

## Michael J. Kuh

Partner  
New York

### Biography

Clients turn to Michael J. Kuh for strategic legal advice in high-stakes sports matters, early-stage growth companies, and significant M&A transactions involving diverse industries, including entertainment, ecommerce, and fintech. Michael draws on his broad legal experience within the industry to advise some of the country's largest sporting organizations, including athletic teams, leagues, and major international bodies.

Michael represented the successful joint bid by Canada, Mexico, and the United States to host the 2026 FIFA World Cup. Also in the world of soccer, he was the lead outside counsel creating the National Women's Soccer League. He has also represented domestic and international entities in managing the bidding, evaluation, and award process to host the Olympic Games.

Michael also represents emerging companies, such as Goop.com, and established companies, principals, private equity firms, leveraged buyout funds, and financial advisors in high-value transactions.

Michael previously worked in New York City Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani's administration, focusing primarily on economic development work, as well as emergency management, privatization, labor union issues, and city planning. Michael's additional prior experience



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### Practices

Corporate

Mergers and Acquisitions

Private Equity

Corporate Governance

Joint Ventures

Sports and Entertainment

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includes directing national field operations and outreach on behalf of the Children's Scholarship Fund, a US\$200m charity founded by Theodore J. Forstmann and John Walton.

Michael has held leadership roles at a number of prominent civic organizations. In 2013, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo of New York appointed him to the Board of Directors of the Hudson River Park, where he continues to serve on its audit and strategic planning committees. He also currently serves as Vice Chairman of the Citizens Budget Commission.

## Representative experience

Advised regarding the selection of the hosts for the 2024 and 2028 Olympic Games.\*

Represented the bid committee in the successful United Bid of Canada, Mexico, and the United States to host the FIFA 2026 World Cup™.\*

Represented the majority owner of Major League Soccer team D.C. United in selling his ownership position to a consortium of investors.\*

Advised regarding the process for and selection of the United States candidate for the 2024 Olympic bidding process.\*

Represented the National Women's Soccer League on the league's establishment, serving as lead outside counsel.\*

Represented the bid committee for the United States bid to host the 2022 FIFA World Cup™ as lead outside counsel.\*

Served as sole in-house counsel to NYC2012, New York City's bid committee for the 2012 Olympic Games.\*

Represented the organizing committee for the Copa América Centenario, an international soccer tournament.\*

## Industries

TMT

Aerospace, Defense, and Government Services

Financial Institutions

Consumer

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## Areas of focus

Private Equity and Venture Capital

Emerging Companies and Venture Capital

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## Education and admissions

### Education

J.D., New York University School of Law, 2003

B.A., Swarthmore College, with honors, 1994

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## Bar admissions and qualifications

New York

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Represented Odyssey Investment Partners in its sale of Peninsula Packaging to Sonoco for approximately US\$230m.\*

Represented FountainVest Partners, the Chinese private equity firm, in its acquisition of Key Safety Systems.\*

Represented the founder of CrossFit, the fitness company, in his re-acquisition of the company.\*

\*Matter handled prior to joining Hogan Lovells.

## Awards and rankings

- New York Elite Dealmaker, *Variety*, 2017

## Latest thinking and events

- Press Releases
  - Hogan Lovells adds leading sports lawyer Michael Kuh to Corporate practice in New York