Cooley

Kevin Cooper

Partner



kcooper@cooley.com

+1 212 479 6030

New York

Mergers and Acquisitions
Activism Defense

Private Equity
Wellness

Kevin advises clients and their boards on complex, high-stakes M&A transactions and other transformative corporate matters, serving as a trusted advisor to clients on their most consequential strategic decisions. He has extensive experience advising public and private companies in the life sciences, technology, and consumer products sectors.

Kevin's recent notable transactions include advising **Neurocrine** in its $2.9 billion agreed acquisition of Soleno Therapeutics, **Clorox** in its $2.25 billion acquisition of GOJO, the makers of Purell, **Prizepicks** in its $4.15 billion sale to Allwyn International, **Everbridge** in its $1.8 billion sale to Thoma Bravo and **Arena Pharmaceuticals** in its $6.7 billion sale to Pfizer.

Kevin is ranked by Chambers USA as a leading Corporate/M&A attorney in New York.

Kevin's representative M&A matters include the following engagements:

- **Aculys Pharma** in its sale to Viatris
- **Ajax Therapeutics** in its agreement to sell to Eli Lilly for up to $2.3 Billion
- **Altria** in its $12.8 billion minority investment in JUUL, its $2.8 billion controlling investment in Cronos Group and its joint venture with the Burger Group to commercialize on! Pouch products*
- **Allergan** in its $83 billion acquisition by AbbVie*
- **Arena Pharmaceuticals** in its $6.7 billion sale to Pfizer
- **Auris Health** in its $5.75 billion sale to Johnson & Johnson*
- **Backtrace** in its sale to Sauce Labs
- **BB&T** in its $66 billion merger of equals with SunTrust to form Truist Financial, its $2.5 billion acquisition of Susquehanna Bancshares, its $363 million acquisition of the Bank of Kentucky, and its $3.5 billion acquisition of Citibank's Texas retail banking business*
- **Berry Petroleum** in its $4.9 billion sale to Linn Energy*
- **BowX** in its $9 billion SPAC merger with WeWork
- **Capital One** in its acquisitions of BlueTarp Financial, Paribus, the Cabela's credit card business in connection with the merger of Bass Pro Shops and Cabela's for $5.2 billion, GE Capital's healthcare finance business for $9 billion, and its sales of its self-directed brokerage business to ETrade, its investment management and trust business to Hancock Whitney and its mortgage business to DLJ Mortgage Capital for $17 billion*
- **Cantel Medical** in its $775 million acquisition of Hu-Friedy*

- **Cedar Cares** in its $425 million acquisition of OODA Health
- **Celularity** in its SPAC merger with GX Acquisition for $1.7 billion to become a publicly listed company
- **Checkpoint Therapeutics' special committee** of the board of directors in Checkpoint's $416 million sale to Sun Pharmaceutical Industries
- **Chimerix** in its $935 million sale to Jazz Pharmaceuticals
- **Clarabridge** in its $1.1 billion sale to Qualtrics
- **Clorox** in its $2.25 billion acquisition of GOJO Industries, makers of Purell
- **DigitalOcean** in its $350 million acquisition of Cloudways and its $111 million acquisition of Paperspace
- **Ensoma** in its acquisition of Twelve Bio
- **ERYTECH Pharma** in its sale of its Princeton, New Jersey, manufacturing facility and related long-term supply agreement
- **Everbridge** in its $1.8 billion sale to Thoma Bravo
- **4C Insights** in its sale to Mediaocean, a Vista Equity Partners portfolio company
- **Feedzai** in its acquisition of Demyst
- **Flexion** in its $450 million sale to Pacira Biosciences
- **Frame AI** in its sale to HubSpot
- **Function of Beauty** in its $150 million minority investment from L Catterton
- **Gopuff** in its $350 million acquisition of BevMo and its acquisition of rideOS
- **Hardinge** in its $245 million sale to Privet Fund in a take-private transaction*
- **Heliogen** in its successful defense against an unsolicited takeover offer from Continuum Renewables and its sale to Zeo Energy
- **Hexcel** in its announced $16 billion merger of equals with Woodward*
- **HiredScore** in its sale to Workday
- **IEX Group** in its strategic investment from FTX US
- **Intersect ENT** in its $1.1 billion sale to Medtronic
- **Jackpocket** in its $750 million sale to DraftKings
- **Joy Global** in its $3.7 billion acquisition by Komatsu of Japan*
- **JW Player** in its merger with Connatix
- **Landos Biopharma** in its $212.5 million sale to AbbVie
- **Lava Therapeutics** in its sale to Xoma
- **Liminal Biosciences** in its sale to Structured Alpha
- **Longboard Pharmaceuticals** in its $2.6 billion sale to Lundbeck
- **M33 Growth** in the majority investment by True Wind Capital in W Energy
- **MacroGenics** in its sale of global rights to MARGENZA to TerSera
- **Marker Therapeutics** in its sale of cell manufacturing assets to CellReady
- **Mirum Pharmaceuticals** in its $820 million acquisition of Bluejay Therapeutics
- **MongoDB** in its acquisitions of Aroki, Grainite and Voyage AI
- **Neurocrine** in its $2.9 billion acquisition of Soleno
- **Nuvolo** in its sale to Trane Technologies
- **Nutrafol** in its sale to Unilever
- **Perceptive** in its acquisition of Vapotherm
- **Perceptive Capital Solutions** in its $725 million SPAC merger with Freenome
- **PetIQ** in its $1.5 billion sale to Bansk Group
- **PetLab** in its sale of a majority stake to BC Partners
- **PlayAGS** in its $1.1 billion sale to Brightstar Capital
- **PNC** in its $1.25 billion acquisition of ECN Capital's US vendor finance business*
- **Poppin** in its $110 million sale to Kimball International
- **PrizePicks** in its $4.15 billion sale to Allwyn International
- **Private Bancorp** in its $5 billion acquisition by CIBC*
- **Repare Therapeutics** in its sale to Xeno
- **Renalys Pharma** in its sale to Chugai Pharmaceutical

