation & Proprietary IP**: Completed pilots and UAT across seven top commercial banks and the Philippine Clearing House, backed by issued patents in the US and the Philippines.
- **Predictable Dual-Revenue Model**: Scalable hybrid model combining **recurring SaaS subscriptions** with **fixed per-transaction fees**—eliminating seat-based licensing limits and percentage-fee friction.

Dar3

Dar3 is the liquidity infrastructure for wholesale commerce in Latin America.

Wholesalers across the region sell to thousands of small merchants who typically buy only as much inventory as their available cash allows. That limits how fast merchants grow and how much wholesalers can sell.

We start with financing, embedded directly into the wholesaler's existing order flow. Merchants are scored using the wholesaler's own order and payment history alongside bureau data, so financing is ready before the merchant ever asks for it. Financing appears at checkout and can be accepted in a single step. The wholesaler is paid in full when the order is placed and carries no receivable. Merchants repay us progressively as they sell, through small daily payments collected over the instant payment rails now live across Latin America. Distribution comes with the integration. We reach every merchant in a wholesaler's network without acquiring them one at a time.

Underwriting, funding, payments, and collections already exist as separate products. We've combined them into a single infrastructure layer built for the channel where millions of Latin American merchants buy their inventory.

Founding Team

Samer Seguias, Co-Founder and CEO

15+ years building data and AI products in financial services, including at IBM and Wilmington Trust. Boston University MBA, London Business School Sloan Fellow.

Alexander Bonder, Co-Founder and CRO

15+ years scaling payments and fintech businesses across Latin America, including at Mastercard LATAM and fintech Ditto. Boston University MBA.

dowgo.

dowgo.

Dowgo is a Paris-based fintech building a regulated DLT Trading and Settlement System (DLT TSS) under the EU DLT Pilot Regime (Regulation (EU) 2022/858). Dowgo operates a single regulated platform covering the full lifecycle of financial instruments — issuance, placement, secondary market trading and instant settlement — for equities, bonds and UCITS fund units.

European capital markets are slow, costly and illiquid for these asset classes: issuance takes months and layers of intermediaries, secondary markets for bonds, fund units and pre-IPO equity barely exist, and settlement still runs on T+2 cycles with counterparty risk. Dowgo addresses all three on one platform.

What Dowgo does

- Primary market. Digital issuance and placement of shares, bonds and fund units, giving issuers faster and cheaper access to capital.
- Secondary market. A regulated venue where investors can trade these instruments continuously — bringing liquidity to asset classes that are traditionally illiquid.
- Settlement. 24/7 atomic delivery-versus-payment settlement in MiCA-compliant euro e-money tokens, removing counterparty risk and settlement delays.

Positioning

Dowgo is neutral, non-custodial, regulated market infrastructure. It is built to work with banks, asset managers, brokers, listing sponsors and market makers rather than compete with them. Dowgo is not a crypto exchange: it is capital markets infrastructure for regulated financial instruments.

Credibility

- **Regulation**. Licence applications in progress with the French authorities (ACPR / AMF) under the EU DLT Pilot Regime.
- **Security**. ISO 27001 certified.
- **Team**. Founding team with 20 years of experience in corporate and investment banking, and a track record in financial market technology.

Who we want to meet

Issuers; professional investors; banks and asset managers; brokers and distributors; listing sponsors and market makers; infrastructure partners (stablecoin issuers, custodians, DLT networks).

Contact

Oscar Dumant, Co-founder & CEO
oscar@dowgo.com — www.dowgo.com

5 rue de la Manutention, 75016 Paris, France

DwellFi

DwellFi is an agentic OS platform provider for fund operations within private markets. Fund operations teams use our platform to manage their back and middle office through AI agents. We currently serve five clients across North America, Europe and the Middle East, including our first enterprise client, TMF Group, with over $700B in AUA.

Team

Kumar Ujjwal, CEO and Co-Founder, has two US patents in AI/ML with experience in various product roles at Kohl' s, Wells Fargo and Applied Materials. He was the first PM at Punchh, helping the company scale to $50M ARR, resulting in a $500M exit in 2021.

Deepak Sheoran, CTO and Co-Founder, brings 18+ years of engineering leadership experience, ranging from early stage startups that led to IPO (Rubrik, Tintri) as well as enterprise firms such as Citadel Securities, Walmart Labs and Broadcom/VMWare.

Platform

DwellFi runs inside the client's own environment, on any major cloud, private cloud, or bare metal, with a self-hosted option available. Fund operations teams work through nine core surfaces – Virtual Dataroom, Knowledge Library, AI Conversation, AI Agents, AI Workbooks, AI Apps, MCP Connectors, Skills, and Artifacts – to find, validate, create, and share work across every fund workflow. DwellFi ingests data from existing systems, stores it as that firm's own enterprise memory, and puts agents to work on it from day one. It routes each task to the best-performing frontier or open model, so no customer bets on one lab and the same work costs fewer tokens.

Revenue Model

DwellFi monetizes in three ways, and clients choose the entry point that fits.

1. **Managed Services** are the fastest wedge: forward-deployed engineers run a client's data processing inside a designated and compliant workspace.
2. **Verticalized Agents**, delivered via MCP, drop DwellFi agents into an existing stack, surgically, for specific workflows.
3. **The Platform** licenses the infrastructure to a client's own team. We price our offerings to our core ICP, fund administrators, the way they price their own services, per fund: $500 to$1,500 per fund per month, tiered by fund complexity, on multi-year terms.

Market

DwellFi targets the top 377 fund administrators controlling $98.2T across 288K+ funds—a$1.9B+ direct platform opportunity yielding $400M in ARR. Unlike Generic AI, which cannot execute auditable fund operations like NAVs or capital calls, DwellFi delivers domain-specific, forward-deployed automation purpose-built for administrators rather than managers. While in-house builds routinely fail and return as boomerang clients, DwellFi integrates directly with incumbent platforms like SS&C and BlackRock, establishing an indispensable operational layer.

eisen

Eisen

Eisen is the compliance operations infrastructure for companies that hold customer money. When an account goes dormant, a check goes stale, or a customer can't be reached, the company becomes responsible for a state-by-state web of escheatment, disbursement, and tax reporting obligations. Most firms still handle this in spreadsheets running to millions of rows, plus mail vendors and manual review.

Eisen replaces that with software: state reporting for escheatment, customer outreach that reconnects account holders before assets are lost, one-click disbursements, and 1099 tax reporting. A white-labeled claims portal, launched this year, lets customers respond to a due diligence letter by scanning a QR code instead of mailing paper back.

Eisen tracks 58+ government reporting deadlines across all 50 states, US territories, and Canadian provinces, and monitors tens of millions of accounts representing roughly $16 billion in balances for more than 50 companies across payments, crypto, wealth, and traditional banking, including Adyen, AllianceBernstein, Coinbase, Binance.US, and regional banks and credit unions.

Eisen has raised $18.5 million, including a Series A led by MissionOG, with participation from Index Ventures, Cowboy Ventures, First Round Capital, Homebrew, and Restive Ventures. The company is based in New York.

Eloquent AI

Eloquent AI

Eloquent AI builds AI Operators that automate complex customer operations end-to-end for financial services organisations. Our Operators can handle customer conversations, complete actions across multiple systems and leave a full audit trail — reducing handling time, operational cost and the amount of repetitive work done by human teams.

They work directly across existing systems, including legacy and desktop applications, so banks, lenders, insurers and fintechs do not need to build new APIs or redesign their technology stack. We can also deploy without perfectly documented SOPs: our AI Operators observe how work is actually done, capture exceptions and unwritten knowledge, and turn that into automation as part of implementation. This means teams can move from a manual process to production automation in a matter of weeks, increasing capacity and consistency while maintaining the control, compliance and auditability financial services operations require.

ereon.ai

ereon.ai

ereon.ai: a sovereign AI agent platform for capital markets

Every capital markets institution is being told to put AI agents to work. Almost none can, because the platforms on offer expect the institution to send its transaction data to someone else's cloud and trust an agent whose limits it cannot set. For financial institutions across the board, that is two non-starters in one product.

ereon is an agent platform built the other way round. It runs inside the institution's own infrastructure. It supports models hosted locally on the institution's own hardware, so transaction data never has to leave the building. And the rules an agent runs under are written by the institution's own staff: which actions it may complete on its own, which it must hand to a person, and what it may never touch. Those rules are deterministic and set per action. The agent does exactly what it is permitted to do and nothing else, and every step is recorded in an audit log built for the people who have to sign off on it.

The automation footprint covers the whole operations floor. Settlement breaks, KYC reviews, collateral calls, regulatory filings and ledger events on tokenised securities all still land on a desk and wait for a person, and ereon agents take that work on under the same rules and the same audit log regardless of the workflow. None of it requires a systems overhaul. The platform integrates with whatever an institution already runs, from legacy interfaces such as file transfer through to modern APIs and MCP, so clients put agents to work on their existing estate without going through an internal revolution first.

ereon.ai is based in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Its founder, Matheus Mapa, spent more than six years at Clearstream (Deutsche Börse Group), most recently as Vice President leading software design for the D7 digital securities platform, after a decade building software.

FixMyReports.com

Fix My Reports (fixmyreports.com) is a consumer fintech platform that helps Americans find and challenge errors on their credit reports with Experian, Equifax, and TransUnion - and rebuild the financial reputation those reports control.

Built around consumers' rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), the platform gives users a simple, do-it-yourself system: a free three-bureau credit analysis using a soft inquiry only (zero score impact); a plain-English breakdown of each file - per-bureau scores, revolving utilization, the most damaging accounts, statute-of-limitations flags, and prioritized next steps; and item-by-item dispute letters that cite the exact FCRA section, account number, reported date, and reason for each challenge. Every letter is reviewed and approved by the user before anything is sent - nothing ships without their consent.

Unlike traditional credit-repair agencies that send generic template letters bureaus can dismiss as frivolous, Fix My Reports letters are sent in the consumer's own name, tailored to each account, and tracked end-to-end: bureau responses, escalations (including furnisher-direct and method-of-verification letters), and score movement across all three bureaus. The platform also guides members through building positive history and protecting their gains - including credit-building partners and budgeting tools.

The business model is simple and transparent: a $1 seven-day full-access trial, then $50/month, cancelable anytime. No hard inquiries, no contracts, no data sold - reports and letters remain the customer's, exportable or deletable at any time.

Founded in 2026 by Yaşar Josh Daglar and based in New Jersey, Fix My Reports is led by a founder who has worked in the credit and financial services industry since 2003 - and is on a mission to give every American a fair file, and a fair price for credit.

ICTI

The Next Generation Digital Asset Infrastructure.

The first platform purpose-built for institutional-grade tokenization — a fully on-chain, interoperable and compliant infrastructure that enables the next evolution of digital finance. It unites issuance, settlement, compliance, and oversight within a single programmable ecosystem — secure by design and engineered for scale.

Lenderwize

Overview

Lenderwize is a live legaltech-enabled trade finance infrastructure platform built to help institutional funders, banks, insurers and enterprise ecosystems finance receivables and supply-chain transactions with stronger legal control, payment certainty and operational efficiency.

What the platform does

The platform connects the key components required to make trade finance scalable: receivables purchase workflows, notices of assignment, irrevocable payment undertakings, debtor confirmations, eligibility rules, payment instructions, controlled accounts, cash dominion, automated reconciliation, servicing actions, audit trails and evidence packs for funders, insurers and advisors.

Core innovation

Lenderwize's core innovation is turning legal conditions into executable operating controls. Instead of treating contracts, debtor acknowledgements, payment routing and insurance evidence as separate manual processes, Lenderwize embeds them into a live workflow. Legal obligations become data, approvals, triggers, exceptions and auditable evidence.

Why it matters

Trade finance is attractive to institutional capital, but deployment is often slowed by fragmented documentation, weak payment control, manual servicing and insufficient real-time evidence. Lenderwize addresses this bottleneck by combining legaltech, paytech, insurtech and fintech capabilities into a single operating layer for institutional trade finance.

Business model and use cases

Lenderwize can be used directly as a platform service by banks, credit funds, insurers and funders, or deployed as white-label infrastructure by banks, fintechs, ERP platforms, payment platforms and enterprise ecosystems. The platform supports receivables finance, supply-chain finance, asset-based lending and embedded "fund me now" solutions.

Team

Lenderwize is led by founder and CEO Lawrence Gilioli, supported by a multidisciplinary team spanning technology, international legal structuring, banking, credit, insurance and payments. CTO Steven Goumas leads the platform architecture; Jeff McGeachie contributes international legal expertise; and Mark Cornwall brings former banking and institutional finance experience.

FinAccelerate objective

Through FinAccelerate, Lenderwize aims to engage selected banks, funders, insurers, fintech platforms, investors and strategic partners who may wish to use the platform, explore white-label deployment, participate in the Lenderwize Live Academy Sandbox, or help validate a new operating standard for modern trade finance.

McCarthy Hatch

McCarthy Hatch helps organizations see what regulators see—before regulators see it. Our FSAi platform analyzes consumer complaints, feedback, public signals, and regulatory sources to identify emerging consumer harm, regulatory risk, and operational weaknesses in consumers' own words, as they occur. By turning narrative data into actionable intelligence, we help institutions identify risk months earlier, strengthen controls, improve consumer outcomes, and reduce the likelihood of supervisory findings, enforcement actions, and reputational events.

We work with banks and large-market participant non-banks that want better visibility into emerging consumer harm, regulatory risk, and operational weaknesses. Our clients are leaders responsible for risk, compliance, complaint management, customer experience, operations, and regulatory readiness, as well as consumer protection regulators and investors interested in AI-driven market and risk intelligence.

Noemon Koinon

Delivering the Future of Financial Markets

A coordinated group of three Cyprus entities, one regulated operating model.

Noemon Koinon brings together **investment services, crypto-asset services and EEA payment access** in a single coordinated commercial proposition, operated through three separately licensed Cyprus entities. Clients define the outcome they want — across assets, reference currencies and settlement rails — and receive a fully priced, hedge-integrated position executed inside a clean regulatory perimeter.

NOEMON FINANCE LTD

Investment Platform

MiFID II Cyprus Investment Firm authorised by CySEC. **Licence 449/24 · HE 427234**. Passported across the EEA. Notified under **MiCA Article 60** on the CySEC and ESMA registers for crypto-asset services equivalent to its MiFID permissions.

www.noemon.finance

- **BondHub** — exposure composition across asset, reference currency and hedge
- **BondPlus** — bonds paired with strategic precious metals coupons (gold, silver, platinum, palladium)
- Bond, equity, fund and money-market execution with custody and safekeeping
- Portfolio management and investment advice
- Regulation-as-a-Service: MiFID-wrapper structuring and distribution for tokenised real-world assets

NOEMON TECH LTD

Crypto, Stablecoin & Issuance

CySEC-authorised CASP under the Cyprus national regime. **Registration 014/24 · HE 427232**. MiCA **Title V application filed October 2025**, under CySEC review during the transitional period. **CBC dual authorisation** for payment services connected to crypto-asset activity.

www.noemon.tech

- **Third-party EMT transfers** — move client funds to third parties in stablecoin where most competitors cannot
- Crypto execution, custody, safekeeping and exchange (fiat-crypto and crypto-crypto)
- On / off-ramp infrastructure for investment-platform clients
- Tokenisation under MiCA — asset-referenced and other in-scope crypto-assets
- **FMA-approved base prospectus** (Liechtenstein) — issuer under EU Prospectus Regulation 2017/1129; EEA-passportable programme for structured note and tokenised certificate issuance

NOEMON MONEY LTD

EEA Payment Access

Registered **e-money distributor of Sureswipe E.M.I. PLC** under PSD2. **HE 427233**. Sureswipe holds CBC EMI authorisation **115.1.3.26** (since June 2018), passported across the EEA. NML operates as principal-EMI-fronted distribution; it is not an EMI in its own right.

www.noemon.money

- EEA fiat rail access through Sureswipe's passported perimeter
- Business payments, SEPA and SWIFT
- Virtual IBANs and e-wallets for corporate clients
- Funding and withdrawal support for investment and crypto clients
- Coordinated client journey with NFL and NTL

WHY NOEMON

Coordinated regulated perimeter

MiFID II, MiCA Article 60 notification, MiCA Title V (under review) and PSD2-aligned payment access in one group, each entity separately licensed.

Differentiated investment product

Exposure composition through BondHub, bond income delivered in strategic precious metals through BondPlus, and a Liechtenstein FMA-approved base prospectus for structured note issuance — outcomes ETFs, private banks and retail brokers do not deliver.

Scarce stablecoin capability

Third-party EMT transfers through NTL's CBC dual authorisation, alongside Sureswipe-passported fiat rails through NML. One coordinated stack, no perimeter blur.

OneDosh

OneDosh is a stablecoin-powered, human-centric platform on a mission to make money move as freely as we do. Since launching in December 2025, we've built a network of >200,000 users who use OneDosh to preserve their wealth in dollars, access the global economy with a dollar bank account, and spend their money freely with a Visa debit card that actually works around the world.

Before OneDosh existed, our cofounders lived the personal pain of moving their money between the US and Nigeria. Now, hundreds of thousands of people use OneDosh to send, convert, and spend their dollars and naira in one place. We've since expanded our platform to serve the Nigerian diaspora in Europe, and will launch across Africa with the strategies that drove our exponential growth in 2026.

Making money move as freely as humans means building a simple user experience for instant payments around the world. Our team brings best in class security, payments, identity, and software engineering foundations from SpaceX, Plaid, MIT, and other market leading companies.

OORI

OORI is a Riyadh-based fintech company building regulated private-markets infrastructure for Saudi Arabia and the wider Gulf Cooperation Council. The company connects qualified investors with global growth-stage and pre-IPO opportunities while providing financial institutions with technology to evaluate, structure, administer and distribute private investments.

OORI Arabia is licensed by Saudi Arabia's Capital Market Authority under License No. 26341-30 to conduct advising and arranging activities. OORI has also received CMA FinTech Lab scope approval for the tokenization of fund units and digital securities, subject to the remaining regulatory framework approvals required before launch.

Investment Access

OORI Invest enables qualified investors to participate in private-company opportunities through regulated investment structures and fractional participation. The platform is designed around transparent fees, rigorous investment assessment and Shariah screening and governance tailored to Saudi and GCC investors.

By combining regional regulatory knowledge with digital investment infrastructure, OORI seeks to reduce the high minimum commitments, fragmented processes and limited access that have traditionally constrained participation in private markets.

Tokenization and Digital Ownership

OORI is developing tokenization infrastructure to represent investment interests digitally, support fractional ownership and improve the administration and transfer of private assets. Its infrastructure incorporates investor eligibility controls, permissioned transactions and compliance workflows designed to support secondary liquidity where permitted by applicable regulations and investment terms.

OORI has received a grant from Avalanche.

Institutional Technology

OORI Terminal is the institutional platform developed from the technology used to underwrite and operate OORI's own investments. Designed for family offices, banks and fund managers, it combines AI-assisted investment research, due diligence, Shariah screening, fund operations, investor reporting and optional tokenization capabilities within one platform.

Founders and Backing

OORI was co-founded by Elie Nasr and Naif Alajmi.

Elie is a serial technology entrepreneur with more than 20 years of experience across fintech and business-to-business technology. He previously founded and exited FOO Holding, a fintech company, and RAY Labs, a property-technology company.

Naif is an investment professional with experience across private markets, venture capital, real estate and regulated investment structuring. He previously served as a Director at Inovalis and leads OORI's development in Saudi Arabia.

OORI is backed by RZM Investment, Bunat Ventures, and regional and European investors.

OORI's objective is to connect GCC capital with global private-market opportunities while providing institutions with the regulated digital infrastructure required to serve the next generation of investors.

oori.co

Rainfall Inc.

Introduction

Rainfall is building the control and evidence infrastructure required to make autonomous AI dependable enough for financial services and other regulated environments.

