

John-Paul Motley

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Capital Markets
Debt Finance
Retail and Consumer Products
Private Equity
CooleyREG

John-Paul is a partner in Cooley’s public companies group. His practice focuses on advising public and private companies and their boards of directors on a wide range of transactional and corporate governance matters. John-Paul represents clients in debt and equity capital markets transactions, ranging from IPOs and secondary offerings to high-yield, convertible and investment grade debt issuances. In addition, John-Paul advises public company clients on Securities and Exchange Commission reporting and disclosure issues and compliance matters, and he regularly acts as the outside corporate counsel for his clients. John-Paul has been recognized by Chambers USA for his Capital Markets: Debt & Equity practice since 2015 where clients describe him as “extremely knowledgeable, responsive and personable” particularly noting his “strong deal sense” and “good business instincts.”

Education

Vanderbilt University Law School JD, Order of the Coif, 1999

Vanderbilt University Owen Graduate School of Management MBA, Beta Gamma Sigma, 1999

University of Memphis BBA, summa cum laude, 1995

Admissions & Credentials

California

Rankings & Accolades

Chambers USA: Capital Markets: Debt & Equity – California (2021 – 2026)

Chambers USA: Capital Markets: Debt & Equity: Western United States – Nationwide (2021 – 2026)

The Legal 500 US: Capital Markets: Equity Offerings (2010 – 2025)

Los Angeles Business Journal – Top 100 Lawyers (2023)

International Financial Law Review: Capital Markets – Debt & Equity (2018 – 2021)

Memberships & Affiliations

Vanderbilt University Law School, board of advisors, former president

Phoenix House California, board of directors