- **Rubrik** in its acquisition of Predibase
- **Sandler O'Neill** in its merger with Piper Jaffray to create Piper Sandler Companies*
- **Saturn Technologies** in its sale to Snap
- **SeatGeek** in its announced SPAC merger with RedBall Acquisition
- **SuperValu** in its $2.9 billion sale to United Natural Foods, related defense and settlement of a proxy contest with Blackwells Capital, and in its announced spinoff and $1.4 billion sale of its Save-A-Lot business to Onex*
- **TCGplayer** in its up to $295 million sale to eBay
- **TheGuarantors** in its growth investment from Warburg Pincus
- **Timber Technologies** in its sale to Datadog
- **Touchland** in its $800 million sale to Church & Dwight
- **Truebill** in its $1.3 billion sale to Rocket Companies
- **Turnstone Biologics** in its acquisition of Myst Therapeutics
- **UiPath** in its acquisitions of Cloud Elements, Re:infer and Peak
- **UTILITY Therapeutics** in its sale to Alembic Pharmaceuticals
- **VR Insurance** in its sale of a controlling stake in the National Security Group to PhenixFIN
- **VYNE Therapeutics** in its $240 million merger with Yarrow Bioscience
- **Warburg Pincus** and **Mariner Finance** in the acquisition of Personal Finance Company from Minnesota Life*
- **Warburg Pincus** and **The Carlyle Group** in their acquisition of DBRS from Colonial House Capital and the subsequent sale of DBRS to Morningstar*

Activism defense

Kevin has advised numerous public company boards and management teams – including those of **Milestone Pharmaceuticals**, **Everbridge**, **Athira Pharma**, **Katapult**, **Ziopharm**, **Heliogen**, **SuperValu*** and **CVR Energy*** (among many other confidential engagements) – in connection with proxy contests, consent solicitations and other activist situations.

Financial advisor representations

Kevin also has represented financial advisors –including **Centerview**, **Morgan Stanley** and **Lazard*** – in connection with M&A transactions.

** Transaction handled prior to joining Cooley*

Before joining Cooley, Kevin was a member of the corporate department focusing on M&A at a prominent New York City law firm.

At Harvard Law School, Kevin received the Joshua Montgomery Sears Jr. Prize for earning the highest grades among second-year students, and he was a founder and editor in chief of the Harvard Business Law Review. Before law school, Kevin received his MBA and a bachelor's degree in finance.

In a former life, Kevin played NCAA Division I football for the Fresno State Bulldogs. He lives in New York City with his wife, Rosemary, and his daughter.

Education

Harvard Law School JD

California State University, Fresno MBA, BS

Admissions & Credentials

New York

Rankings & Accolades

Chambers USA: Corporate/M&A – New York (2024 – 2026)

The Legal 500 US: M&A: Large Deals ($1bn+) (2025)