Financial institutions are moving from AI that answers questions to autonomous agents that initiate payments, open accounts, service customers, evaluate claims, and manage workflows. Before an AI-generated action reaches a customer or financial system, the institution must know that it is authorized, policy-compliant, consistent with prior commitments, and safe to execute.

The Rainfall Coherence System (RCS) is a model- and platform-agnostic runtime operating between probabilistic AI reasoning and consequential execution. The model proposes; the application decides consistently.

What Rainfall Delivers to Financial Institutions

RCS evaluates proposed actions against actor identity and authority, institutional policy, transaction context, and relevant historical commitments. Before execution, it can permit, block, escalate, or require further evidence, while creating an auditable record of what was proposed, which controls were applied, and why the decision was made.

This gives financial institutions a common control point across payment authorization, lending and servicing, fraud operations, insurance claims, treasury controls, account administration, and regulated customer communications. Because RCS operates independently of any single model or agent framework, institutions can change providers and applications without rebuilding their control architecture.

Rainfall combines persistent identity and permissions for human and AI actors, continuity across sessions and models, pre-execution policy enforcement, multi-agent coordination, human escalation, and evidentiary audit records—all through existing enterprise systems.

Where shared verification is required, approved actions and supporting evidence can be cryptographically anchored through Monsoon, providing durable provenance without making blockchain a prerequisite for deployment.

About the Company

Founded in 2021, Rainfall Inc. is a Wyoming C-corporation operating from San Francisco, with Rainfall AG in Zug supporting European engagement. The company is led by Amit Pradhan, Chief Executive Officer; Rajesh Pradhan, Chief Technology Officer and Chief Architect; and Mark Strehlow, Chief Experience Officer.

Rainfall has developed a working prototype/alpha and is preparing design partners, early testers, and enterprise pilots ahead of broader commercial availability. The company is raising a $5 million financing round and seeking strategic investors and financial-services partners who recognize the need for a trusted control layer between AI reasoning and transaction execution.

www.rainfall.one · info@rainfall.one
Amit Pradhan, CEO — amit@rainfall.one

Sprink Technologies, Inc.

Sprink gives US households a private financial advisor. It connects the household's entire financial life through Plaid and works the way a real advisor does: it looks after the whole picture, handles what needs handling, and brings up the things worth discussing, sometimes to act, sometimes just to think them through together.

The beta is live, built on a signed data partnership with Plaid, with a US launch planned for this fall. Founded by Theodor Wallensten and Max Rundberg Larsson. Delaware corporation.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Chris Larsen

Chris Larsen is Executive Chairman, co-founder, and former CEO of Ripple, an enterprise blockchain company with more than 450 employees based in San Francisco, with eight additional offices (New York, London, Mumbai, Singapore, Washington D.C., São Paulo, Reykjavík, and Dubai).

Ripple is building next-generation cross-border payment technology using blockchain and digital assets to provide instant, extremely low-cost, reliable cross-border payments.

Professor David W. Mills

Professor David Mills has a distinguished career in law and investments. He is a Professor of Practice of Law at Stanford Law School. He is the founder and the first Director of the Stanford Law School clinical program, which provides legal services to people who cannot afford traditional representation.

Professor Mills is also the co-chair of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, America's premiere legal organization fighting for racial justice. It is a leadership position he has held for more than 10 years. Professor Mills has had a lifelong dedication to social justice issues. Three years ago, he received the Thurgood Marshall Lifetime Achievement Award. Professor Mills has also had a lengthy legal career representing a range of well-known white-collar crime defendants as well as driving the strategy for a number of well-known investment firms in various civil and regulatory matters. In addition, he has had a successful career in the business and investment realm. He is currently a partner at Fortress Investment Group and advisor to its Chairman and a partner at Divco West (a real estate investment and development firm) and other high-profile investment-related organizations.

Professor Mills graduated Rutgers Law School in 1973 magna cum laude. Following law school, he joined the law firm of Lowenstein, Sandler, where he eventually became a senior tax partner. He was also Adjunct Professor of Law at Rutgers University, Chairman of the Partnership Tax Section of the American Bar Association, and Chairman of the Tax Section of the New Jersey Bar Association. In 1986, Professor Mills moved to Los Angeles to work at Cambrent Financial Group, in association with the firm of Victor, Sandler, and Cogut. In 1988, he founded Mills & Lynn Enterprises for the purpose of undertaking personal financial transactions. He still holds that position, but the name has changed to Mills Family Enterprises. In 1991, he became the Chief Executive and sole shareholder of Harbourton General Corporation, the general partner of Harbourton Holdings, LP. He resigned from Harbourton in 2016.

Prior to law school, Professor Mills went to Rutgers University, where he graduated in 1969. Following graduation from the university, Professor Mills undertook Rabbinical Studies, first at the Jewish Theological Seminary and then at the Reconstructionist Rabbical College in Jerusalem. He resides in the San Francisco Bay area.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Siavash Alanmouti

Siavash Alamouti is the Executive Chairman of the Board at mimik. He was the EVP of R&D at Wells Fargo from March 2020 until December 2021. Prior to that, he was the President & CEO of mimik from January 2014 until January 2020. Prior to mimik he was the Group R&D Director for Vodafone in London, UK where he managed R&D, corporate venture and IPR for the entire group. Before Vodafone, he was an Intel Fellow and CTO of The Mobile Wireless Group in Santa Clara, California. Prior to Intel he was the CTO at the start-up company Vivato (the first smart antenna Wi-Fi company) and before Vivato, he worked in various capacities at Cadence Design Systems, AT&T Wireless, and MPR Teltech.

He has been awarded the prestigious 2022 Marconi Prize in recognition of his contribution to global wireless device accessibility. The outspoken innovator, who is most well known as the inventor of the Alamouti Code, adopted in almost all wireless standards globally and included in billions of wireless devices. He has dedicated his career to developing and promoting technologies that enhance people's lives. He has received more than 20.000 citations for his scientific work and has received multiple industry awards. Siavash's 1998 paper in IEEE JSAC Publication was selected by IEEE Communication Society for publication in, "The Best of the Best: Fifty Years of Communications and Networking Research."

Siavash has been the leading champion for ground-breaking and highly impactful technologies such as Hybrid Edge Cloud, OFDM/MIMO, 4G, 5G cellular communications, WiFi and WiGig. He has contributed extensively to global telecommunication and internet standards, and has participated in lobbying for spectrum reform globally. Since 2014, he has been focused on edge cloud computing, cloud decentralisation and open internet. Siavash has a reputation for passionately pushing the industry to new limits of the technology for the benefit of mankind.

Siavash received B.A.Sc and the M.A.Sc. degrees in electrical engineering from the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, in 1989 and 1991, respectively.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Alison Davis

Alison Davis is Chairman and Managing Partner of Blockchain Coinvestors, the leading blockchain venture fund of funds with investments in 400+ blockchain companies and projects and approximately 50% of all blockchain unicorns. She is an experienced corporate executive, public company board director, active investor in growth companies, and bestselling author on the topics of technology and innovation. She is currently serving as a Managing Partner of Blockchain Coinvestors Acquisition Corp. 1 (SPAC).

Alison is currently a non-executive director of Silicon Valley Bank, Fiserv, Janus Henderson Group, Collibra, and Pacaso. She is the chairman of the Advisory Board for Blockchain Capital and an advisor to Bitwise.

She is a former director of RBS, City National Bank, Diamond Foods, First Data Corporation, Ooma, Unisys, Xoom, and many private companies and was the Chairman of LECG until its sale in 2011. Alison is a frequent speaker on corporate governance.

Alison was previously the Managing Partner of Belvedere Capital, a regulated bank holding company and private equity firm focused on investing in U.S. banks and financial services firms, where she worked closely with the Federal Reserve, the OCC, the FDIC, and various state banking regulators. Prior to this, Alison was the Chief Financial Officer of Barclays Global Investors (now BlackRock), the world's largest institutional investment firm, with more than $1.5 trillion of assets under management. Earlier in her career, Alison spent 14 years as a strategy consultant and advisor to Fortune 500 CEOs, boards, and executive teams with McKinsey & Company, and as a practice leader with A.T. Kearney, where she built and led the global Financial Services Practice. She is a bestselling author (The Intelligent Investor: Silicon Valley , Blockchain Competitive Advantage , Corporate Innovation in the Fifth Era , and Build your Fortune in the Fifth Era).

Alison is active in the community, supporting nonprofits and social enterprises as a board director, fundraiser, and volunteer. She has been frequently named a "Most Influential Women in Business" by the San Francisco Business Times . She received a B.A. Honors and a master's degree in Economics from Cambridge University in England, and an MBA from the Stanford Graduate School of Business after completing the first year at Harvard. She was born in Sheffield, England, is now a dual U.S./UK citizen, and has lived for the last 25 years in the San Francisco Bay area, where she raised her family with her husband, Matthew C. Le Merle.

Avichal Garg

Avichal is a successful entrepreneur with executive experience at Google and Facebook, which acquired his previous company. As an angel investor, Avichal has invested in 15 unicorns and 5 decacorns including Airtable, Boom Supersonic, Color Genomics, Cruise, Deel, Figma, Newfront Insurance, Notion, Nova Credit, Pulley, and others. He co-founded Electric Capital in 2018 and has grown it to one of the largest crypto venture firms globally. Electric is an investor in many of the leading web3 protocols and companies such as Bitwise, Bitnomial, dYdX, Eigenlayer, Espresso, Frax, Kraken, Magic Eden, NEAR, and Solana.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Matthew C. Le Merle

Matthew Le Merle is co-founder and Managing Partner of Fifth Era and of Keiretsu Capital, the most active early-stage venture investors backing almost 200 companies a year. Matthew is a manager of Blockchain Coinvestors, the world's leading blockchain venture fund of funds. He is also Chairman of CAH and Securitize (Europe), Vice Chairman of sFOX, and an advisor at Warburg Pincus.

Blockchain Coinvestors has a strategy of being an investor in the leading blockchain venture firms including 1Confirmation, 1kx, Blockchain.com Ventures, Blockchain Capital, Castle Island, Digital Currency Group, Fabric, Future\Perfect, IDEO, and Pantera.

Matthew is an advisor and/or investor at a number of blockchain projects, including BitBull, Bitwise, Codex, Hadron, Liquineq, and Spark.

Matthew's career has spanned being a global strategy advisor, professional services firm leader, corporate operating executive, private equity and venture capital investor, and board director. He spent 21 years as a strategy, operations, and corporate finance advisor with McKinsey & Company, and as a practice leader with A.T. Kearney and Monitor Group, where he led both firms' West Coast practices, and at Booz & Company. He was also a corporate executive at Gap Inc., where he was SVP strategy and corporate development and SVP global marketing.

Matthew is an adjunct professor at Singularity University, bestselling author (Blockchain Competitive Advantage , Corporate Innovation in the Fifth Era , Build your Fortune in the Fifth Era , and Second Chance), and keynote speaker. He received a B.A. (Double First) and master's degree from Christ Church, Oxford, and an MBA from the Stanford Graduate School of Business. He was born in London and is now a dual U.S./UK citizen and lives in San Francisco and London with his wife, Alison Davis. They have five adult children.

Stephen MacKenzie

Stephen MacKenzie is a Licensing Executive at Patent Platform Services, and former Managing Director at Koch Disruptive Technologies. Patent Platform Services is an advisory group that helps monetize patent assets on behalf of owners, where Steve formulates strategies for patent assets in the cryptography, telecommunications, and hardtech sectors. While at Koch Disruptive Technologies, Steve led the investment strategy in blockchain, crypto, and Web3 technologies and acted as IP M&A / investment counsel. Prior to joining KDT, Steve served as Acting General Counsel for several of Koch's emerging businesses in the software, robotic actuation, and industrial analytics space, and served in various capacities as intellectual property and litigation counsel for a number of Koch Industries' companies

Prior to joining Koch, Steve worked in private practice as a patent litigation attorney in Wilmington, Delaware. Before attending law school, Steve was an applications engineer at W. L. Gore & Associates in the Fuel Cell group. He received his J.D. from the University of New Hampshire School of Law in 2005 and his Bachelors of Chemical Engineering from the University of Delaware in 1999.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Christian Crowley

Christian Crowley is a partner on the a16z crypto go-to-market team. He works closely with portfolio companies on product strategy, business development, and go-to-market execution.

Christian was previously the co-founder of Sanctum.ai, a privacy-focused AI platform. Before that, he co-founded Q.xyz, a digital asset portfolio management platform, and helped lead the launch of BarnBridge v2, a DeFi protocol. He also served as CEO of Alethio, one of the earliest Ethereum analytics platforms and an early ConsenSys portfolio company. Christian also worked at Amazon Web Services, where he led partnerships with early-stage blockchain startups.

Christian holds a JD/MBA from Vanderbilt University and a BA in Political Science and Philosophy from Duke University.

Craig Schedler

Craig Schedler currently serves as the Head of Intuit Ventures, the strategic venture capital arm of Intuit, where he brings over a decade of corporate venture capital leadership to his role. In leading Intuit Ventures, Craig is responsible for setting the strategic direction and spearheading the team's early stage investing activities focused on powering prosperity for consumers and small businesses globally. Since its inception Intuit Ventures has backed transformational companies like Vestwell, Melio (acquired by Xero), Drata and ZayZoon. Prior to joining Intuit, Craig created and led Northwestern Mutual Future Ventures, the venture capital arm of Northwestern Mutual. During his time at Northwestern Mutual he led investments in over 30 notable fintech companies including Chime (IPO), Gabi (acquired by Experian), Trust & Will, Vestwell, Splash Financial and many others.

Craig began his career in healthcare investment banking focused on merger and acquisitions and capital markets transactions for healthcare providers nationwide. Craig holds an MBA in Finance and Accounting from the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and a BBA in Accounting from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Fay Arjomandi

Fay Arjomandi is the Founder, CEO and Board Member of the pioneering edge cloud company mimik. From 2016-2018, she was the executive chairman of H2 Wellness, a software company based in Los Angeles. Between Aug 2014 to Oct 2016, she was the CEO of digital health company NantMobile and led its Augmented reality platform (iD), several digital/genomics health initiatives, and WiGig fabless semiconductor company, Tensorcom. Prior to NantMobile, Fay was the CEO of Vodafone xone which was the innovation brand for Vodafone. She oversaw partnerships with startup companies to develop, test and prepare for commercial deployment in Vodafone's global markets. Additionally, her role included managing Vodafone Ventures, board membership of Vodafone Americas Enterprise and President & Chair position at Vodafone Americas Foundation. Prior to Vodafone, Fay was the co-founder and CEO of three technology startups that built location-based services (L3 Technology), mobile quality of service improvement platform (Mobidia), and mimik.

As a pragmatic technology innovator, Fay has authored many patents in Telecommunications, Transport Layer Protocols, Mobile traffic management, QoS, and Edge Cloud Computing. Fay has a unique talent for spotting future trends and "connecting the dots."

In 2022 she received the Canadian Top 20 Tech Titans Award and in 2020, she was named the Edge Woman of the year by the Linux Foundation. In 2018 she was the Alumni of the Year at Concordia University in Montreal where she received her bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering. In 2014, she was named as one of the most influential woman business leaders in Silicon Valley by San Francisco Business Week, and in 2006, received the distinguished Business in Vancouver's "Top 40 Under 40? award. She is a member of the Forbes Technology Council and advises many startup companies and is a Board Advisor to American Tower the global provider of wireless communications infrastructure.

Fay is passionate about digital inclusion and equity and has spent the last decade to create disruptive technology platforms and enablers for cloud decentralization to ensure a future sustainable internet. She has advised startup companies on how to build successful businesses, as well as corporations on digital transformation and innovation with impact. In addition to exceptional leadership and vision, Fay is a highly sought-after global speaker and industry thought leader given her specialization and years of experience in digital communications, software applications and edge cloud computing. Fay holds a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Concordia University. She has international experience and has lived and worked in many countries in North America, Europe, and the Middle East.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Lord (JD) Waverley

Lord (JD) Waverley is an independent member of the House of Lords, entering the United Kingdom Parliament in 1993. He contributes regularly to proceedings on international issues, addressing many challenging issues of the day.

He sits as vice chair to the Fintech & Blockchain All-Party Parliamentary Groups. Key activities undertaken at these groups range from improving financial inclusion to the potential applications of transformative technologies such as blockchain and enabling a sound regulatory framework to underpin the United Kingdom to become a world leader in fintech. Lord Waverley is also the founder of SUPPLYFINDER.COM, a platform that is focused on providing a trade ecosystem platform to all emerging markets, with a range of services in both the public and key private sector space.

Lord Waverley has received state decorations from Colombia, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan, been honoured with a Yoruba Chieftaincy in Nigeria, and is the recipient of the CEO Club BURJ award as Ambassador for British Business.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Rebecca Macieira-Kaufmann

Rebecca Macieira-Kaufmann is a seasoned CEO with broad leadership experience in sales, marketing, risk management, operations, and international business. She draws on deep expertise in the Fortune 50 financial services industry and has a demonstrated track record of leading highly successful business turnarounds, scaling new businesses, and expanding operations globally. Rebecca spent more than 11 years at Citigroup serving in a range of CEO, President, and general manager roles. Before Citi, Rebecca spent 13 years at Wells Fargo as the Head of the Small Business Segment, Executive and Senior Vice President, and director roles. From operations to sales and marketing, Rebecca was able to transform these businesses—she simplified operations, digitized the customer experience, improved the financials, and grew them exponentially.

Rebecca founded RMK Group, LLC, in 2020 to advise startup businesses, CEOs, C-Suite members, and teams on how to exceed their potential and thrive, develop high-performing teams, and simultaneously deliver on growth and execution targets.

She also brings a strong background in governance through her corporate and nonprofit board experiences. Rebecca currently serves on corporate boards, including respectively as director of Blockchain Coinvestors Acquisition Corp I. and Flutterwave. She has more than 25 years of experience on nonprofit boards and currently serves on the board of governors of the San Francisco Symphony (audit and executive committees) and on the Senior Jewish Living Group Board.

Rebecca holds a BA in Semiotics from Brown University, an MBA from the Stanford Graduate School of Business, and was a post-graduate Fulbright Scholar at the University of Helsinki, Finland. She is a frequently sought-after speaker on leadership and business transformation, life and work integration, and culture change. She has been recognized for her leadership and accomplishments, including being named an Influential Woman in the Bay Area Business by the San Francisco Business Times for 12 years and a Forever Influential Woman in 2014. She was named the 2010 Financial Woman of the Year by the Financial Women's Association of San Francisco, awarded with the 2007 Women Leading Change Award by the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, and honored with the Fulbright Lifetime Achievement Award in 2018.

In 2021, Rebecca wrote FitCEO: Be The Leader of Your Life about achieving holistic health—at work, home, and play. With coauthor Lillian So, the book shares lessons learned over decades of leadership, fitness, transformation, and life to enable any reader ready for "immediate and imperfect action" to make small changes in habits that can manifest in lifelong change.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Antonio Beja

Antonio is a distinguished investment professional with over 25 years of global expertise, honed through key roles at McKinsey & Co, premier investment banks, and prominent family offices. For the past 18 years, he has expertly managed single-family office portfolios, overseeing investments in early- to late-stage companies across diverse sectors, including technology, healthcare, and fintech. His strategic foresight and hands-on approach have driven exceptional success in scaling high-growth startups, consistently delivering robust returns and fostering innovation.

As a Senior Strategy Advisor, Antonio has been instrumental in shaping the strategic direction of pioneering organizations. At MultiversX, he has provided critical guidance to enhance its blockchain ecosystem, driving scalability and adoption in decentralized technologies. His advisory role at Casper Labs has focused on advancing enterprise-grade blockchain solutions, leveraging his deep market insights. At ProveAI, Antonio has steered the development of AI-driven data privacy and compliance solutions, aligning the company's vision with global regulatory frameworks. Additionally, his work with CVVC (Crypto Valley Venture Capital) has strengthened its mission to fund transformative blockchain and Web3 startups, establishing him as a thought leader in emerging technologies.

Antonio is also an Equity Partner at Consensus Capital, an early-stage multi-family office investment vehicle that exclusively invests its own capital. In this role, he collaborates with high-net-worth families to identify and fund high-potential startups, focusing on innovative technologies and sustainable growth opportunities. His strategic oversight and disciplined investment approach have been pivotal in building Consensus Capital's portfolio of disruptive ventures.

As a General Partner at Inspiration Ventures, a San Francisco-based venture capital firm, Antonio leads investment strategies targeting cutting-edge technologies, with a particular emphasis on AI-driven ventures and decentralized systems. His ability to identify and nurture high-potential opportunities has solidified his reputation as a leader in the venture capital ecosystem.

Antonio's recent specialization in emerging technologies reflects his forward-thinking mindset. Leveraging his strategic insight and an extensive global network of industry leaders, investors, and innovators, he has become a catalyst for transformative ventures. His proven track record in scaling startups, combined with his unparalleled connectivity, enhances his ability to drive impactful opportunities, positioning him as a key figure in shaping the future of technology investment.

Antonio holds an MBA from INSEAD, along with advanced degrees in finance and business from other leading institutions. He is a sought-after speaker and mentor, notably with the Harvard Blockchain Association, in the global venture capital and technology ecosystems. His multidisciplinary expertise, commitment to innovation, and ability to bridge traditional finance with emerging technologies make him an invaluable asset to the organizations he advises, the ventures he funds, and the investment vehicles he leads.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Paul Pester

Paul has spent around 25 years building and leading some of the most disruptive and established consumer financial services businesses in the UK and overseas.

He is currently the Chair of Tandem Bank, the fast-growing UK digital bank; Chair of the UK wealth-tech business, Firenze; a non-executive Director and Chair of the Board Digitisation Committee at the National Bank of Bahrain (representing the Bahrain Sovereign Wealth Fund, Mumtalakat) and a non-executive Director and co-Founder at Archie, the FinTech accelerator operating across Australia, the Middle East.

He also founded, built and exited Loop, the digital money sharing and credit profile-building app popular with Millennial and Gen Z users.

Having previously been an adviser to the UK Chancellor of the Exchequer and HM Treasury on competition issues in banking, Paul is a passionate advocate for consumers' interests and is focused on using technology and innovation to improve competition and consumer outcomes in financial services.

Paul was the first Group CEO at Virgin Money, launching the business as one of the first digital financial services players in the UK and Australia, before becoming the Managing Director of Consumer Banking & Payments at Lloyds Banking Group.

Paul was the CEO of TSB Banking Group for seven years, leading the creation and launch of the business, its £1.4 billion IPO on the London Stock Exchange in 2014 and subsequent sale to Spanish banking group, Sabadell, for £1.7 billion in mid 2015.

Following a degree in physics from Manchester University and a doctorate in theoretical physics from Oxford University, Paul spent the early part of his career in management consulting, mostly at McKinsey & Company

Kyle Williams

Kyle is Head of the EMEA Consumer and Digital Finance Legal Group. He is co-chair of the Structured Investment Products Committee, a member of the Deposit Pricing and Acquisition Subcommittee, and counsel to the Goldman Sachs International (GSI) Asset and Liability Committee and the GSI Bank Asset and Liability Committee. He is also co-chair of the Firmwide Black Network in Europe. Prior to moving to London, he worked in Treasury Legal in New York for four years. Kyle joined Goldman Sachs in 2006 as a Vice President and was named Managing Director in 2013.

Prior to joining the firm, Kyle worked in the capital markets and structured products practice groups of Davis, Polk & Wardwell, a law firm in New York City.

Kyle serves on the Board of Advisors for Washington University School of Law.

Kyle earned a BA in Finance from California State Polytechnic University Pomona in 1996 and a JD from Washington University Law School in 2001.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Ryan Nichols

Ryan Nichols is a General Partner at DYDX Capital, an early stage investor in the Data Supercycle . Ryan is a builder turned backer, who has spent his career growing products that help companies engage with their customers, including 5 startups and 4 industry leaders. Most recently, Ryan served as Chief Product Officer of Salesforce's Service Cloud, which he grew to $9B and guided into the era of AI Agents. His background includes Zendesk, SAP, McKinsey, Williams College, and the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

Michael Barrell

Michael Barrell has founded several businesses all centered on enabling the growth of digital business, and invested and acted on advisory boards with particular focus on helping companies achieve international growth within the area of complex B2B and digital enablement.

Michael had his initial career at IBM, which culminated in growing and running a $200 million business until he focused on software solutions within the telecom sector. This experience formed the basis for the businesses in which he has subsequently been a founder.

Businesses where Michael has a significant investment and active role include Juliet Media, MBR Partners, WeCode, and Tokeny. Juliet Media is a full-service B2B marketing company and includes Juliet Summits, which runs events focused on the leading-edge areas of fintech and telecoms. MBR Partners is one of the best-known executive search names in telecom and complex B2B solutions. WeCode, working from a base in Poland, provides high-growth tech businesses with a way to rapidly extend their agile development teams. Tokeny is the leading fintech platform for digitization of securities and assets.

Although currently resident in London, Michael was born and educated in New Zealand, where he initially studied engineering and received a business and marketing degree at Victoria University.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Jessi Brooks

Jessi Brooks is the General Counsel at Ribbit Capital, a global investment firm focused on the intersection of financial services and technology.

Prior to joining Ribbit, Jessi was a national security prosecutor at the Department of Justice, focused on illicit use of cryptotate-actors. In this role, she helped develop early prosecution strategies for blockchain technology and advised other jurisdictions on how to pursue similar cases.

With this foundation, Jessi led the investigation into the dismantling of three terror finance cyber-enabled campaigns, including the disruption of the al-Qassam Brigades' Bitcoin fundraising scheme, and al-Qaeda's scheme to rely on Telegram and fake charities to launder cryptocurrency and raise illicit funds.

She also managed the start of the Bitfinex hack investigation as well as the DOJ's successful forfeiture of cryptocurrency from North Korean hackers and their Chinese co-conspirators. At the United States Attorney's Office, Jessi spent a number of years prosecuting adult and child sexual abuse, homicide, and help develop the strategy for prosecuting "revenge porn" cases. She is a graduate of the University of Virginia and Stanford Law School.

Nick Hoffman

Nick Hoffman is Chief Counsel – M&A and Venture Capital at Koch Industries. Nick serves as the primary legal counsel supporting Koch Disruptive Technologies, Koch's early-stage venture and growth equity arm, along with the corporate venture groups of Koch's operating companies. He also leads various mergers and acquisitions, investments, joint ventures and other transactions across the Koch companies and investment groups.

Prior to joining Koch, Nick was a partner in Stinson LLP's Corporate Finance division, with practices focusing on M&A for public and private company clients, investments and public companies and securities. Before joining Stinson, he served in-house at Oracle Health (formerly Cerner), a global health technology company when it was a public company listed on the NASDAQ stock exchange and clerked at the Missouri Court of Appeals, Western District. He received his J.D. from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and his B.S. from Missouri State University.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Tony Pecore

Anthony Pecore is a senior vice president and director of digital asset management for Franklin Templeton. Mr. Pecore leads Franklin Templeton's Digital Asset Investment Strategies Group, which includes liquid token, venture capital and digital asset exchange-traded product operations.

Mr. Pecore has over 20 years of experience in the financial services industry. In addition to five years in the digital asset space, he has nearly two decades of experience in traditional fixed income portfolio management, research and trading, including securitized products, longevity-linked assets, multi-sector fixed income, global absolute return, and machine learning driven alternative credit strategies. He joined Franklin Templeton in 2002 as a research analyst.

Mr. Pecore holds a Bachelor of Science in aerospace engineering from Boston University, and a Master of Science in mechanical engineering from Stanford University.

Heidi Lehmann

Heidi Lehmann is a family office capital partner and investor with deep experience in capital formation, strategic investment, and building companies, with work spanning energy infrastructure, digital assets, and blockchain. She chairs a Kansas City group of TIGER 21, a global peer network of wealth creators, investors, and family office principals, and founded the Heartland Digital Asset Exchange (HDAX), an education-first summit bringing together family offices and investors to explore the future of finance. A five-time founder and CEO, her track record includes Third Screen Media, acquired by AOL for $105 million.

Jim Starcev

Jim Starcev is a serial entrepreneur, having started multiple businesses in fin-tech, retail and data analytics. He is a Co-Founder of HDAX and leads innovation and entrepreneurship at KC Digital Drive. He has an incredible passion and appetite for innovation and emerging technologies. Jim has been instrumental in building and expanding university and industry partners, tackling and curating new ideas across digital health, civic innovation, fintech, digital assets and ed tech, all while connecting emerging technology solutions to entrepreneurs who can lead them to market. Jim is an angel investor and works with multiple midwest angel groups, family offices and VC's.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Julian Love

Julian Love is a venture-capital investor with Franklin Templeton's Digital Asset Investment Strategies Group. He specializes in digital assets, AI, and financial infrastructure. He has led thesis development in areas such as Bitcoin productivity, Decentralized AI, and stablecoin payments, originating and leading investments in category defining startups—including Babylon Labs, Lombard, Sentient Labs, Bitlayer, and Koywe—while forging relationships with tier one VCs across the United States and Asia.

Julian started his VC career at Black Capital, working on portfolio strategy and raising SPVs for companies like Overtime Sports. He has diverse experience in corporate finance, management consulting, and strategy, beginning at General Electric and Ernst & Young's Advisory Services division.

Julian holds a bachelor's degree from North Carolina A&T State University and an MBA from Yale University, where he co-founded the Blockchain Club and the Meng Impact Investing Fund.

Ben Bergsma

Ben Bergsma is a Principal for Munich Re Ventures (MRV) where he focuses on Series Seed-B investments in the Insurtech and Healthtech verticals with check sizes ranging from $1M-$20M. He has led investments in Acko, At-Bay, Amplify Life, Stoik and others. Prior to MRV, Ben spent time as an investor at Samsung NEXT Ventures, Alpha Venture Partners, and as a founding member at JetBlue Ventures. Previously, he was the CEO & Founder of a mobile software startup focused on the travel sector. Ben holds degrees from Columbia Business School and Claremont McKenna College.

Hassan Parsa

Hassan Parsa is a seasoned high-tech executive with a passion for technology innovation, strategy, and investment. Hassan has held leadership positions in Corporate Development, M&A and Venture Capital over the last 20 years at leading technology companies in Silicon Valley. He has created significant strategic value with more than 30 M&A transactions in excess of $5 billion in value and has deployed more than $500 million in strategic venture investments in mobility, cloud computing, security, and AI market segments. Hassan is currently a Limited Partner and Executive Advisor at Candou Ventures and Catapult Ventures.

Previously, Hassan was the global head of Corporate Development at Arm, the leading provider of AI and computing IP, and was responsible for fueling Arm's strategic growth initiatives worldwide. He was the Chairman of Arm investment committee and held Board positions at Ambiq Micro (US), Arduino (Italy), Deeptech Labs (UK), Arm IoT fund (Taiwan) and Hopu Arm Innovation fund (China). Hassan has received an MBA degree with honors from Columbia University in New York City and has also earned a Master of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from University of Maryland.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Sanjay Vatsa

Sanjay is Head of Americas and a member of the Group Executive Committee of Apex Group. Prior to joining Apex, Sanjay was President International and Head of Solution at Inveniam, a dominant player in the Digital Asset, providing the infrastructure for private assets and real-world assets.

Sanjay has more than 25 years of experience in senior "C' level global leadership positions having served as Managing Director at Citi, BlackRock, State Street, Merrill Lynch, etc. He has been instrumental in the modernization of financial markets & transformation of various financial firms and has realized value of over ~$4bn to the bottom line.

Sanjay is a global expert and has executed innovative solutions in the areas of data and analytics, end to end investment trade life cycle, operational risk, business transformation and has managed and set up Shared Services globally. Sanjay has led transformation & disruption through innovation, leveraging leading edge solutions & technology that address business issues and in evolving / creating new business models & solutions. He has focused on the design and implementation of disruptive models and technologies to enhance organizational value.

Sanjay has been associated with developing the Capital Markets infrastructure in India for the last 25 years. In early 2009/ 2001 he worked closely with SEBI Chairman on developing the framework for RTGS and RTPS and the strategy to implement the dematerialization. Recently, he is working with a client who is in the Regulatory sandbox at GIFT city that is tokenizing the first Real Estate Asset that is being offered to the Non-Residents.

Sanjay has been a key player in transforming the industry in USA and has been Chairman of multiple industry committees, such as Bond Market Association, Asset Management Forum, Securities Industry Association, etc. transforming financial infrastructure and reducing risk on trade date. Sanjay, as Chairman of the Advisory Board, was instrumental in building OMGEO– a transformative financial industry utility. He has played an active and leadership role in shaping the Capital Markets infrastructure in India, USA, and Singapore.

Sanjay is an active angel investor / advisor to firms and late state startups where he provides innovative and disruptive solutions in health care, in fintech, cryptocurrency and blockchain. Sanjay is currently focused on creating an eco-system for startup and early-stage revenue companies, to realize their potential by appropriately positioning them in the Marketplace for growth at scale.

He is currently:

- Member of the Executive Committee and Head of Americas for Apex Global
- Chairman of New York Chapter of ICAI
- Director and Chairman of Audit Committee – Makara Strategic Acquisition Corp – USD 250MM Energy SPAC
- Director – DeFI Devs – a universal layer 2 Blockchain that facilitates interoperability across block chains and identity
- Ex Partner and Mentor at Princeton Growth Accelerator (PGA)

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Frank Walczak

Mr. Walczak is a seasoned business development leader and entrepreneur with over 25 years of experience driving substantial revenue growth and creating innovative business strategies for top financial firms worldwide. Known for his visionary approach and ability to forge strategic partnerships, Mr. Walczak has consistently identified and captured long-term revenue-producing opportunities across diverse markets.

Throughout his career, Mr. Walczak has demonstrated a keen ability to build and scale successful teams, leveraging his expertise in sales, relationship management, and business strategy. His entrepreneurial spirit and leadership have enabled him to establish new lines of business, cultivate long-term alliances with key industry players, and develop first-rate, diversified teams that consistently exceed revenue objectives.

Mr. Walczak's career took off at Cantor Fitzgerald, where he was recruited from Tokyo Forex in Japan to spearhead the creation and management of a foreign exchange team in London. In this role, he managed all aspects of the start-up operation, including budget, staffing, technology coordination, telecommunications, and P&L management. His entrepreneurial drive led to the rapid establishment of a viable business, with more than 250 active accounts across Europe and Asia within five years.

After the 9/11 tragedy that profoundly impacted Cantor Fitzgerald, Mr. Walczak played a critical role in rebuilding the firm's equities team, helping restore it to a global powerhouse. Following his successful tenure at Cantor, he was introduced to tZERO, where he led business development efforts before embarking on his next venture in 2018 as Global Director of Business Development for Inveniam.

Mr. Walczak holds a BS/BA in Economics, History, and Speech Communication from the University of Denver. He is also an active advocate for environmental causes, serving as Treasurer for the Surfers Environmental Alliance.

Todd Stevens

Todd Stevens is Chief Capital Officer of Figure, an enterprise blockchain marketplace company. He is responsible for all capital market activities, business development, markets and stable coin operations as well as Credit. Figure offers a marketplace for origination, funding, sale and trading of various on-chain loan products and tokenized assets. Figure is building the future of capital markets using blockchain-based technology.

Todd is based in New York and has 30 years' experience in the financial industry across Investment Banking, Capital Markets and Wealth Management. He is also a serial investor in early-stage ventures. He currently holds Board and Officer positions at companies in the FinTech, Packaging, Consumer Products, Water Infrastructure and Software technology sectors. Todd proudly graduated with Honors from the University of Georgia.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Pat LaVecchia

Pat LaVecchia is a renowned digital asset and fintech expert, public and private board member, thought leader, and keynote speaker with extensive senior-level investment banking experience (e.g. Credit Suisse, Bear Stearns) including corporate finance, M&A, capital markets, fintech, AI, blockchain and digital assets. Over his distinguished career and most recently as CEO and founder of Oasis Pro, Inc., prior to its successful sale to Ondo Finance, Inc., he has built innovative financial products and trading platforms (including digital asset, non-fungible token and decentralized financial products) as well as a successful track record of navigating complex regulatory landscapes both domestically and internationally.

He has served on the Board of Directors of several public and private companies. He has also served roles on several advisory boards/non-profit boards including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation, Member of the NYSE Amex Listed Company Council, and the DTCC Executive Advisory Board for Private Securities (working group), among others. He is currently serving as a member of the State of Connecticut Department of Banking Digital Assets Advisory Board, the FINRA Crypto Advisory Board, the Bretton Woods Committee, and as a founding Member of the Board of Directors of the Connecticut Blockchain Association.

A recognized subject matter expert in digital assets, he has appeared in scores of television interviews and print media. Pat frequently contributes to Forbes Council, Bloomberg, CNBC, Wall Street Journal, New York Times, Financial Times, and Reuters, sharing insights on digital assets, blockchain, finance, and regulation. He is a widely sought-after speaker for his forward-thinking ideas on responsible development of financial markets at summits and events globally.

Pat promotes the idea of driving transformative change through technological advancements creating value for clients and stakeholders. As a CEO, Pat cultivated global strategic partnerships, oversees technology development, and assembles specialized teams.

His extensive expertise enables him to provide valuable guidance on corporate actions such as mergers and acquisitions, growth capital, acquisition finance, and recapitalization. Pat's ability to scale enterprises, foster innovation, and navigate complex regulatory landscapes is widely recognized, and he has successfully structured, negotiated, and executed more than $15 billion in deals on high-yield transactions, M&A, IPOs, and private placements globally.

One of Pat's groundbreaking accomplishments was leading the expansion of Oasis Pro's broker dealer capabilities, by spearheading Oasis Pro Market's ("OPM") application with the SEC and FINRA for an alternative trading system (ATS) for digital securities. This breakthrough allowed OPM to facilitate trading of private and registered equities, structured products, and fixed income assets using advanced distributed ledger technology. Recognizing the potential of digital assets, Pat leveraged his experience in private equity and investment banking to broaden OPM's offerings. He also led the development of a platform for blockchain token offerings, including initial digital offerings, and established strategic partnerships.

Previously, Pat founded LaVecchia Capital Group LLC, a merchant bank and broker dealer, and held senior positions at Credit Suisse, Bear Stearns, Legg Mason Wood Walker, and FTN Financial/FTN Midwest where he played key roles in capital markets, public and private finance, mergers and acquisitions, and strategic advisory services.

Pat holds an MBA from The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, majoring in Finance with a concentration in Strategic Planning. He also earned a bachelor's degree, magna cum laude, from Clark University, where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. Pat has previously served as a Wharton Ambassador.

Brandon Caruana

Brandon Caruana is Tenet's Chief Executive Officer, responsible for leading the bank's strategic vision, fostering continuous innovation, and ensuring the bank's overall success. With a robust track record in the technology and financial sectors, Brandon has been pivotal in building Tenet into a product that clients love and trust.

He has designed, launched, and implemented numerous large-scale technology transformations for several financial services institutions, including major overhauls for legacy banking, insurance, brokerage, trust, and hedge fund businesses. Brandon is also a successful entrepreneur, having built and run multiple million-dollar organizations centered around helping clients leverage technology to better safeguard and deploy their financial capital.

Originally from Canada, Brandon is a long-time resident of the Cayman Islands, where government administrations and regulators have consistently sought his expertise for guidance on the ongoing evolution of the intersection of finance and technology.

Christopher Britton

Christopher Britton joined Lazard in 2019 and co-leads their North American Venture and Growth Banking business from Austin, Texas, advising tech-led fast-growing private companies on their capital raisings.

At Lazard, Christopher has advised on a wide range of transactions across sectors including Smart Pension (fintech), Tessian (cybersecurity), Congenica (health tech), Bulb Energy (consumer/energy), Zymergen (synthetic biology), LumiraDX (health tech), and SystemC (electronic health records) and has strong relationship with investors across the venture and growth asset class.

Prior to joining Lazard, Christopher was at Liberum Capital where he co-led the investment companies team and previously the health care team. He has experience advising on a range of corporate transactions including private fundraises, IPOs, and secondary transactions, including M&A on the Main Market and AIM and across several different sectors. Selected transactions include the IPOs of Glencore, Infinis, Merian Chrysalis, Game Digital, and Shield Therapeutics; secondary fundraises for Shaftesbury and Workspace; and block trades for Elliot Advisers and GI Partners.

Christopher graduated with a first from St John's College, Oxford, and is a qualified solicitor, having worked at global law firm Jones Day.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Nick Christian

Nick Christian is the leader of Fintech and Specialty Finance nationally. He is responsible for helping First Citizens Innovation Banking's clients at various stages of their lifecycle. He works closely with CEOs, CFOs and venture capitalists to help facilitate the growth of the Fintech ecosystem by providing innovative financing solutions, banking solutions, industry insight and advice.

Nick started with SVB in 2008, and before working in his current role, he provided warehouse facilities to leading originators within Fintech. Nick was also previously responsible for SVB's strategic capital group, which offered innovative financing solutions to high-growth technology companies.

Nick graduated with a Bachelor of Science in finance and management (with a minor in economics) from Northeastern University. Outside of work, Nick enjoys spending time with his wife, son and three dogs. Nick is an avid golfer and enjoys every opportunity to hit the golf course and play.

Tara Waters

Tara is a former technologist, law firm partner and Chief Digital Officer with a strong reputation and track record in emerging technology and digital transformation. Her legal practice is focused on supporting start-ups, scale-ups and VCs, primarily in the fintech, digital assets and AI sectors. Tara is considered a thought-leader and leading innovator in the legal sector. She ran the Fintech Legal Labs in London from 2020-2024.

Tara currently operates her own digital transformation consultancy TLW Consulting, supporting businesses and technology companies on strategy, governance and execution, and runs Innovation Esq., a legal innovation content brand. She also sits on multiple start-up advisory boards.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Kapil Chhibber

Kapil Chhibber is the Managing Director of Technology Partnership Development at Bank of America Corporation.

Prior to joining the bank, Kapil held roles in strategic planning and business development with Microsoft Corporation. During his tenure with Microsoft, he was a member of a team responsible for the long-term planning and strategic direction. In addition, he served as a founding member of Office Live, leading the development, planning and negotiation of partnerships across several online services.

He also held roles in venture capital / private equity with Portage Venture Partners and The Parthenon Group. He began his career as an investment banker.

Kapil was a recipient of the 40 Under 40 Award from the San Francisco Business Times in 2014. He currently serves as an executive committee member of the board of directors, and chair of the marketing committee for the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco.

Kapil holds a Master of Business Administration degree in Entrepreneurship & Innovation, Finance and Marketing from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Management Information Systems and Finance with Honors from the Eller College of Management at the University of Arizona.

John Short

John Short serves as senior vice president, Technology Partnership Development (TPD) manager in Global Technology.

John focuses on Consumer, Small Business & Wealth Management technology, including digital identity, payments and digital client experience. As part of the TPD team, he is responsible for developing enterprisewide views of the bank's strategic vendor and client relationships, and driving the firm's technology and business strategy.

Since joining Bank of America in 2009, John has held multiple roles in GT&O as well as roles in Global Transaction Services, as a digital product manager, and in Small Business Deposits, as a product manager responsible for reporting and analytics.

He began his career at Verizon Communications as a business intelligence analyst for the FiOS fiber optic network project.

John received a Master of Business Administration degree from the Kenan-Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and holds a bachelor's degree in marketing and commerce from the University of Virginia.

John lives in Charlotte, North Carolina.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Andrew Siegel

Andrew Siegel is the former General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer of Galaxy Digital, a digital asset and blockchain firm providing institutions, startups, and qualified individuals access to the crypto economy. Galaxy Digital's suite of financial services spans multiple synergistic business lines: trading, asset management, investment banking, mining, and ventures. Andrew is also an advisor to U.S. Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand on issues relating to digital assets laws and legislation.

Andrew has more than 20 years of experience advising financial services firms on legal, regulatory, and compliance matters. Prior to Galaxy Digital, he served in a variety of legal and compliance roles at the global asset management and corporate advisory firm Perella Weinberg Partners, including as its General Counsel, Chief Compliance Officer, and Chief Regulatory Officer. Prior to joining Perella Weinberg, Andrew was General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer of Stanfield Capital Partners LLC, an alternative asset manager based in New York. Prior to joining Stanfield, Andrew served in the law division of Morgan Stanley, initially advising its Investment Banking Department. Ultimately, he was the senior attorney responsible for advising Morgan Stanley Investment Management's alternative investment funds, including its private equity funds, venture capital funds, hedge funds, and fund of funds. Previously in his career, Andrew was a corporate attorney at Shearman & Sterling where he focused on public and private mergers and acquisitions, private equity transactions, and join ventures.

Andrew is admitted to the Bar of the State of New York and has been designated a Certified Regulatory and Compliance Professional by FINRA. He serves on the board of the Association for Digital Asset Markets. Andrew received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, magna cum laude, from Tufts University and a JD, summa cum laude, from Washington College of Law at American University, where he was an editor of The American University Law Review .

CJ Huntzinger

CJ Huntzinger serves as the Head of Platform at Galaxy Ventures, where he supports the Ventures team and portfolio companies by leading strategy across marketing, communications, and events, while also developing comprehensive resources for founders. CJ partners closely with portfolio companies and founders to elevate their brand positioning through story design, press relations, content strategy, go-to-market planning, and thought leadership initiatives. Before joining Galaxy, CJ led communications at Songtrust, a premier global music royalty payments platform, where he was instrumental in scaling the company's brand on a global scale. He has over a decade of experience in startup marketing and communications and more than five years dedicated to venture platform work.

Sandip Wadje

Sandip Wadje is Managing Director at BNP Paribas with focus on global oversight of Emerging Tech Risks topics covering cloud technology, artificial intelligence, digital assets and threat intelligence.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

David Hornik

David is the Founding Partner of Lobby Capital. For more than 25 years, David has helped technology entrepreneurs build transformative businesses. Prior to founding Lobby Capital, he spent 20 years as a general partner at August Capital. David invests in a broad range of software companies, including enterprise application, infrastructure, and SaaS businesses (Splunk, Fastly, GitLab), financial technology companies (Bill.com, WePay, PayNearMe), and consumer services (Evite, Ebates, Popcorn).

David has spent the last two decades building technology communities – along with starting the first venture capital blog, VentureBlog, and the first venture capital podcast, VentureCast, David served as the Tech Curator for the TED Conference in Vancouver, co-created and hosted TEDxStanford, and founded and produces the Lobby Confrences. David received Deloitte's Venture Capitalist of the Year award and has been honored by Forbes Magazine as a member of its Midas List of top Venture Capitalists.

David has an eclectic educational background. He received a BA from Stanford in Computer Music, a Masters of Philosophy in Criminology from Cambridge University, and a JD from Harvard Law School. He teaches courses in entrepreneurship and venture capital at Stanford Business School and Harvard Law School, and serves as a VC Partner at the Harvard Business School.

David lives in Palo Alto and Chelsea with his wife Pamela and their dog Teddy. He has four grown children. Along with serving on the board of GLAAD, a leading LGBTQ rights organization, David is a commissioner of the Smithsonian American Art Museum and is a member of the board of the Stanford Alumni Association.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Alka Gupta

Alka Gupta is a tech entrepreneur, venture investor, and former Fortune 500 exec with experience in digital transformation, fintech, identity, and marketplaces. She has been at the beginning of some of the most significant disruptions and platforms including blockchain, payments, ecommerce, mobile, and search at both early-stage and public companies. Alka has operated and built revenue in B2B and B2C market across more 10 countries in Asia, Europe, and Latin America, building an understanding of internationalization and localization success strategies and tactics.

She is a venture partner at Fin Capital, a $1.2 billion fintech B2B focused global fund. Previously, she was co-founder and President of GlobaliD, a venture-backed identity platform leveraging the blockchain. Prior, she was Head of Marketplaces strategy at eBay/PayPal (Nasdaq: EBAY) focused on new markets during a period of revenue growth from $9 billion to $16 billion. Earlier, Alka was at Norwest Ventures-funded Retrevo (Acq. BN), an ecommerce business focused on the consumer electronics buying experience, where she brought in first revenue and strategic partnerships as Head of Business Development. At Lycos (Nasdaq: LCOS; Acq.: TEF,) Alka led, as General Manager, a global suite of products during which time the company grew revenue from $50 million to $800 million over four years. Lycos was one of the first and fastest search engines to IPO. As VP of Corporate Development and Strategy, she led strategy, acquisitions, and eventually saw the company through the $12.5 billion acquisition by Telefonica.

Alka has a commitment to democratization of access and empowering populations via technology. She holds an MBA from The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania and a B.S. (cum laude) from Case Western Reserve University. She is a board director at MoneyGram (Nasdaq: MGI, Compliance and Ethics Committee,) National Bank Holding Corporation (NYSE: NBHC, Audit and Risk Committee, Compensation Committee), Digital Frontiers (Vice Chair), and board advisor at Berkeley SkyDeck and Women in Identity. She is also a regular speaker on digital transformation, fintech, and blockchain. She also spends time as a mentor at Stanford's StartX and expert in residence at The Wharton School's Venture Lab.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Emmanuel Vallod

Emmanuel is an accomplished investment professional with a wealth of experience in financial markets and blockchain technology.

Prior to joining Stake Capital, he led the fintech and blockchain VC practice in the US for early-stage investments at GSR Ventures.

Emmanuel's experience also extends to financial markets, where he previously co-led the systematic securitized team at Blackrock for over 5 years, a $2B-a-year gross revenue business covering passive and active mandates for retail and institutionals. He co-originated 2 IPOs in that space which have been foundational to fixed-income smart-beta investing. He subsequently founded and ran an enterprise fintech startup prior to joining the VC side of the ecosystem.

Emmanuel teaches Blockchain and Fintech at UC Berkeley and UC San Diego and is an advisor/mentor at UC Berkeley SkyDeck, a high-tech entrepreneurship startup accelerator and incubator program at UC Berkeley.

He holds two master degrees from Ecole Lyon in engineering, and from UC Berkeley in financial engineering.

Ken Deeter

Ken is a partner on the investment team at Electric Capital, focusing on Decentralized Finance, Crypto-enabled Games and Collectibles, and new classes of applications that uniquely leverage the properties of blockchain.

Ken is an experienced software engineer and product manager with a combined 15 years of experience leading teams and building products at VMware and Facebook.

Ken has a Masters in Computer Science from the University of British Columbia, and a Bachelors of Science and Engineering in Computer Science from Princeton University.

Nisa Amoils

Nisa Amoils is Managing Partner at A100x Ventures where she, invests in early stage Blockchain/AI companies. She has been in VC for over 12 years and investing in AI/blockchain since 2016, with multiple unicorns and exits. She previously worked for Dragonfly Capital, Scout Ventures and used to practice securities and corporate law at Anderson Kill. She serves on Boards such as Wharton Entrepreneurship, Global Digital Assets and Crypto Association, GBBC, and public /private companies. She has been named top 50 women of web 3, Business Insider's Women VC's to watch, 2021 systematic leader in asset management, top 100 Women in Fintech, and top 50 global blockchain thinkers. She is an occasional host and commentator at Nasdaq and Forbes, She holds a business degree from the University of Michigan and a law degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Lex Sokolin

Lex Sokolin is a builder and investor working on the next generation of socio-economics and financial services. He is the Managing Partner and co-Founder of Generative Ventures, an engaged venture capital fund investing in the Machine Economy powered by Fintech, accelerated by AI, and settled on Web3.

Previously, Lex held the roles of Chief Economist, Chief Marketing Officer, and Global Fintech Co-Head at Consensys, a leading Web3 blockchain software company, where he focused on protocol cryptoeconomics, digital assets, public and private blockchains, decentralized finance, and DAOs. Prior, he was the Global Director of Fintech Strategy at Autonomous Research, an equity research firm serving institutional investors, where he covered artificial intelligence, blockchain, neobanks, digital lenders, roboadvisors, payments, insurtech, and mixed reality. Before Autonomous, Lex was Chief Operating Officer at AdvisorEngine, a digital wealthtech platform, and CEO of NestEgg Wealth, a roboadvisor that partnered with financial advisors. Lex started his career in investment management and banking at Barclays, Lehman Brothers, and Deutsche Bank.

Lex has contributed thought leadership to the Wall Street Journal, the Economist, Bloomberg, FT, Reuters, Coindesk, American Banker, ThinkAdvisor, Investment News, among others. His industry newsletter, the Fintech Blueprint, reaches over 180,000 subscribers. Lex earned a JD/MBA from Columbia University and a B.A. in Economics and Law from Amherst College.

Matt Huang

Matt Huang is a venture partner at Draper Dragon. He also served as a general partner to Outliers Fund and Aranya Founders Fund, where he made investments in early-stage companies in Web3, SaaS, and mobile applications. Matt was also an entrepreneur in the cybersecurity space and was a co-founder and COO to Armorize Technologies (acquired by Proofpoint). He later served as a corporate executive at Proofpoint, where he led email security and mobile security lines of products.

George Lewin-Smith

George was previously a VP at Goldman Sachs operating in London and San Francisco. He is now CEO and Co-Founder of Testudo, a startup building new insurance markets for AI risks, enabling institutions to safely and responsibly adopt this technology.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Boris Revsin

Boris Revsin is Managing Partner at Tribe Capital, where he spearheads the firm's crypto investments, incubation, and infrastructure efforts, in addition to leading investments across primary and secondary equity opportunities. Prior to joining Tribe, Boris was the co-founder and Head of Republic Capital, a registered investment adviser with more than $900 million under management.

Republic Capital is part of the Republic.com group, an organization focused on leveraging web3 to democratize access to capital and investments. At Republic, he led all institutional investments and infrastructure as an Executive Vice President and Head of the Republic Capital team. Republic.com is backed by cryptocurrency giants Galaxy Digital and Binance and investment group Valor Equity Partners.

Boris joined Republic.com in December of 2018 to co-found the Republic Capital subsidiary. The founding team at Republic Capital focused on fintech infrastructure and cryptocurrency investments, making investments into cap-table provider Carta (alongside Tribe Capital), Robinhood's first growth stage rounds, and layer-1 cryptocurrency "Flow" by Dapper. Boris also led growth stage investments into Avalanche, Polygon, and Near Protocol. Boris helped recruit and design the operations and infrastructure team that would eventually support more than $900 million in assets under management by January 2022.

Prior to Republic Capital, Boris was the co-founder of Game Theory Group, a boutique research desk focusing on cryptocurrency infrastructure. From 2015 to 2017, Boris was the founding President of VentureApp, now known as HqO. From 2009 to 2015, Boris was the co-founder of Breaktime Media, a promotional media platform serving some of the biggest brands in the world, which was acquired in 2015 by advertising leader Connelly Partners. Boris studied computer science at University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Madeleine McCarthy

Madeleine McCarthy is Head of Strategy and Business Development at Acorns. In her role, she is responsible for partnerships, mergers and acquisitions, and strategic finance initiatives. She spends most of her time talking to companies about potential acquisitions or partnerships to help Acorns achieve meaningful growth for an important mission of empowering all people to save and invest.

Madeleine spent a decade in investment banking, advising primarily technology companies on IPOs, M&A, and private placements. She started her career in investment banking at Morgan Stanley, focused on private equity and technology companies. She then helped to start a boutique investment bank, DBO Partners, led by former Morgan Stanley partners. Most recently, Madeleine was a Managing Director focused exclusively on advising technology companies, with a focus on enterprise software, although she worked on transactions across the technology sector and advised on more than $70 billion of transactions.

Madeleine graduated from UC Berkeley with a degree in Statistics and a minor in Industrial Engineering, and she was a member of the women's rowing team, which won the national championships. She has a passion for investing and enjoys advising and mentoring people on their company's strategic goals.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Olivier Dang

Olivier is the Head of Laser Digital Ventures and Board Member of Laser Digital Holdings, the crypto arm of Nomura, that is re-defining the frontier of digital finance. As Head of Laser Digital Ventures, Olivier is investing in early-stage transformative businesses in the Web 3 space.

Olivier has been at Nomura since 2010 and held various roles in Corporate Strategy and Business Management in Hong Kong and London. Prior to this, he was a Management Consultant at McKinsey in London and he started his career as an entrepreneur building a mobile internet company in France.

He holds a MSc in Telecommunications from Chalmers University of Technology, an engineering degree from the Institut Superieur d'Electronique de Paris and a M.B.A. from the London Business School. Olivier is based in Zurich.

Devon Kirk

Devon Kirk is Co-Head and Partner, Portage Capital Solutions at Portage and joined the firm in 2022. Devon is responsible for co-leading growth equity, structured equity and special situations investments in financial technology and financial services companies globally, as well as driving the fund's overall strategy. She is based in Toronto, Canada.

Prior to Portage, Devon spent over ten years at CPP Investments, a C$539 billion fund as of March 31, 2022. She was most recently Managing Director & Head of Capital Solutions, overseeing financials, special situations and esoteric investments, and a member of the Global Leadership Team. Previously, Devon was a Managing Director in the Direct Private Equity team, where she focused on the financials and TMT sectors. While at CPP Investments, Devon was on the Board of Wilton Re, a Board Observer for Altice USA and served on various firm investment committees.

Prior to joining CPP Investments, Devon was in Corporate / M&A at Linklaters LLP, a London-based multinational law firm, and started her career in M&A at BMO Harris Nesbitt in Chicago.

Devon received a Bachelor of Commerce degree, with Great Distinction, from McGill University and a Juris Doctorate from Harvard Law School. She is also a CFA Charterholder and Chair of the Bishop Strachan School.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Abigail Johnson

Abigail is COO and partner at Sapphire, where she oversees all aspects of Sapphire's operations, including the organization's legal affairs, finance and reporting, corporate compliance, HR, administration, IT, and facilities. She is also passionate about ESG and corporate giving, and leads these firm initiatives. Previously, Abigail was General Counsel of Sapphire.

Prior to joining the firm in 2015, Abigail was an associate at Jones Day, where she practiced in the areas of venture capital, M&A, fund formation, and general corporate and securities matters. She also worked in-house at an early-stage fintech company in the Bay Area prior to joining Jones Day, and, before attending law school, she worked in management consulting at Charles River Associates. Abigail holds a JD from the University of Chicago Law School and a bachelor's degree from Rice University in Civil and Environmental Engineering.

Vic Arulchandran

Vic has been focused on designing and delivering fintech solutions in capital markets, notably with a successful exit from a B2B fintech providing primary capital markets SaaS platforms, and currently leading the digital arm of a traditional market infrastructure.

In addition, Vic participated in many leading accelerator and incubator programmes aimed at funding and scaling, including the Microsoft Accelerator, Accenture FinTech Innovation Lab and JP Morgan In-Residence. Vic developed experience in fundraising, technical sales, product strategy, and innovation marketing.

Prior to banking, Vic completed a PhD in Mathematics and represented the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA).

Justine Bone

Justine is the Executive Director of the Crypto ISAC. She has served as CISO at Bloomberg, LP, where she founded the information security group, as CEO of offensive security company Immunity, Inc., and as CEO of medical security research firm MedSec, where her work led directly to FDA recalls of implantable medical devices. She has served for years as a member of the Blackhat Review Board and Blackhat's CISO Summit Advisory Board, and as Head of Infrastructure and Information Security at Dow Jones, where Justine led cloud transformation and information security. She has advised several Fortune 50 companies and continues to serve on the Advisory Board of HP. Other companies Justine has advised include Redjack, Decentraweb, Emergent Security, and Drawbridge Networks. In her early career, Justine served as a security researcher at New Zealand's GCSB, trained by the NSA, and then joined the ISS X-Force as a security researcher.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Sekayi Mutambirwa

Sekayi Mutambirwa is the co-founder and CSO of Blam Retail, a Silicon Valley based technology firm creating websites, delivery services for US convenience stores and online lottery. Also making the US lottery available for players outside the US.

She has been mentoring, angel investing and advising fintech and crypto start ups through accelerator programs since 2013, including Accenture Fintech Innovation Lab, Outlier Ventures and R3 Ventures. She is a Venture Partner with Republic who invest in crypto, gaming and real estate.

Sekayi is a board member for Enterprise and Innovation for a UK county and sits on a sub-committee that allocates funding to scale ups developing commerce and creating jobs. She is on the Advisory Board for the African Business Chamber and advises many technology and Web 3 start ups.

She started her career in IT management consulting where she spent a decade in digital banking transformation projects and working in banking innovation labs with fintech founders and FAANGs at Lloyds Banking Group, Barclays and HSBC. She left banking to join decentralized exchange, Energi as their Director of Partnerships and Investments.

Jennie Levin

Jennie Levin currently serves as Head of Regulatory and Compliance at Figment Inc., a protocol staking company. Prior to joining Figment, she worked at DraftKings, where she was responsible for navigating the complex legal and regulatory issues related to sports betting and web3.

From approximately 2010-2019, Jennie served as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Northern District of Illinois, where she focused on financial crimes, and has been an adjunct professor in Trial Advocacy at Northwestern Law School for the last 11 years.

Jennie earned her B.A. in Psychology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her JD from Northwestern University School of Law.

Julian Roeoes

Julian Roeoes joined Picus Americas as a partner in 2020 and manages the firm's Americas operations out of the Picus office in New York. Prior to joining Picus, he worked for Credit Suisse in the Investment Banking and Capital Markets division in New York and London.

At Credit Suisse, Julian advised financial services and fintech clients on M&A as well as private and public financing transactions. Prior to that, Julian gathered practical experience in private capital, investing, and consulting and obtained an IHK Bankkaufmann degree. Julian graduated from WHU–Otto Beisheim School of Management with a bachelor's degree in Finance and General Management.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Daniel Niklas

Daniel Niklas joined Picus Americas as an investor in 2020 and covers the firm's crypto/web3 investments across the Americas. He has a passion for web3 infrastructure projects (e.g., security and trust, scalability, analytics) as well as for web3 adoption in the gaming space.

Prior to joining Picus, Daniel worked on the Investment Banking Team at Goldman Sachs in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Frankfurt, where he advised global enterprises and financial investors on strategic transactions in the technology, retail, automotive, renewable energy, chemicals/pharma, and engineering/construction industries. Daniel holds a B.S. in Business Administration from the University of Mannheim in Germany.

Lawrence Wintermeyer

Lawrence Wintermeyer is a globally recognized digital financial advocate and has more than 25 years' experience as an advisor, executive, and board member working with companies from startups to global brands in the financial services, TMT, and energy sectors. He is the former CEO of Innovate Finance, the UK fintech members association, and a co-founder of Global Digital Finance, a not-for-profit promoting fair and transparent markets for digital and crypto assets.

He is experienced in the alternative asset management sector, with a focus on systematic investment management strategies, big data analytics, machine learning, and distributed ledger technologies. Based in London, he is the principal of Elipses, a digital advisory and investment management firm, has an MBA, and sits on several commercial, not-for-profit, and charity boards. Lawrence promotes ethical and sustainable finance policies for a transparent, secure, and quality digital future for everyone, and is a regular Forbes contributor.

James Bowater

Best known as a leading commentator, connector, and influencer in the UK blockchain space, James Bowater founded Crypto AM in partnership with London's City AM newspaper, launching on June 18, 2018, as a double-page spread. City AM to date is the only mainstream publisher to have a dedicated regular section covering AI, blockchain, crypto, and DLT.

The COVID-19 crisis has meant that the newspaper is not being produced and as such, the focus is digital, and CryptoAM.io was launched on March 31, 2020.Crypto AM is supplemented by a number of very active WhatsApp groups, a Telegram group, and numerous networking events. James, in association with City AM, organized the inaugural Crypto AM Awards, which took place on March 11, 2022, in London's Canary Wharf. At the event, 12 awards were handed out in front of a packed audience including Alderman William Russell, the Rt Hon Lord Mayor of London.

James is also the founder of the London Blockchain Forum, the leading cross-community platform (Telegram and Meetup) for the UK AI, blockchain, crypto, and DLT industries.

James also serves as an advisor to a number of projects and is equally known for connecting people and companies.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Tarun Sharma

Tarun Sharma has 16+ years of experience in technology with a focus on Web3 and CyberSecurity. He has a deep understanding of Decentralized Applications, Cloud Technology, Application Development, Cyber Security. Before joining Google, Tarun has worked with AWS and IBM in various capacities on their Web3 initiatives. He has also bootstrapped two successful startups in his career. Presently, Tarun is leading partner engineering efforts in Google Cloud focusing on growing CyberSecurity and Web3 eco-system for Google Cloud partners.

Joshua Riezman

Joshua Riezman is Managing Director and Head of U.S. Legal and Compliance for GSR, a leading crypto market making and trading firm. Previously, Joshua was Assistant General Counsel for product and regulatory matters at Circle, a global financial technology firm that provides crypto-native payments and treasury infrastructure. In his prior traditional finance career, Joshua represented global financial institutions with respect to trading, clearing and custody in the securities, commodities and derivatives markets as in-house counsel and in private practice.

Joshua received his JD from the Fordham University School of Law and his BA in international affairs from the George Washington University.

Benoit Bosc

Benoit Bosc is Global Head of Product at GSR, a leading crypto market maker, and trading firm founded in 2013. He started investing in crypto in 2017 and made the full-time switch in 2021, since then developing a passion for the digital asset class. Prior to joining GSR, Benoit was head of global crude derivatives trading at Goldman Sachs in New York after a 15-year international career in Sales and Trading.

Jason Best

Jason is based in San Francisco, CA and is a Managing Partner of Vectr Fintech. He has invested across A.I., blockchain, and fintech in the US, Asia and MENA regions. He co-authored the crowdfund-investing framework used in the JOBS Act to legalize securities-based crowdfunding in the US, by changing 80-year-old securities laws. He provided US Congressional testimonies, and attended the White House, Rose Garden ceremony for President Obama to sign The JOBS Act into law. Over 7,000 companies, across all 50 states, have raised over US$2B via this legislation.

Following the JOBS Act, he formed Crowdfund Capital Advisors (CCA) to advise governments, regulators, financial institutions, and entrepreneurs on fintech policy and regulation. CCA has worked in 45 countries in 7 years. Jason is an Entrepreneur in Residence at UC Berkeley's Center for Entrepreneurship and Technology.

Prior to Jason's fintech work he led strategy and growth at Kinnser Software, a 2-time Inc-500 company (one of the 500 fastest growing private companies in the US) which was acquired by Insight Partners.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Manoj Karnani

Manoj Karnani leads Accenture's fintech portfolio and strategy in the West and has spent 20+ years working with financial services and rapid-growth tech and fintech companies. He is passionate about the fintech space and the opportunity to serve as an advisor to help drive growth and scale. View Manoj's LinkedIn here .

Ben Brown

In his role as Managing Director, Ben Brown supports Accenture's work with next-gen financial technology platforms and hypergrowth financial services challengers in North America across all four services (strategy consulting, interactive, technology, and operations). Ben has experience working with large and small banks, technology companies, merchants, and private equity investors. He has also been an advisor to fintech accelerators like the CFSI's Financial Solutions Lab, SVB's Commerce.Innovated, and 500 Startups. View Ben's LinkedIn here .

Steve Payne

Steve Payne is a co-founder of Architect Partners, a boutique fintech/digital assets M&A and strategic financing firm. Last year Architect advised on two of the top three crypto M&A transactions (FairX acquired by Coinbase I Diem acquired by Silvergate) and the top European crypto M&A transaction (Trustology acquired by Bitpanda). Prior to Architect, Steve has been a senior operating executive, a venture investor, and a tech dealmaker in Silicon Valley, most recently as Managing Partner of the Ignite Group, a trans-Pacific venture capital partnership with funds in Silicon Valley and Tokyo. Before that, he headed New Products at Sega and was EVP of Product Development and Marketing at SegaSoft.

Architect Partners connects young, fast-growing companies with world-class partners for business development, investment, or M&A. Steve has completed more than a hundred venture financings and acquisitions transactions.

In his spare time, Steve mentors startup CEOs and works with several accelerators to give back to tech and social innovators. He's been a CEO mentor and/or business plan judge for the One Harvard New Venture Competition, the Startup World Cup, the Global Social Ventures Competition and others. Steve holds an engineering degree from Washington University in St. Louis and an MBA from Harvard. He has been a Director of two dozen private and non-profit boards.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Elliot Chun

Elliot Chun is a Partner at Architect Partners, a crypto-dedicated M&A and strategic financing advisory team. In 2022, Architect advised on two of the top three crypto M&A transactions (FairX acquired by Coinbase | Diem acquired by Silvergate) and the top European crypto M&A transaction (Trustology acquired by Bitpanda).

With 20+ years in Capital Markets and full-time in Crypto since early 2018, Elliot brings a wide range of experience across asset classes (Digital Asset Markets, Equities, FX, Real Estate), across functions (Investment Banking, Buy-Side, Consulting, Sell-Side), and across company sizes (Bank of America, Perella Weinberg Partners, Architect Partners).

Prior to Architect Partners, Elliot founded and collaborated on a few ventures in Blockchain and other emerging technologies, built an Alternative Asset Management Platform for a leading boutique investment bank, consulted on various initiatives for major investment banks, and started in Cash Equity Sales & Trading.

Anthony Woolley

Anthony Woolley is an entrepreneurial banking and financial services technology executive with expertise in capital markets, investment banking, trade finance, and wealth management. He has a particular interest in fintech, digital securities, and the transformation of wholesale banking.

Having collaborated with a multitude of fintechs and high-growth companies in his capacity as a banking CIO, Anthony recently took the opportunity to work independently with a small number of high-potential companies that he really believes in. These business have some common characteristics: highly credible leadership teams, a strong vision, disruptive business models, and the ability to deliver.

Anthony joined Schroders Investment Bank in 1994, where he led their Corporate Finance Technology department. Subsequent mergers with Salomon Smith Barney and Citibank saw him progress in various front-office technology leadership roles. He managed the CitiFX ecommerce and pricing technology program in London during a period of dramatic transformation of the high-frequency trading and auto-hedging of foreign exchange products. He left Citi in 2009 to lead the FX etrading program at HSBC before joining Société Générale, where he headed the UK Fixed Income, Currencies, and Commodities Technology department. He was appointed the UK Chief Information Officer in 2013, and in 2017, he was given the opportunity to set up a new innovation function working at a group level.

Anthony is a regular presenter at industry conferences and has become a recognized thought leader on the application of blockchain technology to the regulated financial services industry.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Elliot Han

Elliot Han is an accomplished investment executive with deep expertise at the intersection of technology, finance, and digital assets. He brings global experience across both traditional and frontier markets. As Chief Investment Officer of C1 Advisors LLC and a member of the firm's Sponsor, he also serves on the Investment Committee, driving strategy and execution across key verticals.

Since September 2023, he has been a Partner at PGP Capital, a boutique investment and merchant bank focused on financial technology and digital assets. Mr. Han also serves as an Independent Director of Phunware Inc. (NASDAQ: PHUN), a leading provider of enterprise AI cloud solutions for mobile platforms.

Previously, Mr. Han was a Managing Director at Cantor Fitzgerald, where he led FinTech, Blockchain, and Digital Assets Investment Banking, and headed Technology Equity Capital Markets. Prior to that, he was Head of FinTech and Consumer Tech Capital Markets at the NYSE and held senior investment banking roles at Goldman Sachs, overseeing technology sector coverage across the UK and Emerging Markets.

He was part of the management team at the Argon Group, a pioneering blockchain technology and advisory firm. Earlier in his career, Mr. Han was a corporate lawyer at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer and began his career at Credit Suisse/CSFB.

Since 2018, he has been a Managing Partner at Sunkist ARC Partners, an investment firm focused on high-growth technology and digital asset opportunities.

Mr. Han holds a B.A. in Biological Sciences and Classics from Columbia University, a Master's in Classics from Oxford University, and a B.A. (Honours) and M.A. in Law from Cambridge University, where he was a Cambridge Overseas Trust Scholar.

Mark Edwards

Mark Edwards is co-founder of TNG Capital Partners based in New Jersey. In this role Mark partners with founders, CEOs and boards to help them scale their companies by leveraging the team's significant experience in high growth businesses, product development, M&A, governance & fundraising. TNG Capital Partners is an active participant, often taking operational roles and equity positions.

Previously Mark was in the storage network sector: during his tenure as the number two executive at QLogic Corp, he helped to steer the company from a $50M to a $10B market cap along with a place on the NASDAQ-100. Following this, Mark ran a venture capital fund with exits in the US, Australia, NZ, UK and Israel and delivered a top-quartile return. Mark has driven more than $2B in equity transactions during his career. He has lived and worked in the US, Europe and APAC. He holds a B.Sc. (Hons.) Business Studies from the Bayes Business School at City, University of London.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Steven S. McNew

Steve McNew provides strategic advice and expert services for companies in the blockchain and digital assets sector and corporations looking to innovate with these technologies. He has led more than 80 cryptocurrency investigations and has offered testimony as a digital assets expert 18 times in the United States and once in Australia.

Mr. McNew is the global lead of the Blockchain and Digital Assets practice leading engagements focused on crypto-native entities involved in bankruptcy, restructuring, M&A, due diligence, investigations, strategy and innovation. He has led large-scale blockchain technology implementation projects including smart contract development combined with AI and IoT devices and provided forensic investigations expertise into disputes involving various forms of cryptocurrencies.

In addition to Mr. McNew's crypto assets and blockchain experience, he leads large-scale engagements for clients in data governance and data privacy, has authored an enterprise search patent application and has led a myriad of engagements related to emerging technologies and digital forensics for 32 years.

Vanessa Fernandes

Vanessa Fernandes is responsible for the design and implementation of the token as a service and custody platform while directing Itaú's long-term vision to create a full-service digital assets capability for cryptocurrencies and tokenized assets.

As a former CTO at Itaú Unibanco, Vanessa developed international expertise in originating/launching and managing successful global business IT strategies. Her activities have included the launch of the emerging technologies practice; the research and development of distributed ledger (blockchain), quantum computing, and 5G technologies; and connecting big tech, fintech, and startup ecosystems in the United States with Itaú business and IT areas in Brazil.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Preston Fischer

Preston Fischer is a digital risk and innovation expert focusing on blockchain and digital assets. Mr. Fischer brings more than 20 years of experience in emerging technology, innovation and digital risk management across consultancies, technology organizations, and public affairs. His expertise helps clients address risk while driving advancement.

Mr. Fischer has extensive experience in architecting digital infrastructure, shaping go-to-market strategies, and launching solutions that transform business processes and mitigates digital risk. This includes blockchain-based solutions that improve supply chains, enable transparent information sharing and decentralized finance initiatives. He also applies his e-discovery, digital forensics, and cybersecurity background to support clients involved in cryptocurrency-related disputes and investigations.

Prior to joining FTI Consulting, Mr. Fischer was Vice President of Strategy and Finance at Connected DMV, where he supported regional cooperation to generate economic development and technology innovation. He has also held managing director and VP roles at Alnair Group, Aon, and Navigant, leading work across cybersecurity services, market strategy, risk mitigation, and data management. As a longstanding researcher in Austrian economics, banking systems, and digital currencies, Mr. Fischer's depth of expertise provides clients with insight and strategic guidance while implementing emerging technologies.

Sam Bodick

Sam is Cofounder of Veil Capital, a deep fundamental, protocol lifecycle investment firm. He previously led firmwide trading and on-chain participation at Polychain Capital.

During his tenure, Sam was one of the most active on-chain participants in the industry, deploying and securing more than $3B in decentralized finance. Prior to Polychain, Sam worked for a quantitative spinout of Nuveen Asset Management. Sam began researching, and investing in, cryptoassets in 2013.

Nick Andrews

Nick Andrews's career has been in the financial services sector and has included being on the board of a large multidisciplined securities broker/dealer, Head of Credit at the UK banking subsidiary of a Japanese securities house, and many years in senior credit and compliance roles.

Nick is the founder and Managing Director of MPAC Limited, one of the preeminent compliance and regulatory companies in London; CEO of EddieUK Ltd., a digital investment bank; Director of Supermoney Ltd, a blockchain tech company; co-founder of a crypto trading entity; and an independent non-executive director, chair of the Audit Committee, and chair of the Nominations Committee at the UK subsidiary of one of the largest banks in America (Wells Fargo).

He speaks at various conferences and panels and is an occasional guest lecturer on topical financial sector issues at two universities. With a keen interest in history and the City of London, Nick was the Master of The Worshipful Company of Pattenmakers in the year 2015 to 2016.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Angelo Chan

Angelo Chan is an upcoming Partner with Stake Capital.

Angelo Chan first became involved in cryptocurrencies in 2015 as a Series C investor in Coinbase (Nasdaq: COIN). He was formerly a managing director at BlockFi, a leading crypto asset lender with institutional backing from investors that include Valar Ventures, Galaxy Digital, Fidelity, SoFi and Coinbase Ventures. At BlockFi, Angelo was responsible for structuring bespoke financing transactions collateralized by cryptocurrency as well as cryptocurrency-based derivatives such as over-the-counter (OTC) swaps. He also launched new initiatives for crypto native products related to staking and decentralized finance (DeFi), led the transaction team for debt financings with traditional financial institutions, and helped formulate BlockFi's business response to regulatory challenges.

Angelo's work with cryptocurrencies builds on his background in traditional finance, in particular the structuring and execution of cross-border financing transactions with complex tax, accounting and regulatory considerations. Between 2004 and 2012, Angelo worked at Barclays Investment Bank in London and New York as a member of the Structured Capital Markets Group, and subsequently at C12 Capital, where he served as a director of the hedge fund manager spun off from Barclays in 2009. In these roles, he helped originate, structure and execute over USD 40bn of proprietary transactions with counterparties in Europe, US, Latin America and Asia over a diverse range of underlying assets such as listed equities, sovereign debt, corporate bonds and asset-backed securities.

Angelo was subsequently a director in the Structured Equity Finance Team at Bank of America Merrill Lynch, which provided clients with leverage, stock lending, hedging and other related prime brokerage services. There, he had particular responsibility for covering financial institutions and multi-national corporations in Latin America, and was closely involved in the development of new financial products and transactions.

Mohamed Yousef

Mohamed Yousef is an accomplished legal professional with over 25 years experience covering technology, corporate and commercial as well as investment and finance related transactions across diverse geographic regions. Mohamed's private practice experience includes working with leading international law firms and senior in-house and General Counsel roles working with investment companies owned by GCC Sovereign Wealth Funds including a Qatar based venture capital and private equity investment company investing in emerging technologies around the globe and other sovereign companies investing in food security assets and technologies.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Santiago Velez

Santiago Velez is a practitioner in the digital asset and distributed ledger/blockchain space, co-founding and advising several companies.

Santiago is the co-founder and division lead of Research & Development at Block Digital Corporation, which focuses on deploying decentralized edge computing. He's also Vice President of R&D at Sindric Solutions, a web3 enterprise software development company that has built and advised on products for Fortune 50 companies like Nike, and organizations like the NCAA, using web2 cloud in conjunction with DLT technologies.

Santiago has a degree in Nuclear Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and more recently completed the UPenn Wharton School of Business's Economics of Blockchain and Digital Assets certification program. When not spending time with his three daughters, Santiago contributes to the Real Vision platform to perform deep-dive long-form interviews with up-and-coming leaders in the web3 space. Lastly, he's a vigorous Twitter poster on all things crypto and a mouthpiece for anyone with interesting ideas.

Geoff Clauss

Geoff Clauss is Blockdaemon's Chief Revenue Officer and has 20+ years of fintech sales leadership experience. Geoff has an extensive background in trading networks, legacy financial infrastructure services, and managing successful teams. He is passionate about developing teams that rise to the top of a competitive marketplace and knows the importance of happy and successful customers. Geoff is keen to help even more institutions access and unlock quality blockchain data with Blockdaemon.

Rajeev Bamra

Rajeev Bamra is the head of DeFi & Digital Assets strategy and operations at Moody's, he leads a dedicated digital finance team equipped with extensive expertise in the dynamic digital ecosystem and a profound understanding of traditional finance infrastructure. His team's primary focus lies in meticulously exploring the intersection of these two domains, specifically in identifying and analyzing emerging risks stemming from their integration. Through comprehensive research and evaluation, he aims to develop a resilient strategy that effectively addresses the distinctive challenges and opportunities arising from this convergence.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Adam Sand

Adam Sand leads the legal team for Blockdaemon Inc., one of the leading blockchain infrastructure and staking technology providers. Previously, Adam served as General Counsel for Ciitizen Corporation, a startup providing health records technology for rare diseases that was sold to Invitae Corporation, and before that as General Counsel and VP of Business Development for Shopkick, which was sold to Retail Trax Inc. Prior to joining Shopkick, Adam was GC of SK Planet, Inc., the U.S. arm of one of South Korea's largest companies; was lead counsel for Ancestry, where he helped launch the AncestryDNA testing service worldwide; and worked for international law firms such as Pillsbury Winthrop and Jones Day, where he represented companies such as Apple, AT&T, and Chevron.

When he isn't facilitating deals for Blockdaemon, you will find Adam playing with his kids, teaching web3 legal issues to future lawyers, or learning to create Ethereum smart contracts.

Matt Enriquez

Matt Enriquez currently serves as Senior Corporate Counsel at DraftKings, Inc., where he is responsible for legal and regulatory advice concerning the company's web3 ventures. He is interested in exploring the ways in which web3/crypto intersects with highly regulated spaces such as gambling/sports betting and banking.

Frederic Dalibard

Fred Dalibard is Global Head of Blockchain at Groupe BPCE. Since 2015, Fred has occupied several roles related to innovation, blockchain, and ebusiness within Natixis's Corporate & Investment Banking division, part of Groupe BPCE. Fred represents Groupe BPCE/Natixis on the board of directors of R3 (since 2017) and was the chairman of the board of R3 between 2018 and 2021.

Fred was also a board director of Komgo from its creation in 2018 until mid-2022. After one year at Dexia Credit Local, Fred joined Natixis in 2002. Fred then occupied several positions, mostly in front office and quantitative roles, dealing with structured credit assets and also financing assets. Fred began his career in 1998 as a consultant with Arthur Andersen Management in Paris.

Jamie Finn

Jamie Finn is the co-founder and President of Securitize, Inc., the leading platform for issuing digital securities. Jamie has a background as both an operating entrepreneur and corporate executive, with more than 20 years' experience. Prior to Securitize, Jamie worked at Telefonica, o2, Ericsson, and more recently AT&T in Big Data Product Innovation, as well as startups including Kontera, A.Ki, Thumbplay, Zingy, and others in a variety of senior roles. He has participated in more than $700 million worth of transactions on the buy and sell side in tech M&A over the course of his career. Jamie earned a bachelor's degree in Business Management from Babson College.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Anthony Bassili

Anthony Bassili, CAIA, is Head of Asset Allocators for Coinbase Institutional Americas. In this role, he is responsible for advising North America's largest financial institutions on investment solutions related to digital assets, web3, and crypto strategies. His clients include government and corporate pension plans, consultants, multi-manager platforms, outsourced Chief Investment Officer platforms, foundation/endowments, and family offices.

Prior to joining Coinbase, Anthony served as Head of Pension for iShares. There he led BlackRock iShares' efforts in expanding the investor toolkit for allocators to include ETFs across public and private asset classes, including ESG and niche or thematic exposures. Prior to leading the iShares business, he spent more than a decade leading business development and investment strategy for the Global Trading and Transition Management platform at BlackRock.

From 2015 to 2020, Anthony also served as Chapter Head for the Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst ("CAIA") San Francisco Bay Area chapter, leading more than 400 CAIA members in connecting and pursuing financial literacy across alternative investment strategies. Over this period, he served, on behalf of BlackRock, on the board of directors for the Bay Area Council and the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce. He focused on local policy and tax issues across the State of California. He holds NASD series 3, series 7, series 63, and series 24 licenses.

Ehsan Haque

Ehsan Haque currently acts as General Counsel EMEA at Laser Digital , a Nomura Group company. He has over twenty years experience working as in-house counsel for a variety of institutions including top-tier investment banks, broker-dealers, and fintech startups. He has spent the last 10 years in leadership and senior leadership roles. After a career in advertising, Ehsan trained at Slaughter and May in London before working as a global markets/equities sales and trading lawyer for Deutsche Bank, RBS Global Banking and Markets, and Nomura, where he was part of the senior management team of the EMEA legal department and led the Equities legal product coverage in EMEA supporting Nomura's equities sales and trading businesses. More recently, Ehsan was the first General Counsel at Lendingblock, an institutional cryptocurrency borrowing and lending platform and General Counsel at Alphaswap, an alpha capture and investment management platform. He is ex-Global General Counsel at Hamilton Capital Holding Limited and ex-EMEA General Counsel at Amber Group. Ehsan also acts as an advisor to various fintech companies and accelerator programs. He is also active in mentoring junior BAME professionals in the legal and finance sectors.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Aniket Bhardwaj

Aniket Bhardwaj is the Global Crisis Management Lead and Vice President of Global Crisis Management & Cybersecurity Services at Charles River Associates, a leading global consulting firm that provides economic, financial, and strategic expertise to major law firms, corporations, accounting firms, and governments. Based in Toronto, Bhardwaj oversees Charles River Associates' Global Cybersecurity and Incident Response Investigations, Forensics Services practice, where he provides cyber intrusion investigations, crisis management, board advisory, large-scale digital transformation, and post-incident recovery services to clients worldwide in the financial services, private equity, and manufacturing sectors, to name a few.

With over 20 years of experience, Bhardwaj has a deep specialization in crisis management and response, helping organizations rapidly contain and recover from cyber incidents. He also advises on risk and resilience, ensuring that businesses not only recover but also fortify their defenses to withstand future threats. His expertise extends to cybersecurity and digital transformation, where he leads post-crisis engagements to help organizations rebuild and enhance their security posture by aligning technology, people, and processes to prevent recurrence, in addition to working with Private Equity clients within Mergers & Acquisitions Cyber Due Diligence.

In addition to his work in operational crisis management, Bhardwaj serves as a trusted Board-level advisor, helping leadership teams improve their cybersecurity preparedness and navigate increasingly complex regulatory environments. His experience spans threat intelligence, attack surface identification, security hygiene, and compromise discovery, positioning him as a recognized leader in cybersecurity.

Before joining Charles River Associates, Bhardwaj was a key leader in PwC's Global Cyber Threat Operations team across the Americas and the EU, where he led significant incident response and cybersecurity transformation projects. Aniket is a Boardroom-certified Qualified Technology Expert (QTE) from the Digital Directors Network. He holds multiple SANS certifications such as GRTP, GCIA, GREM, GCFA, and GNFA, along with a Master's degree in Security and Cryptography from Johns Hopkins University.

Brian Trunzo

As head of BD, North America at Polygon Labs, Brian is responsible for onboarding IP holders, large enterprises, developers and brands into the Polygon blockchain's ecosystem. Having started his professional career as a financial regulatory attorney at Cadwalader, he pivoted, becoming a leading voice in men's fashion which resulted in two successful exits within the luxury space. Upon those exits, Brian went on to lead WGSN, the authority in trend forecasting, in growing their North American consulting business. In leading up to his tenure at Polygon Labs, Brian built a metaverse consultancy to advise legacy brands on how to leverage their IP in the metaverse while heading up America's largest men's fashion trade show at Informa Markets.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Rory Clark

Based in Silicon Valley, Rory Clark is a Senior Vice President in Citi's Venture Banking group, which sits within Citi Commercial Bank. Between the United Kingdom and the United States, with roles spanning Corporate and Commercial Banking, Credit Risk, and Cash Management, Rory has been with Citi for more than 10 years.

As a Global Relationship Manager in the Venture Banking group, Rory is responsible for identifying, onboarding, managing, and enabling the growth of key tech disrupters, with a focus on fintech and SaaS. Rory identifies the current and future needs of his clients and works in tandem with product specialists from across the bank to design global solutions for his clients—spanning debt, FX, cash management, investment banking, capital markets, and wealth management.

In between his two stints with Citi, Rory also held a senior sales role at UK-based Ebury, a fast-growth fintech focused on cross-border payments and FX.

Christopher Grieco

Chris Grieco is the General Counsel of Rain, a fintech startup dedicated to helping Web3 teams use their digital assets in the real world. Previously, Grieco served as General Counsel at Fei Labs, a decentralized stablecoin project.

Before his work in DeFi, Grieco held several high-level positions within the Federal Government. His most recent public service culminated with a senior position at the Department of Justice, where he served as Associate Deputy Attorney General, advising the Deputy Attorney General and the Department on various technological issues. His work at the Department included helping draft the 2020 Google Antitrust complaint and leading the Department's review of Section 230, among other tech issues. He also served as Associate White House Counsel in the White House Counsel's Office where he led the confirmation of multiple federal judges including Justice Neil Gorsuch, and as a federal prosecutor in the Eastern District of Virginia. Prior to his time in the executive branch, he served on Capitol Hill where he led multiple high-profile investigations as Counsel for the Judiciary Committee. Grieco clerked for Judge Edith Clement on the Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and graduated from Stanford Law School.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Maximillian Jungreis

Maximillian Jungreis is the Head of Crypto and Digital Assets at Plug and Play Tech Center, the world's largest early-stage investor, accelerator, and corporate innovation platform. Maximillian works with more than 560 global corporate partners from financial services, brand and retail, and supply chain to accelerate their web3 adoption journeys by leveraging Plug and Play's innovation ecosystem of over 50,000 startups across 46 cities.

Maximillian Jungreis has more than seven years of experience in crypto as an operator, researcher, and investor. Prior to leading Plug and Play Crypto, Max spent two years at Stanford University as a founding member of the Future of Digital Currency Initiative, a multidisciplinary research effort focused on CBDCs (central bank digital currencies). Before that, he served as Head of Partnerships for Blockchain Labs (fka YosemiteX), one of Korea's largest blockchain companies, which today services more than 25 million users through their front-facing application, Coov.

Miko Matsumura

is Managing Partner at gCC (gumi Cryptos Capital), a Silicon Valley venture fund investing at the earliest stages in infrastructure and developer platforms. The fund's early investments include category-defining companies such as OpenSea, Yield Guild Games, and 1inch Network. Miko has spent his career building and scaling developer ecosystems. He was an early advocate for open source software as Chief Developer Evangelist for the Java platform at Sun Microsystems, where he helped grow the developer community from thousands to millions globally. He has since built and scaled multiple venture-backed companies in Silicon Valley, raising over $50 million for developer platforms such as Gradle and infrastructure companies like Hazelcast. Miko holds a Master's degree in Neuroscience from Yale University, where he worked on computational neural networks — an early foundation for his interest in complex systems and scalable architectures.

Ben Hoxie

Ben Hoxie serves as a venture analyst on the Vectr Fintech Partners team. As an analyst, Ben works on deal sourcing, investment due diligence, market research, and financial analysis. Prior to joining Vectr, Ben served as a product management intern at Fidelity Labs in Boston, where he worked on multiple startup teams to help them design and develop innovative fintech products. Ben graduated from Dartmouth College with a Master of Engineering Management and a Bachelor of Engineering. Ben also graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Physics and a minor in Economics from Bowdoin College.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Leann Pinto

Leann Pinto is a global leader in IP strategy, dealmaking, corporate development and the application of AI and distributed ledger technology to intangible assets. Her experience spans pharma to tech, and start-ups to large corporations. Leann successfully litigated blockbuster drug patent cases, and most recently acted as the top three decision-maker in IBM's IP business group and launched an AI-driven blockchain-based platform for financial management of IP assets as the CEO of IPwe. She is a visionary yet pragmatic leader, hands-on collaborator and strategic business advisor. Leann has been consistently recognized as a top IP strategist worldwide, having spoken at WIPO and the USPTO on intangible asset finance and IP tokenization. Leann is currently focused on developments of data and AI as new classes of IP assets for monetization, as well as the expanding use of trade secrets in IP portfolio strategy.

Leann's undergraduate degree is from the University of Toledo College of Pharmacy and holds a Juris Doctor from Seton Hall Law School, both magna cum laude.

Ali Rod Khadem

Ali Rod advises web3/blockchain startups and funds on strategy, partnerships, fundraising, deal-sourcing, and legal/compliance. He works across sectors, including defi, gaming, municipal and industrial metaverse, and tokenization of real-world assets. Outside of his advisory roles, he is a professor and published author, and has 20+ years of experience as a lawyer and investment banker. He's held senior roles at Macquarie Capital and Westport Innovations, and began his career at Idealab, DLA Piper, and Linklaters. He holds a PhD from Harvard University and a JD from UC Berkeley. He's lived in 8 countries and 4 continents, and has working knowledge of Mandarin Chinese, Arabic, Farsi, and French. He's been responsible for project portfolios in multiple sectors across North America, the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and Australia. Much of his experience has involved international strategy and contract negotiations, especially in scenarios involving cultural or political sensitivities.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Olaf Ammermann

Olaf Ammermann started his finance career at Goldman Sachs working in a variety of equity volatility trading and multi-asset structuring roles in London and Hong Kong. He then moved to Toronto where he implemented a trading risk framework at Bank of Montreal and later joined TD Bank as a senior structured products and equity volatility trader.

After 15 years working in traditional finance roles, Olaf transitioned to the digital asset space initially as a business analyst and quant trader at Nomisma where he designed and implemented crypto derivatives trading platforms. In parallel Olaf setup a Crypto option trading venture, running electronic market making strategies on centralised crypto derivatives platforms.

Nomisma became part of Amber Group in 2021 and Olaf took on the role of Managing Director for the UK & Europe. Olaf is now the Managing Director of Islington Consultants and helps and advises Start-Up and established companies in the FinTech, Capital Markets and Digit Asset space on strategy, developing new businesses and how to navigate the trading and regulatory world of Digital Assets.

Olaf has developed a deep knowledge of financial markets, derivatives trading, trading platforms & exchanges, business development and the associated regulation, risk and compliance aspects. He holds a Masters Degree from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Joint Program in Electrical Engineering & Business Administration.

Larry Wang

Larry Wang is a fintech and digital assets leader at Anchorage Digital, where he oversees the institutional custody business and drives strategy and execution across key growth initiatives. Prior to Anchorage, he worked in startup banking at Silicon Valley Bank, supporting companies across the innovation economy, and in investment banking at Goldman Sachs. He is also Co-President of the Haas Blockchain Club, where he leads industry engagement and programming across crypto, fintech, AI, and the future of finance.

Michael Bijesse

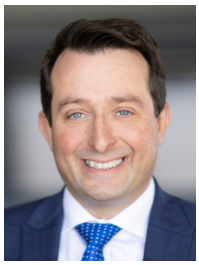
Michael Bijesse has been at the forefront of crypto and digital assets. While at Lukka, Michael led several pioneering projects in the crypto SaaS and DaaS space. He played a key role in building the sales team that increased revenue by 550%, which contributed to a Series E investment round of $110 million, valuing the company at more than $1.3 billion. At Amazon, he managed cross-departmental sales projects. Driving revenue has been a consistent focus throughout his 10+ year career. As U.S. Director for Crystal Blockchain, he led the go-to-market strategy for their AML tool and worked closely with U.S. government agencies to address pig butchering scams. Most recently, as head of West Coast digital assets for Houlihan Capital, he focused on valuations and SPACs. Michael started his career in financial media at Euromoney Institutional Investor. He is currently pursuing his MBA at the Haas School of Business at Berkeley.

FINACCELERATE INFLUENCERS

Stephen Moskowitz

Stephen Moskowitz is the Founder & CEO of Pyxis Search Partners, a domain specialist recruiting agency that focuses on both technical and non technical search for high growth emerging technology companies. Prior to founding Pyxis Search, Mr. Moskowitz was the Co-Founder and Chief Operating Officer of Pyxis Capital Management, a cryptoasset venture hybrid fund backed by prominent investors, including ParaFi Capital. Prior to co-founding Pyxis Capital, Mr. Moskowitz was a Managing Director at a $100 million AUM+ single family office that was an early investor in the crypto space. Mr. Moskowitz has also served as an Advisor for ParaFi Capital and is currently an Advisor to Blockchain Founders Fund. Mr. Moskowitz received a BA and JD from Emory University (Boisfeuillet Jones Scholar), and an MBA in finance from The New York University Leonard N. Stern School of Business.

JONES DAY SPEAKERS



ABRADAT KAMALPOUR
Partner

Financial Markets

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Abradat Kamalpour has extensive experience in fintech, blockchain structured finance, and debt capital markets. He has been at the forefront of using blockchain-based technologies and cryptocurrencies on various transactions, including building out blockchain-based exchanges, tokenization platforms, and digital asset issuances, as well as the creation and legal build-out of cryptocurrencies, crypto-based payment systems, and related app offerings, which includes acting for a multibillion-dollar-backed private equity group on an international crypto exchange and cryptocurrency offering that will be made available across various international markets. Abradat is the Architect of the Jones Day FinAccelerate program, which was named by the *The National Law Journal* in its 2023 list of Legal Technology Trailblazers.

Abradat has acted on and structured numerous complex structured financing transactions and market leading financings for global financial institutions, including Merrill Lynch, J.P. Morgan, Fortress, Deutsche Bank, Credit Suisse, Nomura, and Goldman Sachs.

Abradat has written extensively on fintech-related legal matters, including articles on cryptocurrencies and digital assets for the Talking Legal section of *CityAM* (a leading London financial newspaper). Abradat was also the founder and architect of a fintech accelerator program for another international law firm in London.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

Who's Who Legal Thought Leaders: Fintech & Blockchain (2021–2024)

Winner of Best FinTech lawyer and law firm: London FinTech & Sukuk Summit

Best Lawyers: recognized for banking and finance law (2017–2024)

EDUCATION

University of Cambridge (Executive Education Program in Corporate Governance 2013); Monash University (LL.B. Hons. 1997); RMIT University (B.A.S. in Construction Management Hons. 1994)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California and Solicitor of the Senior Courts of England and Wales

LANGUAGES

Farsi

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

DEAN C. BACHUS
Partner

- Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation
- Tax
- Energy Transition & Infrastructure

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For more than 20 years, Dean Bachus has focused his practice on executive compensation, benefits, and Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) transactional matters. His experience covers tax planning and structuring compensation and benefit arrangements in domestic and international business acquisitions and dispositions. He also advises clients in connection with all compensation and employee benefit-related aspects of corporate transactions, reorganizations, financing arrangements, and public offerings, including negotiating, reviewing, and drafting transactional documents, supervising due diligence, and identifying issues arising under, and assisting in complying with, the Internal Revenue Code, ERISA, applicable labor laws, federal securities laws, and applicable exchange regulations.

Dean's practice includes designing, negotiating, and drafting equity-based compensation plans (including stock option, restricted stock, and phantom equity arrangements); cash bonus plans; employment, consulting, termination, severance, and change-in-control contracts; and restrictive covenant agreements, including noncompetition, nonsolicitation, and confidentiality arrangements.

Dean also advises clients on the structure, implementation, and administration of nonqualified employee compensation plans, programs, and arrangements, including the associated ERISA, federal tax, and securities implications. He also provides counsel to management teams and boards of directors on executive compensation and change-in-control arrangements in connection with corporate transactions and reorganizations and consults with shareholders, senior executives, and boards of directors on transactional strategies.

Dean has represented major private equity funds and publicly traded companies in hundreds of acquisitions and dispositions, focusing on benefit and compensation issues that arise in such transactions, as well as the design and maintenance of incentive programs and facilitating management turnover.

EDUCATION

The University of Chicago (J.D. 2004); Western Illinois University (M.A. in Cello Performance & Pedagogy 1997); University of Iowa (B.A. in Mathematics 1995; B.M. in Cello Performance with high distinction and honors in Music 1995)

BAR & COURT ADMISSIONS

Illinois

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

"Rising Star," Illinois Super Lawyers (2013 and 2014)

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

JENNIFER D. BENNETT
Partner

Intellectual Property

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Jennifer Bennett advises global technology companies in high-stakes, fast-paced complex litigation involving patents, trademarks, trade secrets, and copyrights. She has a significant track record in jury trials and as the managing lawyer in infringement cases in U.S. District Courts in California, Delaware, and Texas as well as in cases before the United States International Trade Commission (USITC). Jennifer's practice focuses on biopharmaceuticals, medical devices, machine learning, electronics, telecommunications, LED technology, plants, and software applications.

Prior to joining Jones Day in 2022, Jennifer obtained successful outcomes for clients in many cases, including a six-patent case pertaining to optical networking involving wavelength selective switches (WSS) and reconfigurable optical add-drop multiplexer (ROADM) line cards; a multinational consumer electronics company in a patent infringement case involving sophisticated controllers used in video game consoles and equipment for managing motion detection and control systems; patent infringement litigation involving a plant patent on a table grape variety; trade secret litigation involving insurance claim adjudication; patent infringement litigation between competitor medical device companies involving minimally invasive biopsy products; and patent infringement litigation involving information encryption technology.

Jennifer has written and spoken extensively on patent infringement-related topics.

EDUCATION

Santa Clara University (J.D. 2004);
University of Southern California
(B.S. in Biological Sciences 2000)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, and registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

LANGUAGES

Spanish

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

KATHERINE J. BLAIR
Partner

- Financial Markets
- ESG (Environmental, Social & Governance)
- Technology

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Katherine Blair is skilled in representing companies, entrepreneurs, investment banks, and investors in public and private corporate transactions. Katherine helps clients navigate the complex corporate, securities, and governance landscape so that they can successfully achieve their operational and liquidity goals. She has worked in a range of industries, including financial services, REITs (real estate investment trusts), consumer goods, technology, foreign manufacturing, and biotechnology.

Katherine has extensive experience in corporate and capital market transactions, including seed financing and venture capital; convertible debt; private placements; M&A; initial public offerings (IPOs); Regulation A+, follow-on secondary issuer, stockholder resale, and at-the-market and registered direct offerings; reverse mergers; private investment in public equity (PIPE) transactions; tender offers; going-private transactions; and trust preferred, debt, and preferred stock offerings.

Katherine also regularly works with companies on day-to-day corporate matters and counsels boards of directors on corporate governance compliance, implementation of policies and charters, preparation and review of Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) reports, proxy statements, and stockholder proposals and proxy contests. With her deep knowledge of securities laws, she advises clients on navigating state and federal regulatory matters with the SEC, FINRA (Financial Industry Regulatory Authority), NYSE (New York Stock Exchange), NYSE American, and Nasdaq.

Katherine frequently speaks on securities and corporate law topics, including capital raising trends and strategies. She serves on the board of governors of the USC Institute for Corporate Counsel, previously having served as co-chair, and is the former chair of the Business Law Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association. Katherine previously served on the board of directors of Impac Mortgage Holdings and Skechers, U.S.A., a *Fortune* 500 company.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

Los Angeles Business Journal, "Leaders of Influence: Banking and Finance 2025"

The Best Lawyers in America, Lawyer of the Year (2027), Securities/Capital Markets (2023–2027)

L.A. Business First, "Women of Influence" (2025)

Pasadena Top Attorneys, *Pasadena Magazine* (2023–2025)

2020 Corporate and Securities Lawyer of the Year, Century City Bar Association

EDUCATION

Pepperdine University (J.D. cum laude 1994); University of California, San Diego (B.A. 1991)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

AMIE COLWELL BRESLOW
Of Counsel

Tax

Washington
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Amie Colwell Breslow practices across a broad range of U.S. federal tax matters, including cross-border mergers, acquisitions, spin-offs, and other divisive strategies and restructurings, and certain specialized tax issues, such as excise taxes and blockchain and digital assets including conducting digital currency transactions and conversions, token offerings, and different investment and entity structures. She has extensive experience working with large multinational companies on managing and executing complex, multi-step reorganizations and divestures, developing workable policies at an industry-wide level in response to global economic policy initiatives, and changes in foreign tax and corporate law. As a former in-house tax counsel and government attorney, Amie blends substantive tax knowledge with an understanding of corporate objectives and first-hand insights on the guidance and publications process.

Prior to joining Jones Day, Amie was a Senior Tax Counsel at General Electric. Prior to joining GE, she served in the Office Associate Chief Counsel (Corporate), where she worked on published guidance, controversy matters, private letter rulings, and tax policy matters concerning corporate and international tax transactions and issues.

Amie is an American College of Tax Counsel Fellow and a member of the Tax Coalition, ABA Section of Tax (Corporate [officer] and Foreign Activities of U.S. Taxpayers [FAUST] [chair 2021-2023, vice chair 2019-2021] Committees), and International Fiscal Association (IFA). She is a frequent speaker at the ABA, IBA, IFA, GW/IRS Conference, DC Bar, Federal Bar, International Tax Institute, and TEI on a multitude of transaction topics including cross-border 304 transactions, tax-free and taxable M&A transactions, and digital currency.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

International Fiscal Association (IFA), Women in IFA Network (WIN)

ABA Tax Section — Foreign Activities of U.S. Taxpayers: Chair (2021 to 2023) and Vice Chair (2019 to 2021)

PepsiCo Chairman's Award — 2005

Fellow, American College of Tax Counsel

EDUCATION

American University (Certificate of Legal Studies in Anti-Corruption Law 2018); Brooklyn Law School (J.D. 1998); Syracuse University (B.S. in Accounting 1995)

BAR ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia and New York

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Attorney-Advisor, Office of Associate Chief Counsel (Corporate), Internal Revenue Service (2009–2015)

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

A. PATRICIA CAMPBELL, PH.D
Partner

- Intellectual Property
- Health Care & Life Sciences

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As a former associate professor of medicinal chemistry at the University of Washington, along with her more than 15 years of patent experience, Patricia Campbell provides impactful counseling to clients in all aspects of patent portfolio development in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology sectors, including small molecule pharmaceuticals, antibodies and antibody-drug conjugates, antisense oligonucleotides, diagnostics, enzyme replacements, and machine learning/in silico screening methods for drug identification and development. She has prosecuted some of the most valuable patent portfolios covering approved products from several of the world's premier biotechnology/pharmaceutical companies, including BRINEURA®, EXONDYS 51®, FIRDAPSE®, IDHIFA®, ISTODAX®, KUVAN®, OXBRYTA®, PALYNZIQ®, POMALYST®, REVLIMID®, TALZENNA®, TYZEKA®, VANFLYTA®, VENCLEXTA®, XYREM®, and XYWAV®.

In addition to patent procurement and portfolio management, Patricia advises clients regarding patentability, patent term extensions, Orange Book listing, validity, infringement, and freedom-to-operate issues and performs due diligence evaluations of patent portfolios for possible investment, licensing, or acquisition. She also has experience with inter partes review proceedings and oppositions before the European Patent Office. Her representative life sciences clients include AbbVie, BioMarin Pharmaceutical, Bristol Myers Squibb, Daiichi Sankyo, Genentech, Merck, NGM Biopharmaceuticals, Jazz Pharmaceuticals, and Takeda, as well as other start-up companies, established companies, academic institutions, and investment firms.

During her time as a tenured associate professor in the Department of Medicinal Chemistry at the University of Washington, Patricia served as principal investigator on research projects funded by the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Defense. Her research programs included structure-based drug design and mechanistic studies of drug-drug interactions.

Patricia is a member of the American Bar Association and the American Intellectual Property Law Association.

EDUCATION

University of Washington (Seattle) (J.D. 2007); Protein Engineering Network of Centres of Excellence (Edmonton) (Postdoctoral Fellow, 1993-1997); Scripps Research Institute, Department of Molecular Biology (La Jolla, California) (Postdoctoral Fellow, 1992-1993); University of Alberta (Edmonton, Canada) (Ph.D. in Biochemistry 1992); University of British Columbia (Vancouver, Canada) (B.Sc. in Biochemistry and Chemistry with honors 1984)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California, and registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

LANGUAGES

French

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

TIMOTHY CURRY
Partner

- Financial Markets
- M&A
- Technology
- Private Equity
- Venture Capital & Emerging Companies

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Tim Curry has represented start-up, emerging growth, and public technology companies in public offerings, venture capital (VC) and growth equity financings, and mergers and acquisitions for more than 30 years. He also represents leading VC firms in growth equity financings, as well as investment banks in public equity offerings. He regularly advises boards of directors and executive teams in complex corporate governance and public reporting matters.

Tim represents a broad range of technology companies at all growth stages, including Five9 (Nasdaq), a leading provider of cloud-based contact center solutions; Monolithic Power Systems (Nasdaq), a leading provider of power management solutions; Medallion Arts, a blockchain platform connecting music artists and their fans; Minted, a crowd-sourced design company; OneStream, a leading provider of corporate performance management software and KKR portfolio company; Pattern, a leading e-commerce accelerator; Electric Era, a provider of electric vehicle charging systems; Hims&Hers (Nasdaq), a leading health and wellness company; and Forum Mobility, a provider of electric trucking solutions. He also represents VC funds, growth equity funds, strategic investors, and investment banks, including GreatPoint Ventures, Raine Group, KKR, and Koch Disruptive Technologies.

Tim has served on the board of directors of Special Olympics, Northern California for more than 10 years and was chair of the board from 2020 through 2023. He has spoken at business and legal conferences on initial public offerings (IPOs), venture capital, and corporate governance and has been quoted in *The Wall Street Journal* and other publications regarding IPOs and Silicon Valley.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

The Best Lawyers in America (2016—2027)

Northern California Super Lawyers (2012—2013)

Named a leading partner in the field by *The Legal 500* (2025-2026)

Director and Member of Executive Committee, Special Olympics Northern California

EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles (J.D. 1990); University of California, Berkeley (B.A. in Political Economy with honors 1987)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Securities and Exchange Commission, one of only two UCLA law students chosen for SEC externship program (Spring 1989)

LORI HELLKAMP
Partner

Tax

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Lori Hellkamp provides creative solutions to complex tax issues by taking a practical approach to problem solving. Her practice spans a broad range of areas, including corporate and international tax, M&A, and tax controversy. Lori's practice has a particular emphasis on international tax planning, counseling, and compliance as well as tax-efficient structuring for cross-border transactions and investments. Lori has extensive experience helping clients address issues arising from foreign (inbound) investments into the United States and in the fintech sector. She also regularly advises clients on tax and structuring issues related to digital assets.

Lori has counseled public and private companies facing a wide variety of multijurisdictional tax issues, both internally and before the Internal Revenue Service. She has helped clients obtain favorable private letter rulings and advance pricing agreements, resolve disputes at Appeals and in Competent Authority proceedings, and navigate complex tax treaty, transfer pricing, withholding, FIRPTA (Foreign Investment in Real Property Tax Act), anti-boycott, and other international tax issues.

Lori is a board member of the George Washington University-IRS International Annual Tax Institute, an adjunct professor of international taxation at American University, and the former chair of the ABA Tax Section's Committee on Foreign and U.S. Taxation. She frequently speaks and publishes articles on various international and corporate tax topics. Lori also is a member of the ABA's task force on cryptocurrency, a coauthor of the book *Blockchain for Business Lawyers*, and the hiring partner for the Washington Office of Jones Day.

EDUCATION

Georgetown University (LL.M. in Taxation 2011); Duke University (J.D. 2008); University of Oxford (M.Phil. 2005); Rice University (B.A. magna cum laude 2002)

BAR ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia, New York, and U.S. Tax Court

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Legal Externship, Overseas Private Investment Corporation (2008)

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

KELSEY A. ISRAEL-TRUMMEL
Partner

Labor & Employment

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Kelsey Israel-Trummel has more than a decade of experience representing employers in labor and employment matters, including wage and hour, discrimination, and wrongful termination cases. She has developed particular experience in complex wage and hour class actions and representative lawsuits filed under California's Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA) statute. She regularly practices in state and federal courts at both the trial court and appellate levels. She also represents clients in agency proceedings, including before the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) and Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). In addition, Kelsey counsels corporate employers on a variety of employment issues, including wage and hour policies, employee handbooks, investigations, and best uses of workplace technologies.

Kelsey's experience includes successful dispositive motions at the pleading and summary judgment phases, a track record of avoiding or significantly limiting the scope of class claims, and appellate wins. She was a key team member in one of the first PAGA cases to go trial in California. Recent engagements include: winning a published decision from the California Court of Appeal on novel regular rate issues; obtaining dismissal of a statewide PAGA claim alleging work-from-home expenses related to COVID; securing judgment in an alleged joint-employer's favor in a wage and hour class and PAGA action; securing and enforcing an arbitration award forcing a union to withdraw a statewide ballot initiative limiting hospital executive compensation; and representing several hospitals in challenges to union-backed municipal initiatives seeking to cap the compensation health care providers may receive from insurers.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

Named as a *Legal 500* "Rising Star" in 2019 and 2020

Named a *Law360* "Rising Star" in 2023

EDUCATION

Harvard University (J.D. cum laude 2011); Rice University (B.A. magna cum laude 2007)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California

CLERKSHIPS

Law Clerk to: Judge Michael Chagares, U.S. Court of Appeals, Third Circuit (2012–2013) and Judge William B. Shubb, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California (2011–2012)

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

PETER A. JULIAN
Partner

- Antitrust & Competition Law
- Technology
- Energy Transition & Infrastructure

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Peter Julian represents clients across a range of industries in complex antitrust law matters. His global practice includes representing companies in M&A transactions, civil and criminal government investigations, and private antitrust litigation. Peter represents clients before antitrust authorities in the United States, the European Union, and across the world.

He has extensive experience advising clients on a broad range of antitrust issues, including merger clearance, competitor collaborations, pricing strategies, and managing antitrust risk in daily business activities. He also has deep experience counseling clients on antitrust compliance.

Peter also defends clients in complex antitrust class action litigation, including briefing and motion practice, pretrial discovery, and trial preparation in federal and state forums.

Peter has extensive experience across a range of industries and has developed particular experience working with technology companies. He has worked with clients in the digital economy, semiconductors, social media, life sciences, health care, manufacturing, chemicals, energy, and other industries.

Peter also maintains an active pro bono practice, with particular focus on immigration issues.

EDUCATION

Northwestern University (J.D. with honors 2010; Order of the Coif; Managing Editor, Northwestern University Law Review; Searle Center Fellow, Northwestern Law Scholars Program); University of New Mexico (B.S. in Pure Mathematics with honors 2001; Kappa Mu Epsilon)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California

CLERKSHIPS

Law Clerk to Judge James O. Browning, U.S. District Court, District of New Mexico (2010-2011) and legal extern to Magistrate Judge Sidney Schenkier, U.S. District Court, Northern District of Illinois (Spring 2009)

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

CARL A. KUKKONEN III
Partner

- Intellectual Property
- Technology

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Carl Kukkonen is a recognized authority on intellectual property and a veteran advisor to the global artificial intelligence (AI) industry. With more than 25 years of experience, he partners with high-growth companies to build formidable, litigation-ready patent portfolios while mitigating exposure through sophisticated invalidity and freedom-to-operate analyses. Carl strategically guides complex litigation and *inter partes* review (IPR) petitions and provides mission-critical IP and AI due diligence for M&A and financing transactions to minimize systemic risk.

Carl's expansive AI practice encompasses the full technical stack, from machine learning and natural language processing to computer vision and agentic systems. He provides strategic counsel on the acquisition of training data, proprietary model protection, and the evolving IP ownership landscape of AI-assisted innovation, alongside generative AI governance. Beyond these core areas, Carl continues to shape intellectual property strategy across the broader high-technology and energy sectors. His deep technical fluency covers semiconductors, telecommunications, and blockchain, as well as the critical technologies powering the energy transition, from battery storage and fuel cells to utility-scale distribution and clean energy systems.

In the medical device and life sciences fields, Carl brings deep experience to protecting mechanical and electro-mechanical medication delivery systems — particularly infusion pumps and injectors — as well as next-generation surgical technologies and medical robotics. By bridging the gap between complex hardware and digital health software, he secures robust global protection for connected ecosystems, sensor integration, wireless health care, and advanced patient monitoring devices. He also drives value for data-intensive breakthroughs such as *in silico* drug discovery and computational biology.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

IAM Strategy 300: World's Leading IP Strategists (2022–2027)

IAM Strategy 300 Global Leaders (2024–2026)

The Best Lawyers in America: patent law, copyright law, and intellectual property litigation (2018–2027)

Southern California Super Lawyers (2015–2021), including named among the Top 50 Attorneys in San Diego four times

Twice named among Top 25 Portfolio Managers / Patent Prosecutors in California, *Daily Journal*

EDUCATION

The George Washington University (J.D. with honors 1998); Harvey Mudd College (B.S. in Engineering 1995)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California and registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

CLERKSHIPS

Legal extern to Judge Randall R. Rader, U.S. Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit (Fall 1997)

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Legal extern to Senator Joseph R. Biden Jr., U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary (Fall 1996)

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

KA-ON LI
Partner

- Intellectual Property
- Technology
- Health Care & Life Sciences
- Venture Capital & Emerging Companies
- Energy Transition & Infrastructure

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Ka-on Li is the co-leader of Jones Day's IP Transactions team. She works closely with clients to successfully structure and execute IP, technology, and commercial transactions to achieve high-stakes business objectives. She is an experienced IP and technology lawyer whose practice focuses on transactions for clients active in the technology, life sciences, data, food and beverage, retail, financial, apparel, consumer, telecommunications, media, and entertainment fields. Ka-on drafts and negotiates contracts involving R&D (research and development), collaborations, outsourcing, licensing and commercialization, manufacturing and distribution transactions, software and cloud-related matters, and infrastructure projects. She also advises clients on IP compliance issues, including those arising from the use of open source, AI (artificial intelligence), and big data.

Ka-on has solid experience in assisting emerging and established businesses in U.S. and overseas markets. She has represented software and life science companies at all stages, from formation to exit. She has drafted and negotiated some of the most significant collaborations and strategic agreements and alliances between industry entrepreneurs, service providers, acquirers, and investors. Much of her experience involves working on deals involving the commercialization of products driven by the convergence of multiple technologies, such as digital health, fintech, and AI-driven platforms.

She has acted for clients on a full range of M&A, private equity, and financing transactions involving domestic and foreign IP and technology assets on the buy-side and the sell-side.

Ka-on's deep and diverse experience, including her secondment at Australia's largest telecommunications provider, enables her to bring a pragmatic, business-oriented and collaborative approach to her work and negotiations.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

Named "Leading Partner," Patents: Licensing, *Legal 500* (2024 and 2025)

Named "Top Intellectual Property Lawyer in California," *Daily Journal* (2024)

Named in "Top Women Lawyers in California" list, Daily Journal (2020)

"Top 40 under 40" honoree, *Daily Journal* (2020)

Named in "Women of Influence" list, *Silicon Valley Business Journal* (2020)

"Rising Star" in technology, *Law360* (2019)

"40 under 40" honoree, *Silicon Valley Business Journal* (2019)

EDUCATION

University of Sydney (LL.B. Hons. 2006; B.A. in Modern History and Sociology 2004); University of California, Los Angeles (Exchange program/study abroad, 2003–2004; Dean's Honors List)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California

CLERKSHIPS

Law Clerk to the Honorable Justice George Alfred Palmer, Equity Division, Supreme Court of New South Wales (2006–2008)

LANGUAGES

English (native) and fluent in spoken Cantonese

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

JERRY C. LING
Partner

- Cybersecurity, Privacy & Data Protection
- Business & Tort Litigation
- Investigations & White Collar Defense

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Jerry Ling brings more than two decades of experience guiding public companies and tech startups in the United States, Asia-Pacific, and China through high-stakes matters, including cyber incidents, internal investigations, regulatory enforcement, and complex litigation.

Trusted by boards and executive teams, he leads responses to global regulatory investigations, ransomware and nation-state intrusions, whistleblower crises, and cross-border disputes. Jerry has represented multiple companies in securing government declinations after voluntary disclosures involving the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), the False Claims Act (FCA), and inadequate cybersecurity resilience.

Today, Jerry frequently counsels GenAI and data-driven innovators on navigating evolving global regulations. He delivers pragmatic, risk-appropriate solutions grounded in a deep understanding of GenAI and emerging technologies and the accompanying regulatory, cybersecurity and litigation risks.

Jerry regularly provides pro bono services to asylum applicants escaping violence in Central America and domestic abuse victims in the Bay Area.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

The Legal 500 Asia Pacific — top-tier recommendation: China: dispute resolution

Chambers Asia-Pacific — recognized in the area of corporate investigation, where he attracts plaudits from numerous sources, with one revealing that "he's thorough, he's practical, he's a very good investigator, and he's client-centric," while another simply says, "I think he's fantastic"

EDUCATION

Harvard University (J.D. magna cum laude 2003); Dartmouth College (A.B. in Biology magna cum laude 2000)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California; Hawaii; U.S. District Courts for the Central, Eastern, Northern, and Southern Districts of California and District of Hawaii; and U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

CLERKSHIPS

Law Clerk to the Honorable Richard R. Clifton, United States Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit (2003–2004)

LANGUAGES

Mandarin

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

BRIAN D. MCDONALD
Partner

- Insurance Recovery
- Business & Tort Litigation
- Cybersecurity, Privacy & Data Protection

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Brian McDonald is a *Chambers*-ranked insurance coverage lawyer who has represented policyholders in major coverage disputes for more than 20 years. He has helped clients secure hundreds of millions of dollars in insurance recoveries for extraordinary losses. He represents policyholders in litigation and negotiations of insurance claims with a focus on cyber liability and directors and officers (D&O) liability.

Brian has counseled policyholders on a wide variety of cyber insurance matters, including defense of privacy breach claims and class action litigation for disclosure of personally identifiable information and confidential business information; internal data breach investigations; notification and mitigation costs resulting from data breaches; defense of regulatory proceedings related to data breaches and system interruptions; costs to remediate and restore lost data and damaged computer systems; ransomware and extortion demands; and lost business profits and extra expense resulting from cyber incidents.

Brian has also advised policyholder clients regarding insurance for D&O liability, including claims for defense of state and federal securities class actions; shareholder derivative demand investigations; state and federal derivative actions; internal company investigations; interviews by state and federal government regulatory agencies; and governmental investigations and litigation proceedings.

Brian also advises clients on the design, negotiation, and purchase of corporate insurance programs.

Brian is the administrative partner for the San Francisco Office.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

Recognized by *Chambers USA* as a leading insurance coverage lawyer for policyholders

Recognized in *The Best Lawyers in America* for insurance law

EDUCATION

University of California Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law (J.D. 2002; Managing Editor, California Law Review; Articles Editor, Berkeley Technology Law Review); Georgetown University (B.S. in Foreign Service, summa cum laude, 1999)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California; U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit; U.S. District Courts for the Northern, Eastern, Central, and Southern Districts of California; and U.S. Court of Federal Claims

CLERKSHIPS

Law Clerk to the Honorable Margaret Morrow, U.S. District Court, Central District of California (2002–2003)

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

NICHOLAS J. PODSIADLY
Partner

Financial Markets

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Nick Podsiadly has more than 20 years of experience working on behalf of government legislators, regulatory agencies, and large banking institutions to ensure compliance with relevant bank laws and regulations.

Nick has held several high-level positions with financial services companies, most recently as chief government affairs officer and senior deputy general counsel for Fifth Third Bancorp (the parent company of Fifth Third Bank, which has more than $200 billion in assets) in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he advised senior bank executives on regulatory strategy, public policy, and global government affairs and developed policy solutions for advocacy before federal, state, local, and foreign governments.

Nick also served as general counsel and chief legal officer at the FDIC (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation), where he managed the office of the general counsel and six nationwide regional offices consisting of nearly 500 lawyers and support staff responsible for all legal matters affecting the United States government corporation that insures deposits in the American banking system, examines and supervises financial institutions, and manages receiverships when banks fail. He represented the FDIC before federal and state courts, Congress, the White House, as well as before financial institutions, trade associations, industry conferences, and the media.

In addition, Nick was senior vice president for regulatory policy at Regions Financial Corporation, a $125 billion financial services company headquartered in Birmingham, Alabama, and one of the nation's largest full-service providers of consumer and commercial banking, wealth management, mortgage, and insurance products and services, and vice president and senior counsel, office of legislative affairs and chief counsel at the American Bankers Association in Washington, D.C.

EDUCATION

Drake University (J.D. 2004); Iowa State University (B.A. in Political Science, with a minor in Criminal Justice Studies, December 2000)

BAR ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia and Iowa

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

General Counsel and Chief Legal Officer, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (2019–2022); served with the United States Senate (2005–2013) in the following positions: Counsel, Committee on the Judiciary; Staff Director, Caucus on International Narcotics Control; Investigative Counsel, Committee on Finance; and holds Top Secret, Sensitive Compartmented Information (TS/SCI) Security Clearance (inactive but eligible for reinstatement)

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

LAURA S. PRUITT
Partner

Financial Markets

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Laura Pruitt's breadth of experience, including more than six years of service with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), gives her an in-depth perspective into financial regulatory law. She counsels on securities law and market regulation issues, with particular emphasis on broker-dealer registration and compliance, alternative trading systems (ATSs) and equity trading, derivatives, investment adviser regulation, and transfer agents, data privacy, and anti-money laundering rules.

Laura regularly helps clients determine if they should be registered as broker-dealers and assists in registering broker-dealers with the SEC, self-regulatory organizations (SROs), and the Financial Institution Regulatory Authority (FINRA) and with obtaining approvals for changes of control and changes to business operations. She advises on compliance with Regulations NMS, SHO, and S-P, as well as SRO trading rules; advises on M&A transactions involving regulated entities; represents ATSs with required filings and issues arising under Regulation ATS; and counsels investment advisers and transfer agents on regulatory issues. She also represents clients in connection with regulatory examinations and enforcement actions.

During her tenure at the SEC, Laura worked on numerous rulemaking initiatives and interpretations, including those concerning electronic delivery of required disclosure documents, ATSs, the penny stock rules, options disclosure documents, Exchange Act Rule 14a-8, OTC derivatives dealers, rules implementing the provisions of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, soft dollars under Exchange Act Section 28(e), and finders-related issues.

At the start of her career as a litigator in New York, Laura represented financial firms in securities class actions and hostile takeovers and represented clients in antitrust matters, among others.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

Recognized as a top practitioner in *Chambers USA* since 2010 for financial services regulation: broker dealer (compliance) — nationwide category

The Best Lawyers in America — securities/capital markets law (2018)

EDUCATION

Columbia University (J.D. 1987); Harvard University (A.B. 1984)

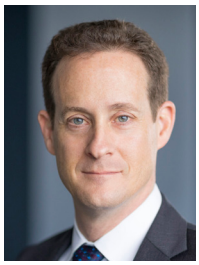
BAR ADMISSIONS

District of Columbia and New York

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Served with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in the following positions: Special Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel, Division of Market Regulation (now the Division of Trading & Markets) (1998–2001) and Senior Counsel, Office of General Counsel (1994–1997)

JONES DAY SPEAKERS



JEFF RABKIN
Partner

- State Attorney General Enforcement, Investigations & Litigation
- Cybersecurity, Privacy & Data Protection
- Business & Tort Litigation
- Investigations & White Collar Defense
- Technology

San Francisco / Silicon Valley
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Jeff Rabkin assists businesses around the world with government and internal investigations, regulatory proceedings, and private disputes. He also advises in-house counsel, corporate executives, and independent directors on issues relating to the intersection of law and technology, including generative AI (artificial intelligence), cybersecurity resilience and response, as well as digital commerce.

Jeff joined Jones Day in 2015 from the Office of the California Attorney General, where he was a member of Kamala D. Harris' leadership team. In that role, he was responsible for oversight of the California DOJ's cybercrime and privacy enforcement units and the development of new technology for law enforcement throughout California. Before joining the California DOJ, Jeff was a vice president at a cybersecurity consulting firm. He also served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for eight years in New York and San Francisco, where he represented the United States in hundreds of federal criminal matters, led numerous high-profile, sensitive investigations and prosecutions involving corporate fraud, public corruption, and other types of white collar crime. He also was a Deputy City Attorney for San Francisco. Jeff has tried more than 25 cases to verdict in federal and state courts.

Jeff is a founding member of Jones Day's Jewish Cultural Affinity Group. He also co-manages the Firm's DVRO (domestic violence restraining order) Trial Program, which represents on a pro bono basis survivors of domestic violence who seek long-term restraining orders against their abusers.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

Chair, Cybersecurity Committee, Cybersecurity and Privacy Section, Bar Association of San Francisco (BASF) (2015–2019)

Appointed by Judge Shira Scheindlin in 2004 as Special Master in class action lawsuits relating to technology IPOs

Santa Clara University *High Technology Law Journal* Award for Excellence in Public Policy

Member, International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP)

EDUCATION

Columbia University (J.D. 1996); Harvard University (B.A. cum laude 1991)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California, U.S. District Courts for the Northern District of California and District of Arizona, United States Supreme Court, and U.S. Courts of Appeals for the Second and Ninth Circuits

CLERKSHIPS

Law Clerk to Judge Shira A. Scheindlin, U.S. District Court, Southern District of New York (1996–1997)

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Special Assistant Attorney General for Law and Technology, Office of the Attorney General, California Department of Justice (2013–2015); Assistant United States Attorney, Brooklyn, New York and San Francisco, California (2004–2011); Deputy City Attorney, San Francisco City Attorney's Office (2000–2004)

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

CAMERON A. REESE
Partner

- Private Equity
- Technology
- Venture Capital & Emerging Companies

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Cameron Reese is an experienced corporate lawyer with a practice focused on mergers and acquisitions and venture capital transactions. Cameron regularly represents private equity funds, emerging companies, venture capital firms, institutional investors, and corporate acquirors in structuring and negotiating a wide range of domestic and cross-border transactions.

Cameron also represents private equity funds in connection with acquisitions and divestitures and provides counsel for many of their portfolio companies. He has experience with leveraged buyout transactions, minority investments and spin-out transactions, and has led transactions on behalf of private equity funds in a number of industry sectors, including health care, life sciences, and technology. The private equity funds with which Cameron has worked include The Riverside Company, Resilience Capital Partners, and Morgenthaler Partners.

Additionally, Cameron has an active emerging companies practice representing both technology and life science companies throughout their entire life cycle, including providing counsel and advise with respect to corporate formation, preferred stock and convertible note financing transactions, corporate governance, strategic relationships, equity incentive arrangements, and mergers and acquisitions. He also advises a number of venture capital and strategic corporate investors in connection with preferred stock financing and joint venture transactions.

EDUCATION

Brigham Young University (J.D. cum laude 2004; Note and Comment Editor, Law Review; B.A. in Economics 2001)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California

NIVEDITA SATHIAKUMAR
Counsel

Financial Markets

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Nivedita Sathiakumar is a regulatory attorney with significant experience in financial market oversight, derivatives regulation, and administrative law. She most recently served as special counsel in the Division of Market Oversight at the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), where she advised senior leadership on legal, policy, and regulatory matters affecting CFTC-regulated entities, including designated contract markets and swap execution facilities. Her work focused on evaluating complex trading systems, reviewing registration applications, and shaping regulatory approaches to emerging market structures, including digital asset trading venues and innovative financial products. She also evaluated requests for no action relief and assisted in drafting responses to innovation exemption requests.

Nivedita has experience evaluating novel market structure proposals, swaps and futures data reporting procedures, and trade incentive and market maker programs in the crypto asset and prediction markets space, in addition to energy, perpetual style futures, equity index, and other commodity assets. She worked on matters related to intermediaries and designated clearing organizations, assisted in issuing division guidance, and advised on terms of proposed rulemakings.

Prior to joining the Division of Market Oversight, Nivedita served as an attorney adviser at the Social Security Administration (SSA), where she recommended and drafted administrative and appellate decisions. While in law school, Nivedita gained experience across several federal financial and legislative institutions, including the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission; the U.S. Department of the Treasury; and the CFTC's Division of Enforcement.

Nivedita volunteers with legal advice clinics and the Center for the Study of the Presidency and Congress.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

SSA Executive Director's Honor Award for Individual and Group Contributions (2018)

EDUCATION

American University (J.D. 2014; Editor, American University Business Law Review); Marist College (B.S. in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance magna cum laude 2010; Beta Gamma Sigma, International Honor Society)

BAR ADMISSIONS

Admitted in New Jersey; not admitted in District of Columbia; supervised by a licensed D.C. Bar Member

GOVERNMENT SERVICE

Special Counsel, Market Review, Division of Market Oversight, Commodity Futures Trading Commission (2022–2026); Attorney Adviser Analyst, Office of Appellate Operations, Social Security Administration Office of Analytics, Review, and Oversight (2016–2022); Attorney Adviser, Social Security Administration Office of Hearing Operations (2014–2016)

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

KEN SAURAJEN
Partner

Intellectual Property

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Ken Saurajen is one of Australia's most renowned and distinguished technology, digital transactions, and commercial projects lawyers. With landmark deals recognized in all major legal directories, Ken has a formidable reputation for the design and execution of "first of a kind," high-stakes technology and commercial IP mandates in Australia and in the Asia-Pacific region, innovative contracting styles, and the delivery of complex TMT (telecommunications, media, technology) projects for which little to no prior precedent exists.

Ken's track record includes marquee private and public sector engagements that have shaped Australian industry, spanning financial services, software, health care, telecommunications, media, transport, utilities, payments, and infrastructure.

Ken's prior experience includes advising Australia's largest retail and investment banks on critical systems replacements and Australia's first general ledger migration into a cloud environment; revolutionizing NSW's (New South Wales) high-value ICT (information and communication technology) procurement framework; negotiating Asia's first-ever active radio access network and operating frequency spectrum sharing arrangement; advising on a transformative $1.2 billion unification of Australia's legacy civil and military air traffic control systems; and negotiating the Department of Defence's $1 billion contract for leading-edge network services.

Ken's industry contributions include advocacy for an adaptive, risk-based approach to new technologies, artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and cyber-governance. In 2026, Ken was appointed by Australia's Attorney-General to review and chair consultations into the future of identity verification services in Australia.

Ken previously served as an elected director of a large Australian law firm, the head of its national technology law practice, and a partner-in-charge of its Sydney office. Ken also formerly practiced as a commercial law barrister at the Sydney Bar.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

Recognized in all major legal directories, including Chambers (Band 1), Legal 500 Asia Pacific (leading lawyer), and Best Lawyers in Australia (commercial, corporate, IT, IP, outsourcing, and telecommunications)

EDUCATION

University of New South Wales, Sydney (LL.B. 1999; Dean's Academic List; Bachelor of Commerce in Finance 1999)

BAR ADMISSIONS

University of New South Wales, Sydney (LL.B. 1999; Dean's Academic List; Bachelor of Commerce in Finance 1999)

JONES DAY SPEAKERS

BRET J. STANCIL
Partner

- M&A
- Private Equity

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Bret Stancil is a mergers and acquisitions lawyer who leads complex transactions and delivers practical, business-minded counsel to help Jones Day's clients navigate high-stakes deals with confidence and precision. He draws on extensive experience advising on some of Silicon Valley's most notable transactions across industries, including technology and software, life sciences, digital media, and retail and consumer products. Over the course of his career, Bret has guided public and private companies and private equity firms through mergers and acquisitions, carve-outs, growth equity investments, leveraged buyouts, and other strategic transactions, both domestically and across borders.

Bret's representative experience at Jones Day includes advising: SAP SE on its acquisition of Reltio; KKR, in its capacity as the holder of a majority of OneStream, Inc.'s voting power, in connection with the acquisition of OneStream by Hg, General Atlantic, and Tidemark; and Lyft, Inc. in connection with numerous transactions, including its acquisition of the United Kingdom business of Gett. Bret's representative experience prior to rejoining Jones Day in 2025 includes advising: Silver Lake on its investments in Vantage Data Centers, Khazna Data Centers, and Altera; Intuit on numerous transactions, including its acquisitions of Mailchimp, Credit Karma, TSheets, TradeGecko, OneSaas, SeedFi, and GoCo; Lyft on numerous transactions, including its acquisitions of Motivate and Blue Vision Labs; dbt Labs on its acquisitions of Transform Data and SDF Labs; PDF Solutions on its acquisition of SecureWISE, LLC; Discord and Meta on numerous confidential transactions; Joby Aviation on its acquisition of Blade's passenger business; SGH on its acquisition of Stratus Technologies; and ChemoCentryx on its acquisition by Amgen.

HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

40 under 40 honoree, *Silicon Valley Business Journal* (2026)

EDUCATION

University of Pennsylvania (J.D. magna cum laude); University of Nevada, Reno (B.S. in Biology)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California and New York

JONES DAY GLOBAL TEAM

United States

Abradat Kamalpour
Partner, Financial Markets
San Francisco

Jayant W. Tambe
Partner, Practice Leader
Financial Markets
New York

Brett P. Barragate
Partner, Chair of Americas
Region Financial Markets
Practice
New York

David C. Kiernan
Partner-in-Charge
Northern California
San Francisco/Silicon Valley

Karen P. Hewitt
Partner-in-Charge
California Region
San Diego

Aaron L. Agenbroad
Partner-in-Charge
San Francisco

Brian G. Selden
Partner-in-Charge
Silicon Valley

Dean C. Bachus
Partner
Chicago

Jonn Beeson
Partner
Irvine

Jennifer Bennett
Partner
San Francisco

Katherine J. Blair
Partner
Los Angeles

Amie Colwell Breslow
Of Counsel
Washington

A. Patricia Campbell, Ph.D.
Partner
Silicon Valley

Timothy Curry
Partner
Silicon Valley/San Francisco

Michael Dawson
Partner
Washington

Lori Hellkamp
Partner
Washington

Kelsey A. Israel-Trummel
Partner
San Francisco

Peter A. Julian
Partner
San Francisco

Carl A. Kukkonen III
Partner
San Diego

Ka-on Li
Partner
Silicon Valley

continued on next page

JONES DAY GLOBAL TEAM

United States

Jerry C. Ling
Partner
San Francisco

Brian D. McDonald
Partner
San Francisco

Mary Alexander Myers
Partner
Atlanta

Nicholas J. Podsiadly
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